

UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE



SALISBURY ACADEMY

CEEB: 341279

2024-25

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EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH DEPTH AND RIGOR

Salisbury Academy students engage in a rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum designed to challenge their ability to think and ignite their passion for lifelong learning. Courses at the Upper School build on classical education principles and are taught at an honors level. SA students delve deeply into classic and modern texts to connect with the works of great thinkers as they engage in scholarly discourse.

Mission

Salisbury Academy inspires a love of learning and prepares passionate leaders through discovery, stewardship, community, and faith.

History

Salisbury Academy was founded in 1993 with the goal of providing an innovative option in education to its larger community. In 2023, After 30 years of success at the JK through 8 level, Salisbury Academy expanded to offer an Upper School experience, graduating its first senior class in 2025. Situated in Downtown Salisbury, NC, the Upper School offers an experience that is rich in content, personalized to each learner, and authentically connected to the surrounding community.

Accreditation

Salisbury Academy is accredited through the Southern Association of Independent Schools, a voluntary organization of independent elementary and secondary schools throughout the Southeastern U.S. and the Caribbean.

Immersive Experience

Our Downtown location integrates a classical foundation with immersive learning. Students frequently interact with community professionals, applying classroom knowledge to real-world challenges that align with their interests. This approach fosters a deep understanding of subjects and their real-world applications. Personalized instruction helps students reach their potential and find joy in learning. Dual enrollment with Catawba College gives juniors and seniors a taste of college coursework, boosting their readiness for higher education. At the Upper School, we nurture a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom, preparing students to be thoughtful and active citizens.

Enrollment

230 students attend Salisbury Academy; 53 in Early Education (3K-K), 86 in Lower School (1-4), 81 in Middle School (5-8), 21 in Upper School (9-12) in its second year of implementation.

Inaugural Graduating Class

Salisbury Academy Upper School's 12th graders will make history as the inaugural Class of 2025. Having pioneered a new high school model and thrived in this environment, they are prepared for their next chapters as resilient, motivated, and creative leaders.

GPA and Class Rank

As our courses across all content are rigorous and our total number of students is generally lower, Salisbury Academy does not rank its students. GPAs are based on a 4.0 scale. Weighted grades include an additional 0.5 for the honors nature of our courses. Dual-enrolled college courses carry an additional 1.0 credit. An A is Salisbury Academy's highest mark.

Class of 2025 Graduation Requirements

Salisbury Academy requires a minimum of 25 credits for a diploma, including the following:

- English (4)
- History (3)
- Mathematics (4)
- Science including at least 1 lab (3)
- Foreign Language (2)
- Art Immersion (1)
- Community Immersion (1)
- Health & Wellness (1)

A SALISBURY ACADEMY GRADUATE IS:

- A **creative problem solver** who finds joy in learning.
- A **confident communicator** who can collaborate, present, and express themselves.
- A **compassionate community member** and steward of the environment.
- A **motivated student**, eager and equipped for the challenges ahead.
- A **resilient leader** who values wellness and balance.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Student Course Load

Students take a minimum of seven courses a year including four core academic classes (English, history, math, science), a grade-level specific wayfinding class called Compass, and two or more electives.

CORE COURSES

English

- American Literature: The Spirit of America Through Literary Movements
- Literature and Rhetoric: The Art of Persuasive Writing and Public Speaking
- English Composition: Thinking Through Written Word*
- World Literature: Perspectives from the Masters*

History

- American History: Influential Narratives of the American Story
- Civics and American Political Systems
- Personal Finance
- World History: Global Perspectives*

Math

- Introductory Algebra
- Advanced Algebra with Analytic Geometry
- Geometry: Discovery, Conjecture, and Proof
- Precalculus*
- Calculus*
- Statistics*

Science

- Biology and Scientific Thought
- Chemistry (lab-based)*
- Physics (lab-based)*
- Environmental Science & Sustainability*

IMMERSION CLASSES

- Health and Wellness
- Community & Systems Thinking
- Art Immersion
- Spanish 1 The Spoken and Written Word
- Spanish 2 Culture and Communication

COMPASS

- Compass Grade 9 The Hero's Journey
- Compass Grade 10 Self and Society
- Compass Grade 11 Innovation and Design
- Compass Grade 12 Perspectives

PERSONAL ELECTIVE CLASSES

- Leadership, Culture, and Community
- Digital Marketing, Data Analytics, and Applications
- Fashion: Design and Creation
- Health and Personal Fitness

AP Exams

Salisbury Academy does not offer AP courses. Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to dual-enroll with our local higher education partner Catawba College to take a wide array of college courses on the college's campus.