

An academic semester school for 10th graders
SACS Accredited

The Outdoor Academy of the Southern Appalachians

Curriculum Guide
2010-2011



*“Experiential education for young people,
promoting the natural world,
and the betterment of human character”*

Wouldn't It Be Wonderful If I Could Go To A School...

Where I engage my whole self: my mind, my body, my spirit?
Where I hike, climb, and paddle into the wilderness so that I might know its beauty?
Where I learn to be a stronger leader, an active supporter, a better student, and a young teacher?
Where I become an active, educated link in the global chain of environmental and social concern?
Where I delve into music, theatre, and the fine arts in a free, artistic environment?
Where I take on the responsibility of hard work and the accountability of living in community?
Where I create meaningful, lifelong friendships?
Where I am free to become the self I have always yearned to be?
Where I belong?

It Would Be Wonderful To Go To School...

Where I can find all these things, while I thrive academically and prepare for my future.

“The people of the desert,” says Laurens van der Post, “speak of two hungers, one small, the other great. The small hunger concerns food for the belly and the other is the great hunger for meaning. The Bushman dances, sings, paints, tells stories; such is the food that feeds this hunger.”

Wholehearted learning has been the wisdom of Eagle's Nest for over 80 years. Working with young people, we seek to nurture and build character, explore the natural world, live the arts, and replace fear with love. In the holistic tapestry of community life, we awaken and learn to remember the value of each person.

Students at The Outdoor Academy excel in their preparation for college – adding life experience and hands-on know-how to rigorous academic study. For such an experience, there seems to be no better time than the middle of high school – honoring the sophomore, the in-between, who deserves a come-alive year at The Outdoor Academy.

Noni Waite-Kucera
Executive Director

Mark Meyer-Braun
Head of School

ACADEMIC PROFILE

The Outdoor Academy is an accredited, academic semester school for 10th and select 11th graders. Accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) certifies that the school meets curricular and institutional standards of excellence, and that credits earned at The Outdoor Academy are honored at secondary schools and colleges throughout the country. This unique, semester-long program offers the opportunity for academic enrichment and personal growth within an intellectually rigorous and nurturing small community.

The Outdoor Academy distinguishes students for college and lifelong learning. Students who have attended the program have later enrolled at prestigious colleges and universities, including Bates, Bowdoin, Brown, Cal Tech, Cambridge, Colorado College, Dartmouth, Davidson, Duke, Middlebury, Oberlin, Reed, Smith, Stanford, Swarthmore, UNC, Wellesley, and Wesleyan, among others.

Arising from a long tradition of experiential education at Eagle's Nest Foundation, we combine a college preparatory curriculum with environmental education, regional studies, arts programming, and outdoor leadership training. The Outdoor Academy accepts up to 35 students to attend for one semester – fall or spring. In a close-knit community, students and faculty develop a sense of responsibility and generosity. Here everyone pitches in to make hard work rewarding, studies challenging and friendships real.

The Outdoor Academy takes advantage of its setting in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Classes in English, mathematics, science, history, environmental studies, foreign language, visual and performing arts, and music are taught both in the classroom and in the forest. Our outdoor program teaches hiking, backpacking, canoeing, rock climbing, and caving as time permits.

School Calendar and Classroom Time: One semester is generally sixteen weeks in length. All classes meet the equivalent of five hours per week. Regular classes meet Monday through Friday in 45, 60, or 90-minute time blocks, depending on the subject. Saturdays provide time to work in the arts, developing independent hands-on projects. The number of class days per semester is approximately 90.

Admissions Information: Over the past decade, The Outdoor Academy has enrolled over 500 high school sophomores, along with a smaller number of juniors. We have worked with students from over 200 public and private schools, as well as some who are normally home-schooled. Admissions decisions are based on an applicant's motivation, intellectual curiosity, academic record, and commitment to hard work. Students who attend The Outdoor Academy are highly motivated and are eager to be challenged academically. We seek students who have demonstrated self-determination in their academic work. Those who apply generally express a desire to live and learn in a close, caring community, set in the rich natural world of the Appalachian Mountains.

Curriculum: All students take the following academic courses:

English: Writing the Landscape

Natural Science

*Mathematics: Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry,
Advanced Math, Integrated Math, or other*

French (levels I-IV) or Spanish (levels I-IV) or Tutorial in Latin or German

Environmental Seminar, World History

Physical Education and Outdoor Leadership

Appalachian Studies Project

Each student elects one of our arts courses, which may include:

Visual Arts or Appalachian Music

In addition, students participate in *Work Crew, Community Service, and Wilderness Leadership Activities*. Students receive community service hours for their volunteer work on campus and in the larger community.

Second Languages and Mathematics: Since students come to The Outdoor Academy from a variety of academic backgrounds; they are carefully screened for appropriate placement. Each applicant's regular Math or second language teacher completes a detailed assessment form during the enrollment process. These forms ensure that comparable material will be covered while at The Outdoor Academy. This is essential to preparing a healthy transition back home for each student. Our small class sizes and regular student-teacher contact outside of class enable us to challenge each student at his/her level of aptitude and prior knowledge.

Honors: For most courses, honors credit is available to applicants who are normally enrolled in honors or advanced placement classes at their home school, though we do not offer advanced placement credits. Students seeking honors credit should indicate this during the enrollment process.

Physical Education, Work Crew, and Wilderness Activities: Students earn a Physical Education credit through regular participation in sports activities and our wilderness leadership program. Specific activities include rock climbing, whitewater paddling, backpacking, Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, basketball, volleyball, and swimming. In addition, all students participate in Work Crew for up to five hours each week. During Work Crew, students and faculty work side-by-side on service activities and important community jobs such as gardening, trail maintenance, and splitting firewood. Student transcripts reflect the number of hours they have devoted to work crew and other forms of community service.

Standardized Tests: The PSAT and SAT are available to students upon request and are administered at our local high school. Those requiring special accommodations in taking the test must present documentation during the enrollment process or on opening day. Documentation must be obtained through the College Board.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes. Occasional exceptions are made for illness or family commitments. Family plans that interfere with class attendance should be arranged with the school administration well in advance. Any student who is unable to meet his or her academic commitments at The Outdoor Academy will be asked to leave the program.

Grading: The Outdoor Academy uses the following grade scale:

A+ = 97, 98, 99, 100

A = 93, 94, 95, 96

A- = 90, 91, 92

B+ = 87, 88, 89

B = 83, 84, 85, 86

B- = 80, 81, 82

C+ = 77, 78, 79

C = 73, 74, 75, 76

C- = 70, 71, 72

D+ = 67, 68, 69

D = 63, 64, 65, 66

D- = 60, 61, 62

F = 0 - 59

This information is provided to each sending school along with student transcripts at the conclusion of the semester.

THE FACULTY

Mark Meyer-Braun, PhD

Head of School

Music

Education

Brown University, Ph.D. Ethnomusicology
Wesleyan University, M.A. in Ethnomusicology
Wesleyan University, B.A. in Music
Vassar College

Experience

Dean of Students and Faculty Member, The Outdoor Academy
Education Consultant, Cablevision and Topics Education Group
Lecturer and Research Fellow, Brown University, Excelsior
College, and University of Ghana

Mark was a member of the founding faculty of The Outdoor Academy in 1995. He has served as Dean of Students and taught Music, History, and Environmental Studies over his years with the school. During his time away, Mark has worked with community-based music education programs in the United States and abroad. Most recently, he completed doctoral studies in education, expressive culture, and community. He is delighted to be at The Outdoor Academy with his wife Lisa and daughter Lucy.

Susan Tinsley Daily

Dean of Students

Environmental Seminar

Education

Tufts University, M.A. in Teaching
Swarthmore College B.A. in English & Environmental Studies

Experience

Education Director, Course Director, and Instructor, North
Carolina Outward Bound School
Adjunct Professor, Warren Wilson College
Adjunct Professor, San Quentin Prison University Project
Middle and High School Teacher: English, History,
Environmental Seminar and Outdoor Leadership
Outdoor Academy, English Teacher
Trip Leader, Where There Be Dragons, Thailand and Tibet

Tinsley is thrilled to be back at OA, after teaching for many years around the country and leading trips for teenagers abroad. She has been working in the field of Outdoor Adventure and Education for nineteen years, including fifteen years with Outward Bound. Tinsley's passion is working with teachers and students to bring experiential education into the traditional classroom, and has facilitated diversity workshops in schools and conferences around the area. When not at work, Tinsley can often be found walking the trails on campus with her husband Michael and son Noah.

Christopher Arbor

*English and Math Teacher
Wilderness Leader*

Education

Currently enrolled in: The Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College, M.A. Candidate in English
University of North Carolina in Asheville, B.A. in English
Warren Wilson College
The Outdoor Academy (Spring 1996)

Experience

Enrichment Specialist and Tutor, AmeriCorps
Substitute Teacher, Asheville Buncombe School System
Cabin Counselor, Eagle's Nest Camp

As it turns out, you can go home again. Christopher attended The Outdoor Academy as a student in the spring of 1996, and returned to teach in 2004. Since that time, he has worn many hats: backpacking and caving expedition leader; photography, woodworking, and quilting instructor; and English, Geometry, and Algebra teacher. As a Native North Carolinian and OA alumnus, he carries with him a deep-seated sense of place that informs his relationships with the current students. Christopher is currently spending his summers pursuing his M.A. at The Bread Loaf School of English.

Christie Etter

*Program Director, ENF
Wilderness Leader
Physical Education*

Education

Warren Wilson College, B.A. in Outdoor Leadership
NC Outward Bound School

Experience

Teacher, Good Hope Summer Enrichment Program, St. Croix, USVI
Adjunct Professor, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC
Director, Shenandoah Summer Adventure Camp at Sheridan School, Luray, VA
Assistant Director, Sheridan School Mountain Campus, Luray, VA

Christie has been leading & teaching outdoor programming and team-building for 14 years, with a focus on leadership and group development. She grew up in Maryland and West Virginia exploring the mountain trails and rivers near Harper's Ferry. She moved to western North Carolina to finish a degree in Outdoor leadership and fell in love with the Southern Appalachians. Christie enjoys hiking with her dog, mountain biking, climbing, and caving.

Katie Flanagan

*Head Resident
Wilderness Leader*

Education

Warren Wilson College, B.S. in Environmental Studies
Asarun Botanicals, Certificate program in Herbal Medicine

Experience

Education Coordinator, Virgin Islands Env. Resource Station
Environmental Educator, Pickering Creek Audubon Center
Farm Hand, Coonridge Organic Goat Farm

Katie is glad to be back as a part of The Outdoor Academy faculty. She is a seasoned environmental educator and knowledgeable naturalist. Her leadership experiences are diverse and have taken her to near and distant places of natural wonder. Throughout her work, her personal mission is clearly to engage young people in a relationship with and understanding of natural processes. In her free time, she enjoys working in the garden, knitting and exploring the woods and all of its wonders.

Sara Hirsch

Wilderness Educator Intern

Education

Wesleyan University, B.A. in Psychology

Experience

Head Counselor, Hawthorne Valley Farm Camp (Ghent, NY)

Head Counselor, Camp Riverlea (Durham, NC)

Residential Advisor, Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT)

After hearing about The Outdoor Academy from many OA alumni at Wesleyan University, Sara is thrilled to join the community. In her hometown of Durham, NC and beyond, Sara has spent the past few summers working in camp programs, teaching environmental education, exploration, and athletics. Sara has also worked at a number of community gardens and farms, and can't wait to get her hands into the dirt at OA.

Linda Klein

French

Education

UNC-Chapel Hill, M.A. in French

University of Delaware, B.A. in Teacher Education

Wake Forest University, B.A. in French

Experience

French & German Instructor, Brevard College

French & German Teacher, West Henderson High School

French Instructor, Blue Ridge Community College

Two-year Residence in Paris, France

Foreign Exchange Student, Belgium

A native of Western North Carolina, Linda brings to our faculty a love of Appalachian culture and many years of experience teaching French and German. She is delighted to help OA students expand their knowledge and appreciation of the French language and Francophone cultures in our special setting. She enjoys family activities with husband B.J. and two children and their families, including three grandchildren. Other interests include reading, hiking and the study of Okinawan karate.

Hannah Levin

Art Teacher

Wilderness Leader

Education

Western Carolina University, M.A.T in Art

Kenyon College, B.A. in Studio Art

Penland School of Crafts

Experience

Visual Arts, Language Arts, and Outdoor Leader,
Arthur Morgan School (Burnsville, NC)

Ceramics Instr., Southwest. Comm. Coll. (Bryson City, NC)

Art Teacher, Mountain Discovery Charter (Bryson City, NC)

Teaching Assistant and Art Teacher, Duke TIP (Abiqu., NM)

Director of Junior Appalachian Musicians (Bryson City, NC)

Hannah is excited to join the OA faculty this fall. The daughter of Yancey County artists, she grew up exploring the mountains and creating artwork. Hannah has taught art in a variety of settings and led wilderness trips throughout Southern Appalachia. An avid photographer and potter, Hannah is also a singer/songwriter. Additionally, she loves to travel, cook, play guitar, sing, hike, and practice yoga. Hannah enjoys helping all her students discover the artist inside of them and she embraces the creative process of working with teenagers.

William Lillard

Wilderness Educator Intern

Education

Kean University, B.A. Political Science

Experience

Trip Leader/Trip Director, Wilderness Ventures (Jackson, WY)
Naturalist/Trip Leader, Ventura, CA

Will is looking forward to returning to the east coast, after three years of leading backpacking and fly fishing trips for teens in Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado. Will spent his summers growing up in the mountains of North Carolina and is eager to share his love of the outdoors this fall with the Outdoor Academy students.

Arrington McCoy

Wilderness Educator Intern

Education

Kenyon College, B.A. International Studies
International Honors Program-Rethinking Globalization
Tanzania, India, New Zealand, Mexico

National Outdoor Leadership School, Teton Valley Semester
Where There Be Dragons, India Semester

Experience

Cabin Counselor, Camp Gwynn Valley (Brevard, NC)
Residential Advisor, Kenyon College

Originally from Charlotte, Arrington is glad to be calling the North Carolina mountains home now. Arrington's college years were defined by her study abroad experience with the International Honors Program and her time spent volunteering on a farm near Kenyon. On the farm, Arrington developed her interest in the local food movement. Her love of the outdoors began with family trips to Mt. LeConte, and she has continued to follow this passion working summers in the adventure program at Camp Gwynn Valley. Arrington is very excited to join OA as a Resident/Wilderness Intern this fall.

Danny Schiff

Math Teacher

Wilderness Leader

Education

University of Florida, B.A. in Education and Business
Administration

Experience

Math Instructor, Donna Klein Jewish Academy
(Boca Raton, FL)
English Instructor, NOVA Group (Tokyo, Japan)
Trip Director, Westcoast Connection Outdoor Adventure

Danny is excited to return to his Appalachian Mountain "beach math" classroom at The Outdoor Academy this year. When Danny isn't deriving the quadratic formula on a portable whiteboard around campus, he loves leading students on rock climbing and backpacking treks in Pisgah Forest. Danny can also be found climbing hills on his road bicycle, composing raps about mathematics, playing the harmonica, or daydreaming about his summers surfing Hawaii, Costa Rica, California and Florida.

Rodrigo Vargas

Spanish

Education

University of Costa Rica, B.S. in Chemical Engineering
Costa Rican Bureau of Tourism, Natural History Guide
Certification

Highlander Research and Education Center – Civil Rights

Experience

Assistant Program Director, Eagle’s Nest Camp

Naturalist Guide, Costa Rican Sun Tours

International Hante Leader, Eagle’s Nest Foundation

Executive Director, El Centro Comunitario

Hispano-Americano of Brevard

Rodrigo has served as a strong and enthusiastic leader at Eagle’s Nest Camp since 1996. At The Outdoor Academy, Rodrigo has served as Spanish Teacher and in various leadership capacities for many years. In his teaching, Rodrigo actively shares with us the diversity of Latin American culture, his personal love for working with stained glass, and as a Latin-American leader in our local community.

Ted Wesemann

Natural Science

World History

Education

Appalachian State University, M.S. in Biology

Appalachian State University, B.S. in Biology

Experience

Head of School, The Outdoor Academy

Director, Wilderness Southeast

Ted was the founding Head of School of The Outdoor Academy. After years of service, he stepped down from his administrative post in order to devote himself to teaching and mentoring students. His knowledge of the land, history, and culture of the Southern Appalachians brings depth and quality to our academic and extracurricular programs. Ted’s personal demeanor gives students and faculty alike a sense of what it means to ‘belong’ to, and care for, a place. Many students appreciate most the way Ted shares his passion for woodworking and other historic Appalachian crafts.

FOUNDATION ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT STAFF

Bonnie Jean Bates

Office Manager/Registrar

Education

North Georgia College & State University
East Georgia College

Experience

Administrative Assistant, Eagle's Nest Foundation
Mortgage Consultant, First Citizens Bank
Administrative Assistant, General Motors Acceptance Corporation

Her love of the mountains, people, organizational skills, and attention to detail brought Bonnie to command central on the campus of Eagle's Nest and The Outdoor Academy. All roads lead to her desk in the Salt Mines. Raised mostly in a small town in Georgia, summers found her and her family in the mountains of North Carolina or at her grandparent's cabin in the near-by woods of Transylvania County, North Carolina.

Susan Conley

Director of Development

Education

UNC-Greensboro, M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration
Wellesley College, B.A. in Political Science
The University of the South, Certificate in Ed. for Ministry

Experience

Director of Development, Eagle's Nest Foundation (ENF)
Database Manager and Development Associate, ENF
Director of Annual Giving, Salem Academy and College

Susan has been with Eagle's Nest since 2000, as Development Director and Database Manager. She has a special love of the craft of writing, and looks forward to being involved in English and Environmental Seminar classes at OA. Susan was a longtime Girl Scout and volunteer outdoor trainer. A choral singer for most of her life, Susan also enjoys the practice of yoga. Susan, her husband Kevin, and their children Madeline and Ethan live in Winston-Salem.

Colleen McKown

Admissions Officer

Education

Davidson College, BA in Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Experience

NOLS Graduate – Wind River Wilderness (Lander, WY)
Prologue Communications, Documentary Film Intern
Rockbrook Camp, Counselor and Activity Instructor
Rockbrook Camp, Office Assistant

Colleen is back for her second year as the Admissions Officer. She graduated in 2008 from Davidson College with a self-designed major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Colleen is a native of Transylvania County and enjoys running, biking, and hiking the beautiful trails around this area. She also enjoys traveling and has spent time in Western Europe and China. Colleen loves the mission of The Outdoor Academy and excited to be spending another year in the Eagle's Nest community.

Michael Moore
Kitchen Manager

Education

California Culinary Academy, Le Cordon Bleu Culinary, Arts and Food Science (San Francisco, CA)
Barton College/NC Justice Academy, Raleigh, NC, Criminal Justice and Police Sciences (Wilson, NC)
Nash Community College, TEC courses - Horticultural Studies

Experience

Sous Chef, The Lomo Grill (Asheville, NC)
Chef De Cuisine, The Marketplace Restaurant (Asheville, NC)
Kitchen Brigade, Aqua Restaurant (San Francisco, CA)
Police Officer, First Class, Raleigh Police Department, NC

Michael is the Chef and Kitchen Manager for the Eagle's Nest Foundation, beginning his service to the community in January 2007. He brings a great deal of talent and diverse skills to his position. A native of Eastern North Carolina, Michael recently returned to his home state after studying Culinary Arts and Food Science in San Francisco, CA. Prior to his time there, Michael worked in law enforcement in NC for seven years. Michael is excited to share his passion for cooking local foods, educating others on food and various cuisines and simply being of service to the entire Eagle's Nest community.

Lydia Odell
Admissions Director

Education

Widener University, M.Ed Educational Psychology
University of Utah, B.A. History

Experience

Director of the Center for Career, Service and Learning,
Brevard College
Director of Experiential Learning, Ferrum College,
Ferrum, VA
Waterfall Touring Guide, CreekSide Adult Education,
Brevard College

Lydia has over 15 years experience working with students of all ages and has loved every minute. She believes in the power of hands-on learning and is extremely glad to promote our mission. Some of Lydia's favorite activities include dancing with her three year old, trail running with her husband and friends, knitting, searching for new, hard to find waterfalls, reading about sharks, and of course eating ice cream.

Kim Skeen
Medical Coordinator

Education

Appalachian State University, B.S. in Recreation Management
Wilderness Medical Associates, Wilderness First Responder

Experience

Wilderness Leader, Touch of Nature Environmental Center
Instructor, Camp Woodson
Assistant Teacher, Carolina Day School
Administrative Assistant, Eagle's Nest Foundation
Arts Arena Director, Eagle's Nest Camp

Kim has shared her talents with Eagle's Nesters over the years and is passionate about connecting with students. She is a seasoned leader in the wilderness and the arts, as well as in our medical world. Kim has led backpacking and caving trips, taught stained glass and batik, and instructed soccer and ultimate Frisbee classes. Now a mom to Cedar Ann and Lillian, Kim and husband Rob call the NC mountains home.

Elizabeth Updike Smith

Business Manager

Education

Auburn University, B.A. in Spanish with Business Minor

Experience

Comptroller, Eagle's Nest Foundation

Bookkeeper, Coldwell Banker

Human Resources Assistant, Hunton & Williams

Liz came to ENF in 1995 from a 40th floor office of a high-rise in Atlanta. She moved to Western North Carolina to “escape the ‘rat race’ and obtain a meaningful life close to nature and her family.” She brings with her a great interest in photography, music, and gardening. Liz has become a cornerstone for Eagle’s Nest by providing constant inspiration and motivation for her co-workers.

Noni Waite-Kucera

Executive Director, ENF

Education

Wake Forest University, B.A. in Anthropology

Wake Forest in London Program

Experience

Camp Director, ENF 1993-2003

Business Manager, ENF, 1989-1999

Assistant Camp Director, ENC 1984-1986

Developed Eagle’s Nest Whitewater Canoeing and Hante

Bicycling Program

Noni was literally raised within the caring community of Eagle’s Nest and she now brings that experience and spirit to the entire foundation as Executive Director. Whether at camp, The Outdoor Academy, or in the Winston Salem Foundation office, Noni continues to build on the rich tradition of Eagle's Nest Foundation as a leading educational institution for outdoor and experiential learning.

Kyle Young

Property Manager

Education

Blue Ridge Community College

Experience

Building and Property Maintenance, ENF

Horse Wrangler, Cliff Properties and Columbia Pictures

Service Technician, Carolina Energy

A native of Transylvania County and Little River Valley, Kyle has worked at Eagle's Nest off and on since 1983. With this extended record of service, Kyle usually has insight into whatever event or issue is pressing, whether it involves buildings, people, politics or the land. He is equally adept at the wheel of a vehicle or reins of a horse, and knows our facility like no one else.

ADVISORY BOARD

Stephanie Ansaldo, MHDL: Charlotte, NC
Director, The Echo Foundation

Clayton Chambliss, EdM: Lexington, KY
Head of School, The Sayre School

***Ken Chepenik, PhD:** Pisgah Forest, NC
Retired Professor, Jefferson Medical College

Roger Clapp, PhD: Whittier, NC
Environmental Sciences Consultant

***David Gilbert, MAT:** Greensboro, NC
Academic Dean, Greensboro Day School

David W. Gould, MA: Durham, NC
Chair of History Dept. and Special Programs,
Durham Academy

***Bruce Grob, PhD:** Jacksonville, FL
Chief Operating Officer, Fresh Ministries, Inc.

James Hendrix, PhD: Atlanta, GA
Former Headmaster, The Lovett School

Gregory Kucera, PhD: Winston-Salem, NC
Associate Professor, Wake Forest University

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***Steve Robins, MA:** Nashville, TN
Head of High School, University School of
Nashville

Helen Waite, BA: Winston Salem, NC
Former Executive Director, Eagle's Nest
Foundation

***Moseley Waite, PhD:** Winston-Salem, NC
Retired Professor, Wake Forest University School
of Medicine

Noni Waite-Kucera, BA: Winston Salem, NC
Executive Director, Eagle's Nest Foundation

Ann Weston, PhD: Columbia, SC
Upper School Principal, Heathwood Hall
Episcopal School

** = Also serves on ENF Board of Trustee*

EAGLE'S NEST FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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- ❖ **Cissy Kelton Byrd, BA,** Spartanburg, SC
- ❖ **Norm Carl, MBA,** Nashville, TN
- ❖ **Chris Chapman, MBA,** Winston-Salem, NC
- ❖ **Ken Chepenik, PhD,** Pisgah Forest, NC
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- ❖ **Moseley Waite, PhD,** Pisgah Forest, NC

AFFILIATED SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS 1995 - 2009

FOUNDING MEMBER SCHOOLS

Albuquerque Academy; Albuquerque, NM

Evan Belknap F04 ~ Elizabeth Boyes S98
Katya Hafich S02 ~ Willa Hafich S00 ~ David Kistin F98
Susanne Kistin S96 ~ Elizabeth Miller F05 ~ Nicole Renna F08
Calvin Shaneyfelt S06

Bolles School; Jacksonville, FL

Elizabeth Cairns F98 ~ Jamison Clower F96 ~ Joni Collins S96
Jordan Grob S02 ~ Jacob Harmon F97 ~ Lance Helming S00
Abigail Hunger F08 ~ Madison Kelly S04 ~ Tracy Krauter S00
Brian Levenson S05 ~ Ivy McGraw F97 ~ Alyssa Merwin F95
Nicki Moody S99 ~ Tristan Nowick F98 ~ Blake Rainville-Thomson F96
Sara Scheu S96 ~ Caitlin Scott S98 ~ Jackie Selevan S02
Jane Michael Stallings F00 ~ Jesse Stough F07 ~ Kirk Wedekind F95
Whitney Weiss F00

Greensboro Day School; Greensboro, NC

Anna Cassell F04 ~ Ashley Crossman F97 ~ Zach Dutch S06
Tanya Green S04 ~ Jeanette Hagan S96 ~ Paul Han S03
Antonio Jackson F06 ~ Liz Levitt S00 ~ Emily McDavid S06
Josh Mintz S09 ~ Paul Nguyen S03 ~ Megan Oleynik S08
Justin Plummer S02 ~ Katie Gilbert Rowlett S09 ~ Caitlin Smith S04
Brandon Tankard F04 ~ Sukhi Walha S98

Heathwood Hall Episcopal School; Columbia, SC

Julia Becker S06 ~ Connie Benesh S03 ~ Brad Cantey F99
Katie Clower F95 ~ Adam Cupples S03 ~ Janet Cupples F97
William Ellerbee S02 ~ Hannah Floyd F04 ~ John Guignard F96
Lauren Holland F03 ~ Elizabeth Koenig F01 ~ Anna MacDermit S04
Grace Moore F03 ~ Reed Moore F02 ~ William Moser S06
Saleem Penny S96 ~ Joey Robinson S99 ~ Ann Stevenson F99
Kent Ureda F98 ~ Alex Usatine S97

Hume-Fogg Academic High School; Nashville, TN

Mika Allen F95 ~ Leonora Calzadilla S01 ~ Saul Calzadilla S04
Lacey Cook F95 ~ Katie Johnson S02 ~ Jon King F96

Autumn Lamb S97 ~ Valarie Loftin S97 ~ Jean Lynch-Thomson S05
Laura Masulis S03 ~ Eddie Mullins F96 ~ Lyn Rutherford S03
Jennifer Simpson F03 ~ Molly Sword F96 ~ Andrew Thompson S02
Claire Thompson F04

The Lovett School; Atlanta, GA

Courtney Abel S97 ~ Shadiyat Ajao F08 ~ Rebecca Allman F01
Lydia Beaudrot F98 ~ Taylor Cain F04 ~ Wes Causey F99
Ashley Church S01 Anna Conrad S96 ~ Katelyn DeRuyter F04
Leigh Falgoust F02 ~ Alex Gray S05 ~ Harrison Huang F08
Lorinda Jackson S99 ~ Sarah Kelly F05 ~ Parker King S02
Joyce Kuik S06 ~ Danny Laney F05 ~ Ginny LaMon S00
Jeannie Mills S01 ~ Emily Nelson S98 ~ Adam Newquist F02
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Dakin Spain F99 ~ Jamie Steele F00 ~ Cornelius Thiels S02
Ann Timberlake F00 ~ Jane Todd S05 ~ Ryland Young S03

University School of Nashville; Nashville, TN

John Anderson F97 ~ Tobey Beaver S00 ~ Amanda Bennett S97
Daniel Blaser S96 ~ Genia Blaser S99 ~ Lanier Brandau S98
Ben Bredezen F95 ~ Will Bush S97 ~ Sarah Carl F03
Sophia Chudacoff S02 ~ Courtney Dale S99 ~ Andy Daverman F09
Brooks Daverman S96 ~ Anya Desai F01 ~ Bo Dosssett S09
Margaret Dyer S96 ~ William Dyer S00 ~ Alex Eaton F06
Emily Fish S08 ~ Natalie Forsythe S00 ~ Alex Hartley F03
Anna Kirchner F08 ~ Margaret Lipman F98 ~ Robin Logan F98
David Martin F02 ~ David May F00 ~ Caitlin McHugh F03
Zach Miller S96 ~ Lauren Prince F00 ~ Katie Ries F97
Robert Ries F02 ~ Russell Ries F99 ~ Beau Rogers S08
Hunter Claire Rogers S05 ~ Jane Rosenberg S97 ~ Ted Ross S01
Isabel Ross S04 ~ Judith Scoville S02 ~ Marion Siman F06
Rosanne Siman F01 ~ Steven Venick F00 ~ Jordan Welch S05
Andrea Wolf F99 ~ Noah Yarian F01

SENDING SCHOOLS

The Academy at Charlemont; Charlmont, MA

Alice McKusick S09

The American School Foundation; Mexico City, Mexico

Jorge Garcia-Moreno F98

The American School in Switzerland; Montagnola-Lugano

Katy Howell S06

Apex High School; Apex, NC

Jacob Weiner F05

Asheville High School; Asheville, NC

Grace Anixter F02 ~ Kia Baden F08 ~ Autumn Devitt F06
Ty DeVries S07 ~ Anne Dugger F07 ~ Sierra Granados S09
Abby Hearne F02 ~ Sarah Levinson F04 ~ Lauren Lockamy S07
Wheeler Munroe S99 ~ Nadja Miller F99 ~ Ellen Smith F01
Sarah Wright F06 ~ Lila Zimmerman F04

Atkins High School; Winston-Salem, NC

Indigo Grady S09

Atlanta International School; Atlanta, GA

Robin Kuik S08

Aukland Grammar School; Auckland, New Zealand

Thomas Phillips S98

Barrington High School; Barrington, IL

India Watts S08

Baton Rouge Magnet High School; Baton Rouge, LA

Reily Kennedy F07

The Bay School; San Francisco, CA

Mason Bellber S09

The Baylor School; Chattanooga, TN

Caroline Boland S01 ~ Laura Horton F00 ~ Sarah Zane Moore F00

Bellport High School; Brookhaven, NY

Alex Karpen F01

Ben Franklin Academy; Atlanta, GA

Melissa Federico S01

Berkeley Springs High School; Berkeley Springs, WV

Chloe Barkdoll S07 ~ Lili Hsu S05

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School; Bethesda, MD

Jeff Fromuth S05

Boone High School; Orlando, FL

Ariana Ervin S04

BORG; Bratislava, Slovakia

Lena Koelmel S99

Bosque School; Albuquerque, NM

Maggie Farrell S07

Brentwood Academy; Brentwood, TN

Rebecca Burlason S06

Brentwood College School; Mill Bay, BC, Canada

Samantha Rudd F02

Brevard High School; Brevard, NC

John Lauritzen S97 ~ Julie Pittman F04

Brimmer and May School; Wellesley, MA

Caroline Ruhl F06

Broughton High School; Raleigh, NC

Ian Knight F99

Bryn Mawr; Baltimore, MD

Theo Matthai S07

Buchholz High School; Gainesville, FL

Jessica Neilsen S99

Canterbury School; St. Petersburg, FL

Erica Nist-Lund F04 ~ Jennifer Possick S97

Carolina Day School; Asheville, NC

Mari Kubota S99 ~ Sadie Adams F99

Carolina Friends School; Durham, NC

Hannah Friedman S05 ~ Kaitlin Friedman F00
Sara Gabrielson F05 ~ Alex Gilligan S09 ~ Ben Harris F06
Austen Herron S08 ~ Spencer Kennedy F07 ~ Rose Anna Laudicina F03
Nathan Margolis S07 ~ Dan Pungello S09 ~ Alex Ray S08
Henry Roseman F06 ~ Juliette Rousseau S07
Anna Shapley-Quinn S01 ~ Hannah Strom F06 ~ Samantha Strom F06

Cary High School; Cary, NC

Kat Kucera F08

Cedar Ridge High School; Hillsborough, NC

Adriane Spiro S09

Chapel Hill High School; Chapel Hill, NC

Meredith Carter S08 ~ Molly Donahue S08 ~ Johanna O'Briant F95
Jennifer Walton F95

Charlotte Latin School; Charlotte, NC

Nick Ansaldo S96

Charlottesville High School; Charlottesville, VA

Cary Blundon S02

Christ School; Arden, NC

Jack LeGwin F08

Clayton High School; St. Louis, MO

Michael Brasunas S97

The Collegiate School; Richmond, VA

Chatham Monk F97 ~ Page Neal S99 ~ Adam Pendleton S00

Community High School; Nashville, TN

Jacob Chrisman F99

Conostoga High School; Chesterbrook, PA

Becky Burnham S07

Coral Gables High School; Coral Gables, FL

Brendan Connor F95 ~ Richard Adams F99
Emily Cava Northrop S06

Cottage School; Roswell, GA

Anna Brannen S01

DeKalb School of the Arts; Atlanta, GA

Sara Joss S04 ~ Raina Neal S08

Dreher High School; Columbia, SC

Micah Penny S98

Druid Hills High School; Decatur, GA

Allison Dunbar F06

Dunwoody High School; Atlanta, GA

Taylor Martin S06 ~ Scott McKeithen F02

Durham Academy; Durham, NC

Laurie Adams S96 ~ Claire Carson S09 ~ Elizabeth Clark S00
Emma Gould S00 ~ Keira Gould S98 ~ Katie Gunter S96
Betsy Keene S06 ~ Gabrielle LaForce S06 ~ Jenna McGown S98
Chris Metzloff S01 ~ Cassie Mill S04 ~ Drake Morgan S01
Wesley Paulson S05 ~ Logan Roberts F03 ~ Sam Rose S96

Durham Magnet Center; Durham, NC

Megan Brett S98

Durham School of the Arts; Durham, NC

Nina Bryce F06

E.C. Glass High School; Lynchburg, VA

Drew Myers S00 ~ Jordan Reeves S01

East Rutherford High School; Forest City, NC

Cole Price F08

East Wilkes High School; Ronda, NC

Joseph Roberts S99

Eastside High School; Gainesville, FL

Alexander Crook S05 ~ Elijah George S99 ~ Hannah George F02
Sarah Goldberger S06 ~ Maya Luetke S05 ~ Lauren Minnick F04
Elena Powell F06 ~ Blake Ross S06 ~ Miya Shitama S05
Tess Tumarkin F07

El Cerrito High School; El Cerrito, CA

Kim Bullard S04

Eleanor Roosevelt High School; Greenbelt, MD

Greg Jewett S09

Elkins High School; Elkins, VA

Gabriel Rogers F98

Emerson Waldorf School; Chapel Hill, NC

Donovan Moore F05

Episcopal High School; Jacksonville, FL

Brittany Stone S02

Etna High School; Etna, CA

Alexander Kramer S09 ~ Andrew Kramer S07 ~ Jesse Wood S09

Father Lopez High School; Ormond Beach, FL

Kelly Parr S06

Fayetteville High School; Fayetteville, WV

Ben Doyle S00

Forsyth Country Day; Lewisville, NC

Sunny Cooper F05

Francis W. Parker Charter School; Devens, MA

Eli Schmitt F03

Franklin High School; Dickson, TN

Toy Andrews S07

Frederica Academy; St. Simons Island, GA

Maggie Baumann F03

Friends School of Baltimore; Baltimore, MD

Charlotte Heyrman F07

Gainesville High School; Gainesville, FL

Karen Aplin S06 ~ Laura Bell S02 ~ Maggie Call S06
Philip Campbell S04 ~ Stephen Campbell S07 ~ Peter Colasante F06
Casey Delaney F01 ~ Harmony Seaburg S06 ~ Kirra Seaburg F00

Gaithersburg High School; Laytonsville, MD

Emma Schwartz S05 ~ Jason Schwartz S07

The Galloway School; Atlanta, GA

Chelsea Arkin F98 ~ Jennie Bartoletti F01 ~ Cynthia Brower S05
Sarah Burstein F00 ~ Jarrett Echols F04 ~ Joey Gabilanelli S08
Stacy Hackner S04 ~ Emma Joss S09 ~ Amanda Lauter S99
Katherine Lord F01 ~ Jaime Melvin F00 ~ Payne Midyette S03
Paul Siegel F02 ~ Carol Tinsley S02

George Washington High School; Danville, VA

Dustin Bass F97

Georgetown Day School; Washington, DC

Claire Douglass S99 ~ Logan Gradison S02
Anna Lipton-Galbraith S02 ~ Sasha Lipton-Galbraith S04

Girls Preparatory School; Chattanooga, TN

Susan BeVille S99 ~ Morgan Lee F03 ~ Taylor Lee S02
Jane Smith S98 ~ Cayce Wilson S97

Glenelg Country School; Glenelg, MD

David Demmitt S03

Glenn High School; Westland, MI

DeWitt Franklin Johnson II S99

Grady High School; Atlanta, GA

Jessica Adams F02 ~ Will Burney F07 ~ Misha Cohen F02
Mickey Goodman S08 ~ Anna Hale S09 ~ Carson Hale S05
Will Harris S03 ~ Liliana Hudgens S04 ~ Megan Hull F08
Gabe Klein-Kuhn F04 ~ Josh Klein-Kuhn S01 ~ Kate Lewis S09
Samuel McGaughey F00 ~ Alex Page S09 ~ Ashton Powell F95
Noah Shaye S06 ~ Sarra Weiss S07 ~ Jillian Woodliff F07

Great Valley High School; Phoenixville, PA

Daphne Churchill S00

Grimsley Senior High School; Greensboro, NC

Anna Klein F96 ~ Amy Peddie S03

Guliver Preparatory; Miami, FL

Ted Cava S03

Harpeth Hall; Nashville, TN

Kathleen Goetz S03 ~ Kym Goldstein S99 ~ Madeline Hinchion F07
Lauren McCathren F99 ~ Logan Rothschild F05 ~ Toby Shuster F98
Lillian Siman F04 ~ Mary Tek S05

Hanover High School; Hanover, NH

Ben Wiley S01 ~ Noah Peart S01

Harrison High School; Lafayette, IN

Alexine Mudawar S05 ~ Brady Sutton S07 ~ Nate Sutton S04

Hendersonville High School; Hendersonville, NC

Caitlin Crane S02

Hertford County High School; Murfreesboro, NC

Adam Smith F98

H.B. Plant High School; Tampa, FL

Meredith Greene S00

Heritage High School; Conyers, GA

Katie Elliott S98 ~ Nina Elliott S97

Highland Park High School; Highland Park, IL

Emma Gonzalez S03 ~ Annie Mantynband S03

Hillsboro High School; Nashville, TN

William Dyer S01 ~ Gabe Forsythe F96 ~ Phil Hahn F98

Hillsdale High School; San Mateo, CA

Lindsay Babbitt S05

Hilton Head Christian Academy; Hilton Head IS, SC

Tracy Howell F03

Hilton Head High School; Hilton Head Island, SC

Amy Brooks F97 ~ Maggie Brooks S01 ~ Carly Niehaus F04

The Hockaday School; Dallas, TX

Mary Burkhead F04

Holton-Arms; Washington, DC

Kelly Steben S04

Homeschool

Ben Abelman S09 ~ Kay Henry-Hettel F08 ~ McNeill Mann F98
Aislinn Pentecost-Farren F99 ~ Alleyne Ross S07 ~ Devin Wickel S08

Howard Blake High School; Tampa, FL

Emily Compton F06 ~ Alison Scher F00
Caitlin Wind F05

Indian Springs School; Indian Springs, AL

Marian Blair F02

J.F. Kennedy High School; Takoma Park, MD

Marcy Nadel S07

J.H. Rose High School; Greenville, NC

Rebecca Larkin S97 ~ Erica Schinasi S06

J.T. Hoggard High School; Wilmington, NC

Carey Nathanson F99

James Island Charter School; Charleston, SC

Tatjana Mihailovic F06

Jefferson High School; New Market, TN

Ian Miller S04 ~ Carey Nathanson F03

Kearsarge Regional High School; North Sutton, NH

Rosemary Bateman F03

Kentucky Country Day School; Louisville, KY

Anna Shugoll F08

Kimball Union Academy; Meriden, NH

Frazier Milton S08

The King's Academy; Palm Beach, FL

Rachel Graham S06

Lake Brantley High School; Altamonte Springs, FL

Leland Tippit F05

Lakeside High School; Atlanta, GA

Rachel Malina F01

Latin School of Chicago; Chicago, IL

Katharine Callard S98

Leon High School; Tallahassee, FL

Beth Briley F96

Lima Central Catholic; Lima, OH

Alex Rodabaugh F03

Louisville Collegiate School; Louisville, KY

Francy Lang S03

Lusher Charter School; New Orleans, LA

Marga DeJong F08

Lutheran High School South; St. Louis, MO

Andy Miller S96 ~ Jordan Wesemann S97

Marietta High School; Marietta, GA

Lee Howick F03

Mascoma Valley Regional High School; Canaan, NH

Carly Reitsma S01

MAST Academy; Key Biscayne, FL

Ashley Hans-Barrientos F04 ~ Chloe Hans-Barrientos F05
Laura Northrop F02 ~ Delfina Vizzoco F05

McCallie School; Chattanooga, TN

Jay Brooks F07 ~ Noel Durant F01

Mill Springs Academy (Alpharetta, GA)

Megan Young F06

Mills E. Godwin High School; Richmond, VA

Nick Shaw F05

Milton High School; Alpharetta, GA

Steffi Cook F05

Montgomery Blair High School; Silver Spring, MD

Mandy Brown S07 ~ Julie Grogan-Brown S98 ~ Elena Ramsey S04

Mountain Brook High School; Birmingham, AL

Sarah Alexander S07

Mountain Heritage High School; Burnsville, NC

Abe McKay S07 ~ Evan Raskin S04

Mount Airy High School; Mount Airy, NC

Nick Woronoff S07

Mt. Tabor High School; Winston-Salem, NC

Emma Brodtkin S04 ~ Helen Cochrane S97

Myers Park High School; Charlotte, NC

Graham Brugh F98 ~ Zac Harris S06 ~ George Whiting F07

Nashville School of the Arts; Nashville, TN

Anna Graves S07

Nelson County High School; Lovingston, VA

Hannah Rogers-Gilliam F01 ~ Lyraya Showstack S03

New Caanan High School; New Caanan, CT

Gary Sorcher F04

New Hope Solebury High School; New Hope, PA

Jon Krist S03

North Atlanta High School; Atlanta, GA

Chase King F02

North Mecklenburg High School; Davidson, NC

Amanda Whitton S04

North Springs High School; Atlanta, GA

Madison Dworschak F08 ~ Colin Istvan F07 ~ Hannah Joseph F07
Josh Rosenstein F04

Northwest Guilford High School; Greensboro, NC

Leah Green S99

Oak Hall School; Gainesville, FL

Margaret Davidson S00 ~ Meredith Main S01

Oak Hill Academy; West Point, MS

Thomas Van Zandt F99

Oak Park & River Forest High School; Oak Park, IL

Micah Siegel S98

Oakwood Friends School; Poughkeepsie, NY

Tom Krome S09

The O'Neal School; Southern Pines, NC

Sarah Moore S02

Osceola Fundamental High School; St. Petersburg, FL

Shira Moch F07

PACE Brantley Hall School; Longwood, FL

Michael Porta S98

Pace Academy; Atlanta, GA

Alex Barbour S05 ~ Rush Battle F99 ~ Stephanie Blumenthal S03
Katie Brigham S01 ~ Annie de Mayo F02 ~ Meg Liebman F02
Ben Lowenthal S03 ~ Henry McAlpin F02 ~ Abigail Poe S97
Skeet Ponder F06 ~ Spencer Pope S96 ~ Evans Rainer F01
George Stinson F03 ~ Liz Stinson S99 ~ Witt Wisebram F99
Callie Yow F03

Paideia School; Atlanta, GA

Nick Beaudrot S96 ~ Noah Berch S09 ~ Ruby-Beth Buitekant S03
Meredith Dowling S00 ~ Jenny Gay S05 ~ Casey Goldstein F99
Camille Lindsley S09 ~ Danielle Newman F97 ~ Alison Wilkinson S02
Katherine Wilkinson S99

Paisley Magnet School; Winston-Salem, NC

Evan Bluhm S07 ~ Sarah James S09

Parry McCluer High School; Buena Vista, VA

Emma Jones F02

P.K. Yonge School; Gainesville, FL

Olivia Ervin S97 ~ Kayla Israel-Ogulnick S01 ~ Megan Langlois S04
Megan Leslie F02 ~ Claire Tillman-McTigue S99

Polk County High School; Columbus, NC

Micah Parsons F08 ~ Jack Mize F07

Quince Orchard High School; Gaithersburg, MD

Elana Woolf S03

Ramapo High School; Wyckoff, NJ

Caitlin Miller S00

Ransom Everglades School; Miami, FL

Marcus Bach S99 ~ Rebecca Blecke F95 ~ Eliza Cava S01
Joe Gelb S99 ~ Lauren Goldsand F96 ~ Skip Johnson S08
Meg McCarter F98 ~ Kim Robinson F97 ~ Jenni Skyler F96

RJ Reynolds High School; Winston-Salem, NC

Sarah Anderson S04 ~ Libba Cooper S09 ~ Carter Craven S09
Ted Harper S98 ~ Cecilia Kucera F07 ~ Walter Kucera S04
Elizabeth Leonard S00 ~ John McCauley F03 ~ Clay Pittman S06

Richland NE High School; Columbia, SC

Moffatt Prescott S98

River Mill Charter School; Graham, NC

Able Jones F98

Riverwood High School; Atlanta, GA

Daryn Deville S02

Robert Service High School; Anchorage, AK

Jonas Ely S08

Rockdale High School; Conyers, GA

Joseph Skypek F04

Ronald Reagan High School; Winston-Salem, NC

Erik Brandt S08

Roswell High School; Roswell, GA

Ian Engbritson S07

Salem Academy; Winston-Salem, NC

Molly Chapman F98 ~ Carrie Cole F98 ~ Cate Hendren F07
Ariel Lowdermilk F02 ~ Jamey Lowdermilk F97

Salisbury High School; Salisbury, NC

Will Troxler F99

San Rafael High School; San Rafael, CA

Menfil Martinez S97

Sandia Preparatory School; Albuquerque, NM

Matt Baker F01 ~ Vanessa Baker F98 ~ Rose Emery F00
Nick Heine F02 ~ Evan Horn F97 ~ Anne Joiner S03
Alex Maccini F04 ~ Julia Maccini F99 ~ Morgen Piper S97
Jacob Spigel S00 ~ Allison White F01

Sandy Creek High School; Fairburn, GA

Nettie Brill F04

Sandy Spring Friends School; Sandy Spring, MD

Mariana Furey S08 ~ Connor Stedman S02 ~ Nora Stedman F06

Santa Fe Prep; Santa Fe, NM

Isaac Garcia S07

Santa Teresa High School; San Jose, CA

Mara Brownsmith S97

Savannah High School; Savannah, GA

Dion Thompson S98

Sayre School; Lexington, KY

Benjamin Carter S02 ~ Callis Chambliss F05 ~ Noland Chambliss S00
Clark Courtney F08 ~ Madison Meyers F99 ~ Anne Miller F04
Bogdan Pater F05 ~ Jane Thompson S00 ~ Forrest Turner S99
Jarrett Van Meter F06

St. Albans School; Washington, DC

Tom Simchak S97

St. Augustine High School; St. Augustine, FL

Bonnie Dowling S98 ~ Susannah Dowling S01 ~ Kate Hardy S98
Meg Kiernan S97 ~ Christa Longo S06

St. Francis High School; Roswell, GA

Chuck Frenzel S98

St. Helena High School; St. Helena, CA

Cooper Browning S03

St. Ignatius College Preparatory; San Francisco, CA

Ben Lerer F00

St. Joseph Regional High School; Port Maquarie, NY

Luka Tacon S01

St. Paul's School for Girls; Baltimore, MD

Sarah Gookasian S96 ~ Alison Murphy S05 ~ Gabrielle Dowell F08
Katie Rauch S96 ~ Lauren Schumacher S08

St. Paul's School for Boys; Baltimore, MD

Andrew Bannister S06 ~ Jack Bannister S01 ~ Ryan Flanigan S03
Patrick Gardullo F07 ~ Matthew Hart F02 ~ Brad Heacock S00
Kevin Murphy S07 ~ Thomas Sexton S98 ~ Chris Smith F99
Teddy Watson F04

St. Stephen's Episcopal High School; Bradenton, FL

Sarah Mackey F05 ~ Elizabeth Moser S04 ~ Alyssa Panning F01
Rachael Panning F03 ~ Elena Puig F02

School for the Performing and Creative Arts; Cincinnati, OH

Sylvie Hundley S05

School in the Community; Graham, NC

Able Jones F98

Service High School; Anchorage, AK

Tess Ely F04

Smokey Mountain High School; Sylva, NC

Tiyo Hallock F99

South Carol High School; Mt. Airy, MD

Caitlin Rush F03

Southwest Guilford High School; High Point, NC

Catherine Cheney S04

Southwest Miami Senior High; Miami, FL

Rafael Balestra F97

Spanish River High School; Boca Raton, FL

Parker Ramsay S09

Spartanburg High School; Spartanburg, SC

Andrew Byrd S03 ~ Taylor Byrd S02 ~ Michael Byrd F07

Stuart Hall High School; San Francisco, CA

Sam Bellber S05

Summit School; Winston-Salem, NC

Elias Cooper ~ Lydia Gordon F08

Tampa Preparatory School; Tampa, FL

Jacob Crawford F99 ~ Lindsay Malinowski F99 ~ Kari Reynolds S00

Tappan Zee High School; Orangeburg, NY

Gabriel Hoff F00

T.C. Roberson High School; Asheville, NC

Daniel Schultz F00

Trilogy School; Gainesville, FL

Lauren Dillon F01

Trinity Collegiate School; Darlington, SC

Sarah Harlan F05 ~ Charles Williamson S07

Trinity Preparatory School; Orlando, FL

Leah Alpert F96 ~ Kelle Carter S97 ~ Jenny Edson S98 ~ Luke Falk F95
Whitney Hannah F96 ~ Josh Hoffman S98 ~ Juliet Nazareth F97
Daniel Price S96 ~ Alex Robertson F97 ~ Cassie Smith S99
Ryan Smith F01

Tucker High School; Tucker, GA

Tully Herr S05

Tuscola High School; Waynesville, NC

Loagin Ledford F07

University City High School; St. Louis, MO

Maggie Ellinger-Locke F98

Villa Duchesne High School; St. Louis, MO

Lauren Moore F97

Walter Williams High School; Snow Camp, NC

Eliza Sydnor F98

Walton High School; Atlanta, GA

Amanda Goyer F02 ~ Ilana Karpel F02 ~ Brooks Rosenberg F98
MacLean Rosenberg F01

Watauga High School; Boone, NC

Leah Pendley F05 ~ Zach Smith-Johnson S98 ~ Kate Wood F06

Watchung Hills High School; Warren, NJ

Sarah Roth F00

Waverly-Shell Rock School; Waverly, IA

Brett Schurbon F97

The Webb School; Knoxville, TN

Wyndi Miller S02 ~ Sarah Thurmond S00

The Weber School; Atlanta, GA

Anna Perling F07

Wellesley High School; Wellesley, MA

Lily Stowell S07

The Wellington School; Columbus, OH

Adam Ashbrook S00 ~ Anna Ashbrook F02 ~ Bonnie Baldyga S05
Andrew Brown F00 ~ Megan Mess F99 ~ Alex Vickery F03

Wellesley High School; Wellesley, MA

Martin Stowell S03

West Florence High School; Florence, SC

Liz Harlan F95

West Forsyth High School; Clemmons, NC

Luke Wofford S07 ~ Madalyn Wofford S05

West High School; Knoxville, TN

Jonathan Capps F98 ~ Sarah Hassell S99

West Potomac High School; Alexandria, VA

Matt Hume S96

The Westminster Schools; Atlanta, GA

Lauren Allhusen F01 ~ Sara Candler F98 ~ Martha Candler F99
Sara Cleto F02 ~ Peter Franchot F04 ~ Allison Gaston-Enholm F02
Mary Grace Elliot F00 ~ Adelaide Giromelly F05 ~ Ivey Inman F00
Denton King F01 ~ Jessie Maxwell F02 ~ Diki Minkhorst F03
Evan Orenstein F01 ~ Callie Sadler F04

William Henry Harrison High School; Lafayette, IN

Brady Sutton S07 ~ Nate Sutton S04

Wilson High School; Washington, DC

Jen Cohen S06 ~ Julia Cohen S06 ~ Ari DeToro-Forlenza F97
Mark Grubbs S09 ~ Rachel Lam S06 ~ Marlene Tempchin S06
Sebastiano Trinh S09 ~ Bennett Tyson S09

Windsor Forest High School; Savannah, GA

Josie Streiff S01

Winter Park High School; Winter Park, FL

Mia Dawson S09 ~ Tess Falk S01

Woodward Academy; Atlanta, GA

Gates Roll F03 ~ Laura Stulting F98

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH: Writing the Landscape

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this college preparatory course, we will “write the landscape” as portrayed in American literature, particularly writings that treat the natural world as central to the text. Special attention will be given to the rich and diverse literature of the Southern Appalachians. Our time will be divided equally between the study of literature and the practice of our own writing, much of which will grow out of the literature that we read. Field trips, outdoor activities, and multimedia may be incorporated to bring variety and additional perspectives to our work. Students will have opportunities to craft their own writing, to hold workshops for one another’s writing, to discuss readings, and to gain a greater sense of place through this class.

SAMPLE TEXTS

Desert Solitaire, Edward Abbey

New and Selected Poems (excerpts) “Are You All Right?” Wendell Berry

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Annie Dillard

Cold Mountain, Charles Frazier

New and Selected Poems (excerpts), Mary Oliver

Her Blue Body Everything We Know (excerpts), Alice Walker

Field Notes, Barry Lopez

In the Loyal Mountain, Rick Bass

Leaves of Grass (excerpts), Walt Whitman

Readings vary from semester to semester; others may be included

ASSIGNMENTS

Formal writing assignments may include creative nonfiction essays, analytical essays, poems, letters, and short stories. These assignments will go through multiple drafts and are subject to peer review, class critique, self-assessment, and evaluation by the teacher. Additionally, after each reading assignment, students will write an informal one page reading response focusing on deep reading and literary analysis.

ASSESSMENT

Class participation: 25%

Homework 25%

Formal Assignments: 50%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

NATURAL SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This field and seminar course examines biodiversity through the lens of natural selection. Our explorations of the Blue Ridge ecosystems provide endless questions into the complex workings of the natural world. Field identification of plants and animals and readings in conservation biology and evolutionary theory will give us a vocabulary for discussions of the broader concepts of natural selection.

Major Topics

- History of Natural Science
- Historical and physical geology; the mountain building events
- Species/niche/habitat/community associations
- Biogeography and speciation
- Forests of the Blue Ridge Mountains
- Population genetics
- Competition and predation
- Courtship and reproductive strategies
- Coevolution and symbiosis
- Sociobiology

EXCERPTED TEXTS

Ecology & Field Biology by Smith and Smith

Why Big, Fierce Animals Are Rare by Paul Colinvaux

The Diversity of Life by E.O. Wilson

The Song of the Dodo by David Quammen

The Origin of Species by Charles Darwin

ASSIGNMENTS

Students are assigned ongoing readings from the texts and handouts to provide background for discussions. Notes from class and readings are kept in a field journal. Classes are taught in the forest as weather and daily topics allow.

ASSESSMENT

In this seminar class, students are expected to be fully prepared and invested in daily discussion.

Oral Participation & Presentations	60 %
Quizzes	20 %
Field notebooks	20%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

MATHEMATICS

The majority of students attending The Outdoor Academy are enrolled in either *Algebra II* or *Geometry*. The Outdoor Academy has also offered *Precalculus*, *Trigonometry*, *Integrated Math*, and other math courses as needed. If an applicant's math requirement is not included in the courses listed above, the student should discuss this during the admissions process. All math classes are designed for motivated, mid-range to upper-level students, and honors credit is available for those applicants normally enrolled in honors courses at home. Before their arrival on campus at The Outdoor Academy, admitted students will receive a math assessment to be completed by their most recent math teacher. This assessment form includes a syllabus for the Algebra II or Geometry course offered at The Outdoor Academy so that the sending school's math department is aware of material to be covered at The Outdoor Academy. Every effort is made to correlate our instruction with the curricula of each sending school so that every student is well prepared to re-enter the next sequential math course upon his/her return. Mathematics teachers are more than willing to work with teachers from students' sending schools to work toward aligning course curriculum. Upon completion of the semester, The Outdoor Academy will send an official course description to sending schools, along with the student's final transcript.

Mathematics at The Outdoor Academy includes instruction in the use of graphing calculator technology as well as traditional constructs and manipulatives. In addition to separate class sessions, all students are involved in student teaching and hands-on activities such as solar oven design or field survey. These lab activities emphasize practical math applications and math components of music and visual arts.

ALGEBRA II

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fall semester studies generally include: linear equations, functions, and inequalities; systems of equations and inequalities; matrices; quadratic functions; and as time and need allows: polynomial expressions and functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; and imaginary and complex numbers. Spring semester studies generally include: quadratic functions; imaginary and complex numbers; polynomial expressions and functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; rational expressions and equations; and as time and need allows: conics, sequences and series, probability and statistics; and basic trigonometry. Both semesters emphasize practical applications of concepts presented.

TEXT

McDougal Littell Algebra 2 by Larson, Boswell, Kanold and Stiff, 2004

ASSESSMENT

Tests, Quizzes, Projects	55%
Homework-Daily	20%
Final Exam	15%
Participation	10%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

GEOMETRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fall semester studies include points, lines, planes, and angles, inductive and deductive reasoning, two-column proofs with segments and angles, parallel lines, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals and similarity. Spring semester studies begin with quadrilaterals and similarity and continue with right triangles and trigonometry, circles, polygons, surface area and volume. As in Algebra II, both semesters emphasize practical applications of concepts presented.

TEXTS

Merrill Geometry: Applications and Connections, Burrill, McGraw Hill

A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe: The Mathematical Archetypes of Nature, Art, and Science, Michael S. Schneider

ASSESSMENT

Tests, Quizzes, Projects	55%
Homework-Daily	20%
Final Exam	15%
Participation	10%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

PRECALCULUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Precalculus builds upon the properties and graphs of functions studied in Algebra II, while preparing students for a college level Calculus course. This course concentrates on the application of functions to the world around us. During the year we will study linear relations and functions, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomial and rational functions, trigonometric functions, graphs and identities, conics, and exponential and logarithmic functions. Depending on student needs, and as time allows, we may venture into sequences and series, probability, and/or statistics.

TEXT

Merrill Advanced Mathematical Concepts- Precalculus With Applications, Glencoe

ASSESSMENT

Tests, Quizzes, Projects	55%
Homework-Daily	20%
Final Exam	15%
Participation	10%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

FRENCH: Levels I, II, III and IV: Life and Language

COURSE DESCRIPTION

These courses provide an intimate setting in which students are immersed in the French language and exposed to a variety of francophone traditions. Each course emphasizes the use of French within its broad spectrum of countries and cultures. Small classes give students constant opportunity to speak in French and put them at ease with communicating in the francophone world.

Exploration of francophone cultures in these courses is a hands-on experience. Student participation in and connection to literature and oral traditions as well as the visual, performing and culinary arts gives meaning to history and culture. The nature of the class demands an exceptional level of class participation, as well as consistent effort on homework, exams, quizzes and group and individual projects.

TEXTS

The following texts are used in conjunction with poems, short stories, literature, articles, and music. Each student is also expected to keep a French notebook of vocabulary pertinent to the class but not in the textbook.

French I: Bienvenue! Glencoe level I; Allez, viens! Holt, level I

French II: A bord! Glencoe level II; Allez, viens! Holt, level II

French III: En voyage! Glencoe level III; Allez, viens! Holt level III

French III students may also read either Le Petit Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry or Huis Clos, Jean-Paul Sartre.

French IV: En Bonne Forme, Houghton Mifflin. French IV students may also read Une Vie De Boy, Ferdinand Oyono.

ASSIGNMENTS

In addition to daily assignments emphasizing grammar and vocabulary, there will be long-term reading, writing and cultural projects.

Grammar and Vocabulary: Exercises from textbooks and workbooks, and sentences and essays of the students' own creation comprise grammar and vocabulary assignments.

Readings: These will be level appropriate; sources include textbooks, novels and magazines.

Essays: At the more advanced levels, students write and revise short analytical or creative essays.

Projects: Depending upon the level, projects include writing and/or presenting poems, skits and music presentations. All students will participate in a cooking project.

ASSESSMENT

Homework, In-Class Worksheets, Projects and Presentations	20%
Participation	20%
Tests and Quizzes	45%
Final Exam	15%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

SPANISH: Levels I, II, III and IV: Language and Culture

COURSE DESCRIPTION

All four course levels of Spanish immerse students in the language, culture and feel of the countries where Spanish is the native tongue. Students will practice and further develop oral, reading, grammar, and writing skills. Each course will include activities that expose students to the traditions, history, art, music and food of Spanish-speaking cultures. Over the semester we will be covering the grammar, vocabulary and language structure that the sending schools will be teaching. Our goal is to return students home with the same ability as their classmates, if not better. What makes Spanish at The Outdoor Academy exceptional is the opportunity to integrate second language with all aspects of our daily lives, both academic and community.

We are able to accommodate some students who wish to receive credit in Spanish V. Please speak with the Admissions Director or Dean of Students to discuss possibilities.

TEXTS

The following texts are used in conjunction with poems, short stories, literature, articles, and music.

Spanish I: Bienvenidos I, Glencoe

Spanish II: Spanish for Mastery II, D.C. Heath and Company ; Spanish Two Years, Amsco

Spanish III: Spanish for Mastery III, Vallete and Vallete/Carrera and Hanley; Conversacion y Repaso, Harcourt Brace

Spanish IV: Materials are pulled from different sources. Emphasis is placed on grammar review, oral expression and readings which include selections from authors as Ana Maria Matute, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Pablo Neruda, Horacio Quiroga and others.

ASSIGNMENTS

Grammar and Vocabulary: Students will work daily in assignments emphasizing grammar and vocabulary covered during class time.

Readings: Varying with the level, students will cover readings during the semester that will be reviewed during class time.

Essays: Advanced levels will work on essays on a regular basis and students will give an oral presentation of the essays.

Projects: Different projects are assigned to each level during the semester. These projects may include Spanish music presentations, culinary projects, skits and Hispanic celebrations.

Quizzes: Students are quizzed once a week on vocabulary, grammar and comprehension of the readings.

ASSESSMENT

Tests	30%
Homework and Projects	25%
Quizzes	25%
Participation	20%

NOTE: Assessment is subject to change based on modifications to course content.

ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR

Note: Our sending schools typically accept this course credit as a Social Studies elective. Should you or your school advisor have any questions about this course offering, please contact us.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Why is there a global food crisis when we grow enough food to feed everyone? How does biodiversity loss affect the quality of human life? What does it mean to live in a sustainable way? As humans increasingly impact the environment, the effects are showing up in interesting ways around the globe. This seminar will focus on prevalent environmental issues and ethics, encouraging each student to form individual opinions after investigating multiple sides of an issue. Using the Southern Appalachian region as a local focus, we will actively strive to understand the complexities of the ecological, social, economic, political, and personal web that surrounds present-day environmental discussions.

This course will use a combination of discussion, investigative research, and collaborative group projects to address the social and ecological implications of food choices, population growth, pollution and waste, energy production and consumption, and lifestyle choices. We will use Daniel Quinn's novel Ishmael as a springboard for discussion, and will draw from supplementary texts, videos, speakers and field trips in order to consider multiple, often contrary, perspectives. Emphasis will be placed on each student's developing a personal environmental ethic, rather than arriving at a unanimous decision as to what is "right."

EXCERPTED TEXTS

Ishmael by Daniel Quinn (whole text)

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser

Affluenza by John DeGraaf

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle by Barbara Kingsolver

The Skeptical Environmentalist by Bjorn Lomborg

Stuff: The Secret Lives of Things by Alan Durning

Current Magazine and Newspaper Articles

ASSIGNMENTS:

The course grade will depend on student participation in class discussions, group and individual projects with a presentation component, and written responses to readings.

ASSESSMENT:

Class Participation:	20%
Quizzes:	30%
Writing Assignments:	30%
Final Project:	20%

WORLD HISTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

For the student who requires World History in the tenth grade year, we offer a seminar course that looks at broad themes and connections in human history. The fall section of this survey course is devoted to ancient world history through about 1700, and the spring surveys modern world history. The course is structured both thematically and chronologically and has a global emphasis. We will examine major themes including humans and their environment, political and belief systems, economics, diplomacy and conflict, and justice and human rights. The course emphasizes the use of primary documents and draws historical connections to contemporary trends. Students can expect to take an active role in the course, participating in class discussions and making frequent oral presentations on select topics.

Students are invited to bring the syllabus from their World History course at their sending school so that course topics may be tailored to the specific curricular needs of that group of students.

EXERPTED TEXTS

Guns, Germs, and Steel, Jared Diamond

A Green History of the World, Clive Ponting

World History, Howard Spodek

PARTIAL LIST OF MAJOR TOPICS

Neolithic/Agricultural Revolution

Early Civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, The Americas

Belief Systems/World Religions

Growth of the Islamic Empire

Classical Civilizations: China, Greece, Rome

Medieval Europe

Renaissance/Reformation

Age of Exploration

Industrial Revolution

World Wars I and II

Current Events

ASSIGNMENTS

Students will read selections from the textbook and supplementary articles and chapters in preparation for each class. They will write short essays, keep a comprehensive notebook, and will participate in both individual and group project presentations throughout the semester.

ASSESSMENT

Class participation	50%
Homework and notebook	20%
Projects and presentations	30%

APPALACHIAN STUDIES PROJECT

This part of our curriculum provides an introduction to the folk and craft culture of the Southern Appalachians. At the beginning of the semester, each student selects a project from our many offerings which may include: yarn spinning, weaving, quilting, cooking, woodworking, hide tanning, or blacksmithing. Students work alongside faculty mentors, often utilizing 19th century tools and techniques. Emphasis is placed on the creative process rather than the final product, though virtually all projects ultimately yield stunning results. Background research helps establish the cultural and historical context for the project, and visits with local expert artisans inform and inspire the work.

Appalachian Studies Projects will be evaluated as “Satisfactory” or “Unsatisfactory.”

FINE ARTS

With artistic expression an integral part of The Outdoor Academy experience, how can we use this sheet of paper to convey a course description for our fine arts classes? We could cut this sheet into interesting shapes and require you to assemble them to get this information, or we could create musical notation of mountain folk songs for you to sing, or we could have placed this in a box and asked you to describe it while blindfolded. At The Outdoor Academy, art is the connection between our imagination and the materials at hand.

Each student is asked to choose one fine arts class from those offered, which may include Visual Arts, Theatre, or Music. Students need not feel that they are limiting their art experience by choosing one class; occasional projects and performances will allow students to explore many creative avenues while at The Outdoor Academy.

Note: Course offerings may differ each semester – contact our admissions office for details on arts offerings for each semester.

THEATRE: A Place of Action

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through creative, critical, and physical effort, students learn how to transform their ideas into staged performances. The first step is to challenge the imagination to find a “worthy idea”. Next, through improvisation, writing and dialogue, movement and dance, sound and music, visual design and effects, the “idea” is expanded to find focus and intention. Then, using the tools of playwriting, characterization, acting, and technical theater skills, the “idea” is formed into a full performance.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be given for solo, group, and class performances.

ASSESSMENT

Participation and contribution	40%
Solo Projects	30%
Class Project	30%

VISUAL ARTS: Nature and Self

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an exploration of the natural world, how we interact with it, and how that transforms into pieces of art. We'll work in both 3-dimensional disciplines (clay and found objects sculpture) and 2-dimensional disciplines (photography and drawing) as we explore how we can mold natural elements with our hands, how we fit into a landscape, and how nature can inspire ideas as we pay attention to it through the change of seasons.

ASSESSMENT

Creativity/Exploration/Experimentation	30%
Skill-building/Craftsmanship Development	20%
Timely Completion of Projects	20%
Care for Studio Space, Tools and Artwork	20%
Class Discussion	10%

APPALACHIAN MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the heart of the Southern Appalachians the music and lore are as varied as the people who live here. Ballads, hymns, chants, and the folk songs abound, as do myths, folk tales, and local historical legends. The instruments we introduce in this course reflect this diversity -- Native American flute, African percussion, banjo, guitar, mandolin, mountain dulcimer, tin whistle and recorder.

This class visits several of the musical traditions that have contributed to the music of Appalachia, including Scots-Irish, Cherokee and West African traditions. We will explore how these musical roots have given rise to Old Time, Bluegrass, and other modern musical traditions in this geographic region. Through intent listening and performance, we will consider the distinctive features of these musical styles. Students will have the opportunity to develop proficiency on an instrument of their choice, and to perform in various ensemble arrangements. Emphasis will be placed on playing together in ensemble - responding to the musical gesture of fellow musicians while contributing to a musical fabric that is greater than the sum of its parts.

TEXTS

Musics of Multicultural America, Kip Lornell and Anne K. Rasmussen
Worlds of Music: An introduction to the Music of the World, Jeff Todd Tilton, editor
Blue Ridge Music Trails: Finding a Place in the Circle, Fred Fussell

ASSESSMENT

Participation	25%
Practice and Class Preparation	25%
Skill Development	25%
Musical Development	25%

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students participate in a 60-minute Physical Education class three times each week. The class maintains two distinct goals. One is to improve and/or maintain a student's fitness level by participating in such games as Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, group challenge games, and the low ropes course. The second goal is to teach wilderness skills, leadership development, teamwork, and communication. This goal is achieved through the use of such activities as rock climbing, canoeing, orienteering, and group discussions. The class is designed to meet each student's level of the physical conditioning. Students will come to know that the goal of healthy competition is not always about being on the team with the most points, but rather about realizing one's own potential.

ASSESSMENT

Participation	95%
Discussion	5%

WORK CREW

Work Crew is an integral facet of The Outdoor Academy curriculum. By working through goal-oriented tasks, our students begin to hone skills that are essential for sound personal development. In the garden, the kitchen, or splitting and gathering wood for heat, they learn in an intimate way how their efforts affect and enhance the society in which they live. They learn their place in their community through direct experience. As they work with their friends and fellow students they find that their work takes on a value in and of itself. These works thus bring completeness of the whole.

Work Crew participation will be evaluated as "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory."

Work Crew Guidelines

- Be on time
- Consistently arrive prepared with gloves and closed-toed shoes as instructed
- Have a positive and productive attitude, willing and ready to work
- Follow instructions
- Know safe and correct work procedures for the work outlined
- Be able to work productively with fellow students
- Take responsibility for care and storage of tools
- Be able to work in an efficient and productive manner without direction from staff
- Understand and be able to express what effect work may have on our global environment

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

At the Outdoor Academy we take a truly interdisciplinary approach to helping each student tap their leadership potential. Embodied in each area of programming, leadership development is a theme that permeates our community life, academic classes, and outdoor programming. We carefully design opportunities for our students to marry the interpersonal skills of communication and accountability encouraged in community life with the technical skills they develop in the classroom and field. Through physical education classes and outdoor programming, students are introduced to vocabulary and skills designed to help them more fully engage in leadership. On campus each student is given opportunities to step into formal leadership roles that guide the functioning of our community. While in the field this same practice of “Leader of the Day” translates into each student choreographing a whole day on the trail—motivating peers in the morning, navigating routes, organizing camp life, and facilitating group meetings in the evening. Below are a few of the leadership building opportunities available in a typical semester:

Formal Leadership Opportunities

- Leader of the Day: on-campus and on all treks
- Student-led classes
- Oral presentations in academic classes and Appalachian Studies
- Natural Science research presented during Outdoor Programming
- Self-evaluation and feedback in Arts courses
- Facilitation of weekly Community Meeting
- Mentoring at off-campus work crew sites

Informal Leadership Opportunities

- Class Discussions
- Work crew
- Kitchen: cooking, clean-up
- Student-run extracurricular activities
- Student-run committees (ie. t-shirt committee, semester book committee)
- Sharing of personal skills and talents with others (ie. knitting, carving, etc.)
- Helping peers with homework
- Holding the community accountable through announcements and the weekly Community Meeting
- Positive role modeling
- Taking initiative in community and cabin life

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sample Weekday Schedule

7:00	Wake-up Bell
7:15	Morning Watch and Chores
8:00	Breakfast
8:45	English
9:40	Natural Science
10:35	Free Period
11:30	Math
12:30	Lunch
1:30	Foreign Language
2:25	History
3:35	Art or Music
4:55	Physical Education/Outdoor Leadership
6:00	Dinner
7:15	Study Hall or Community Meeting
9:00	Woodstove
9:20	Goodnight Circle
10:15	Lights Out

Each student's daily schedule usually provides one free period for personal chores or study time. Evenings provide almost two hours of study time and additional free time for socializing. Most Sundays will offer free time for much of the day. We strive to provide students with the opportunity to attend worship services each weekend we spend on campus.

Weekend Schedule – On Campus

Saturday

8:30	Wake-Up Bell
8:45	Morning Chores
9:15	Breakfast
10:00	Appalachian Studies Projects Time
11:30	All-School Gardening
1:00	Lunch
1:00	Afternoon Activity
2:50	Outdoor Ed./PE
5:45	Dinner
8:45	Saturday Night Activity
9:20	Goodnight Circle, Lights Out

Sunday

10:00	Wake-Up Bell
10:30	Brunch
12:00	Cabin Clean-Up
1:00	Free Time
5:00	Dinner
6:30	Study Hours
8:30	Cabin Meetings
10:00	Lights Out

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why would I want to go to The Outdoor Academy?

High school is a time of exploration and change. Journeying away from home during your sophomore year to live in a small community will give you a rare perspective on your life, and on your connection with other people and with the natural world. Students come to The Outdoor Academy to step into a more personal educational experience, to build a community based on interdependence and sharing, and to explore their relationship to nature. Besides, this is one of the most exciting, fun things you could do during your high school years!

Immersing yourself in a unique learning adventure creates the opportunity to distinguish yourself for college. Many of our alumni have written about their Outdoor Academy semester as part of their college application. College admissions counselors have been impressed by their participation in our semester school. Students who have attended The Outdoor Academy are more self-reliant and experienced with living away from home; they are mature and confident in their expectations and goals for life after high school.

What kind of students attend The Outdoor Academy?

We have welcomed students from all over the country and abroad. Academically, OA students are hard workers, students who value their education and also seek academic exploration beyond the classroom. Private, public, and home-schooled students with broad interests and diverse backgrounds have attended The Outdoor Academy. Students are able to explore many new areas each semester, such as cultural studies, environmental issues, whitewater paddling, gardening, knitting, theatre, rock-climbing, and Appalachian folklore.

Will I receive academic credit for my schoolwork at The Outdoor Academy?

Since you will be taking a complete semester of courses, including English, math, second language, and electives, and your school accepts these credits, you are not skipping a semester. However, you may have to make some compromises in integrating your home curriculum with ours. Grades here are based on our grading scale, and the scale is provided so that sending schools can convert to their appropriate letter grades. Some sending schools opt not to compute your grades in your overall GPA, but they accept the courses toward the number of credits you need to graduate. The math and second language courses (Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Spanish, and French) are closely tied to the home school courses. Our teachers get detailed syllabi from the home school teachers indicating chapters and materials to be covered. Most students report being on target, or two to three weeks ahead of their home school in these courses when they return. Our World History class follows the same chronology that is covered in most secondary schools, but integrates experiential elements. English, Natural Science, and Environmental Seminar take their own direction at The Outdoor Academy in their focus on the Southern Appalachians and to the world at large. The English class requires readings of books, essays, and poetry from environmental and regional authors. Natural Science is a field ecology course exploring the habitats of our southern mountains. Our teachers are eager to work with the home school teachers so that this experience is an enrichment, not an interruption.

Who are the teachers?

Our faculty and staff come from diverse classroom and experiential teaching backgrounds. Their academic training and teaching experience are apparent in their dynamic and rigorous approach in the classroom and in the field. Faculty members have wide interests and skills. On staff we have one or more weavers, gardeners, woodworkers, knitters, bakers, artists, musicians, dancers, farmers, and chefs. Our staff also comes with high qualifications in outdoor leadership such as rock-climbing, trekking, and white water paddling. They are folks committed to community and self-responsibility and work hard to excite and encourage the growth of students through mental and physical challenges. They love to teach, to share, and to make new friends each semester.

What are the living arrangements like?

Community is the key word here. Students share large dormitory spaces – we have two winterized, wood-heated cabins as well as a dorm room upstairs in our multi-purpose building, the Sun Lodge. All housing includes indoor plumbing and hot showers. Each student has a bed and several book storage shelves. Please bring your book bag as well. While it may sound cramped, if you think of it as a Walden experience and don't try to recreate your house, you will find that it's all the space you need. A residential staff member lives in each dorm and is responsible for students overnight and on weekends.

Do you have sports?

Though we do not participate in league competition, sports and other physical exercise are a big part of life at the school. Everyone gets together several times a week for pickup games of soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, basketball and other sports. The tennis courts and playing fields are there for your use during free time. We swim and canoe in our lake as the weather allows. Some students run the trails as a daily workout. Students earn credit and a grade for their participation in the Physical Education and Outdoor Leadership course.

How do students adjust upon returning to their home-school after having attended OA?

Upon completing a semester at The Outdoor Academy, many students find that they have made very close friendships in this completely new and exciting environment. We know that the power of the experience makes leaving the program a challenge for some. For this reason, we begin thinking about the inevitable conclusion of the program early in the semester. The Faculty helps students to view this experience as a short-term apprenticeship – intended to help students learn to become active members and leaders in their various communities at home. Students develop stronger communication skills that will benefit them in their relationships within their family, school, and the greater public. Students and parents report that they are happier, closer families after the return; and students and teachers report that learning becomes more valued and more creative.

Is it expensive? Are there scholarships? Is there tuition reimbursement insurance?

Our tuition is typical for independent boarding schools, and is influenced by the cost of our member schools. Tuition covers classes, meals, lodging, and wilderness experiences. We are committed to bringing a diverse enrollment to The Outdoor Academy. Financial aid awards, in the form of scholarships, are awarded by Eagle's Nest Foundation on a merit and need basis. In addition, students have often been able to raise money for their tuition through scholarship offerings in their locality and through other sources. We encourage you to indicate your need for aid on the application form, and to complete the process early. Tuition reimbursement insurance is required and is provided by A.W.G. Dewar, Inc., insurer to over 1000 independent schools and colleges.

COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND STUDENTS

“While at The Outdoor Academy, I learned so many new things about myself. I learned that people want to know what I have to say and want to hear my opinion on things.”

-Anna Hale
(Grady High School, Atlanta, GA)

“I hope that what I have learned at OA will not be forgotten, and that I can go into the world with a greater understanding of what it means to be a leader and how I can be a good one.”

-Alex Gilligan
(Carolina Friends School, Durham, NC)

“I savor all the wonderful memories, skills and lifelong friends I have made at OA. I have received so much from this life changing experience: self-reliance, responsibility, respect, trust, self-confidence and humility.”

-Molly Donahue
(Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, NC)

“Your dedication, creativity, nurturance, and ability to connect with the kids is truly a gift!...The combination of academics, community living, outdoor adventures, and friendships with the staff as well as other students has enriched her life beyond our wildest dreams. We can't thank you enough.”

-Karen Selig & Jack Merwin / Alyssa Merwin's parents
(The Bolles School, Jacksonville, FL)

“You are who you say you are and do what you say you do. I appreciate the clarity of your expectations and program. Thank you so much for giving Morgen an opportunity to develop herself within a sense of community.”

-Barbara Piper / Morgen Piper's mother
(Sandia Preparatory School, Albuquerque, NM)

“My OA experience taught me how my actions affect others and the world around me. I can now knit a scarf, quilt a bag, cook in the woods, and identify a sassafras tree. I have built relationships that will last a lifetime!”

-Cate Hendren
(Salem Academy, Winston-Salem, NC)

“You've returned to us a much more mature, patient daughter than we sent you. Katie's experience at The Outdoor Academy was such an IMPORTANT influence on her life. I was tempted to say that it changed her dramatically, but what it actually did was call forth interests and abilities that were always there but deeply hidden -- so that she is more fully herself now as a result of her time with all of you.”

-Georgene Clower / Katie Clower's mother
(Heathwood Hall, Columbia, SC)

“We consider The Outdoor Academy to be an educational work of art. Our initial expectation was that OA would be an especially valuable experience outside of academics. Somewhat to our surprise, Zach gained as much academically as non-academically.”

*-Calvin & Molly Miller / Zach Miller’s parents
(University School of Nashville, Nashville, TN)*

“This Fall, Brooks embarked on a journey and an adventure that has swept all of us up. Her experiences at The Outdoor Academy have amazed, inspired and changed us. Her semester in and around the Pisgah Forest has been filled with learning in new ways about everything from American Literature to living responsibly in a community.”

*- Marilyn Rosenberg / Brooks Rosenberg’s mother
(Walton High School, Atlanta, GA)*

“The Outdoor Academy helped me think about my whole life and what I need to do to make what I want happen.”

*-Katie Rauch
(St. Paul’s School for Girls, Baltimore, MD)*

“It is rare around our house if a week passes without a reference to Spencer’s semester at OA; that semester was a blissful experience. Self-confidence was developed and strong friendships were made; some wonderful epiphanies happened for Spencer while he was with you and all of them were positive.”

*-Mike and Penny Pope / Spencer Pope’s parents
(Pace Academy, Atlanta, GA)*

“The daily experience of living together in an interdependent community with high expectations of each person teaches us to better understand, forgive, cooperate, listen, and learn...I think that at OA I learned to see the positive in what I do. I am making my life more meaningful to me. I’m taking a welding class, something that I have been interested in for years now, and am looking for a community service project that I can help with – such as habitat restoration in the city. OA has helped me mature and think clearly about my life. I learned much more there than what was taught in classes, and am still learning from what I accomplished there as I return to my life here, at home.”

*-Ben Lerer
(St. Ignatius College Preparatory, San Francisco, CA)*

“I would like to let you know that you have made a difference, that you have helped shape who I am and made me a happier, better person. I told a 70-year-old retired English teacher that I might like to teach someday. He said ‘Yes, but it’s a gamble; you never know if you have made a difference.’ If it is a gamble, you all have won. I learned so much from each of you and a piece of you lives on through me.”

*-Jon King
(Hume-Fogg Academic High School, Nashville, TN)*