



CAPE FEAR ACADEMY

SCHOOL PROFILE **2023-2024**

CAPE FEAR ACADEMY

Founded in 1967, is a college preparatory, non-sectarian, independent coeducational day school located in Wilmington, North Carolina, enrolling students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve.

ADMINISTRATION

Ed Ellison
Head of School

Ran Holeman
Director of Upper School

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Leigh Ann Hodges
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Bethany Fee
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ENROLLMENT

758
Total Enrollment

258
Upper School (9-12)

177
Middle School (6-8)

323
Lower School (LE-5)

% Students Representing Minority Ethnicity:
13% with 8% of student population not reporting

% Students Receiving Need-Based Financial Assistance: 9%

MISSION

Cape Fear Academy is a learning community committed to discovering and developing individual potential, preparing each student for success in college and life.

CORE PRINCIPLES

CFA believes strongly in the value of every student and maintains high expectations for each student's success that are guided by our four Core Principles:

COMMUNITY • ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE • CHARACTER • OPPORTUNITY

Cape Fear Academy believes that strength of character is essential to success. We foster good decision making, interacting with others with compassion and empathy, tackling challenges with optimism and diligence, delivering on commitments, and taking responsibility for actions.

STATEMENT OF HONOR

The Cape Fear Academy standard is that each student will live as a responsible person, one whose word is their bond, whose work is always their own, and around whom the well being and property of others is safe.

ACCREDITATION & MEMBERSHIPS

CFA is accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS), and is a member of both the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools (NCAIS).

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic calendar is organized on a semester system, and the academic week is made up of seven periods with each class meeting for 230 minutes per week.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In addition to their academic schedule, students are required to complete 4 community engagement units per semester. Cape Fear Academy views community engagement as an integral part of becoming an active and productive member of society. Examples of this might be: attending a religious service outside of a student's faith tradition, attending a city council meeting, attending a school board meeting, participating in a community service activity, attending a local play, musical, or theatrical performance, etc.

ENGINEERING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Engineering Certificate Program is designed for students considering a career or college major in STEM who want to supplement their high school education with focused coursework towards their interests, goals, and passions. The program consists of required courses in engineering and physics topics, electives from an approved list, an engineering design requirement, and an engineering experiential component outside the classroom. The Advanced Engineering Certificate is a calculus-based program.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

QUALITY POINT EQUIVALENCIES

A+	4.33	98-100	C+	2.33	78-79
A	4.00	93-97	C	2.00	73-77
A-	3.67	90-92	C-	1.67	70-72
B+	3.33	88-89	D+	1.33	68-69
B	3.00	83-87	D	1.00	63-67
B-	2.67	80-82	D-	0.67	60-62
NP	0.00	Below 60	0.5 points added for Honors; 1.0 point added for AP		

Grades are weighted, although unweighted GPAs are available and published to each transcript. All CFA courses are included in the GPA. A Senior's mid-year GPA is available to colleges if requested. Cape Fear Academy does not include previous school grades on the transcript, nor does it use dual enrollment or online coursework when computing GPA.

GPA	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	NP
Class of 2023 59 students	100-98 4.33+	97-93 4.32-4.0	92-90 3.99-3.67	89-88 3.66-3.33	87-83 3.32-3.0	82-80 2.99-2.67	79-78 2.66-2.33	77-73 2.32-2.0	72-70 1.99-1.67	69-68 1.66-1.33	67-63 1.32-1.0	62-60 .99-.67	59-90 .66-0
Unweighted Grade Distribution as of June 2023	0%	13.6%	42.4%	22%	8.5%	8.5%	5%	Grade distribution is cumulative for grades 9-11. Cape Fear Academy does not rank students. This chart should be used to determine a student's competitiveness with respect to their peers.					

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

A student's academic load should be reasonable with regard to honors and AP classes scheduled. A scheduling waiver must be signed by a parent, the student, the student's advisor, a college counselor, and Director of Upper School to take four or more Advanced Placement courses during an academic year. CFA encourages a healthy balance of academics, athletics, and the arts.

Placement into AP classes is contingent upon meeting a grade prerequisite set for each class as well as teacher recommendation. All AP students are required to complete the AP exam in order to earn the AP grade weight in their GPA. In cases in which a student completes the most advanced AP-level course prior to their senior year, students take dual-enrollment courses at either Cape Fear Community College or the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

2023 AP EXAM STATISTICS

STUDENTS	EXAMS	SCORE: 3 or Higher	SCORE: 4 or 5
167	443	88%	47%

CLASS OF 2023 AP COURSE STATISTICS

AVERAGE PER STUDENT	RANGE	MAJORITY OF CLASS TOOK
7	0-15	4-10

Class of 2023 Statistics

CLASS OF 2023	STUDENTS	COLLEGE BOUND	MEAN GPA (Unweighted)	MEAN GPA (Weighted)	GPA Range (Weighted)	GPA MID-50% (Weighted)
	59	100%	3.61	4.13	2.78 - 5.10	3.73 - 4.50

ACT (36)

		Math	Science	English	Reading	Composite
Class of 2023 (15 Tested)	Average	26	26	28	29	27
	Mid 50%	22-30	24-31	23-30	25-34	24-31

SAT (1600)

		EBRW (800)	Math (800)	Total Score
Class of 2023 (47 Tested)	Average	642	644	1287
	Mid 50%	590-700	580-690	1190-1350

ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

Academic Offerings for Grades 9-12

Required credits to graduate shown in parentheses.

Cape Fear Academy expects students to graduate with a minimum of **23 credits** but recommends **26 credits**.

English (4)

- ▶ English 9,10
- ▶ Honors English 9,10
- ▶ English 11/12 Art and Science †
- ▶ English 11/12 The Art of Memoir Writing †
- ▶ English 11/12 The Spoken Word – Speech and Communication †
- ▶ English 11/12 Sports Literature †
- ▶ English 11/12 Contemporary Literature †
- ▶ English 11/12 Environmental Justice †
- ▶ English 11/12 Power to the People †
- ▶ English 11/12 Literacy and Voice: Speaking Up †
- ▶ English 11/12 21st Century Literature: Signs of the Times †
- ▶ English 11/12 Writing for the 21st Century: Truth and Style †
- ▶ English 11/12 Rhetoric and Voice *
- ▶ **AP English Language & Composition**
- ▶ **AP English Literature & Composition**

Math (4)

- ▶ Algebra 1
- ▶ Geometry
- ▶ Honors Geometry
- ▶ Algebra 2
- ▶ Honors Algebra 2
- ▶ Advanced Algebra & Trig
- ▶ Discrete Math
- ▶ AP Pre-Calculus
- ▶ **AP Statistics**
- ▶ **AP Calculus AB**
- ▶ **AP Calculus BC**

Science (3)

(Biology, Chemistry, and Physics Required)

- ▶ Biology or Honors Biology
- ▶ **AP Biology**
- ▶ Anatomy and Physiology †
- ▶ Botany
- ▶ Genetics †
- ▶ Marine Science †
- ▶ Earth and Space Science †
- ▶ Chemistry or Honors Chemistry
- ▶ **AP Chemistry**
- ▶ **AP Environmental Science**
- ▶ Introduction to Engineering and Physics
- ▶ Advanced Topics Physics: Coastal Engineering
- ▶ Advanced Topics: Engineering and Design
- ▶ Advanced Topics: EM and Circuits *

- ▶ Honors Physics *
- ▶ **AP Physics 1 †**
- ▶ **AP Physics C (Mechanics)**

Social Sciences (3)

- ▶ Civics and Economics or Honors
- ▶ World History
- ▶ **AP World History**
- ▶ U.S. History
- ▶ **AP U.S. History**
- ▶ **AP Human Geography**
- ▶ **AP U.S. Government and Politics †**
- ▶ **AP Psychology**
- ▶ **AP Macroeconomics †**
- ▶ **AP Microeconomics ***
- ▶ **AP Seminar**
- ▶ **AP Research**

World Language (2)

- ▶ Spanish I, II
- ▶ Honors Spanish III, IV
- ▶ Advanced Topics: Spanish Conversation
- ▶ **AP Spanish Language and Culture**
- ▶ **AP Spanish Literature and Culture**
- ▶ Mandarin I, II
- ▶ Honors Mandarin III, IV, V
- ▶ **AP Chinese Language and Culture**

Fine Arts (1)

- ▶ 2D Art Fundamentals
- ▶ Honors 2D Art Fundamentals
- ▶ 3D Art Fundamentals
- ▶ Honors 3D Art Fundamentals
- ▶ Drawing and Painting
- ▶ Honors Drawing and Painting
- ▶ Ceramics and Sculptures
- ▶ Honors Ceramics and Sculptures
- ▶ **AP Studio Art †**
- ▶ Acting and Directing †
- ▶ Theater Applications †
- ▶ Honors Theater Applications †
- ▶ Independent Study in Theater Arts
- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Honors Publications
- ▶ Filmmaking †
- ▶ The Art of Filmmaking †
- ▶ Filmmaking, Lighting, and Sound *
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Honors Photography
- ▶ Technical Theater and Design
- ▶ Honors Technical Theater Design

- ▶ Vocal Ensemble
- ▶ Honors Vocal Ensemble
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Honors Band
- ▶ Advanced Topics: Music Composition †
- ▶ **AP Music Theory †**
- ▶ Sewing and Fashion Design
- ▶ Honors Sewing Fashion and Design

Computing, Innovation and Design

- ▶ Entrepreneurship – Design and Fabrication
- ▶ Robotics I, II
- ▶ Virtual Reality
- ▶ Cyber Security and Web Design
- ▶ **AP Computer Science A**
- ▶ **AP Computer Science Principles**
- ▶ **Advanced Topics in App Development**
- ▶ **Advanced Topics: Gaming Design with AI ***

Physical Education (1)

- ▶ Fitness and Conditioning

Students may earn their P.E. credit by participating in three (3) seasons of an Upper School sport or a combination thereof.

Electives (6)

In addition to the credits listed above, all students must have completed a minimum of six (6) credits that can be considered electives to graduate.

Miscellaneous

CFA students can take online courses through programs such as Independent Study Program (high school) at Brigham Young University and NC Virtual. Students are allowed to enroll into the online elective courses if not taught on campus or for courses that create a conflict with a student's schedule.

KEY: † Course no longer available * Courses added in '22-'23 school year
Bolded course titles are the highest level within that academic discipline.

CFA Faculty Statistics

79
full-time
instructors

12
of part-time
instructors

35
of whom hold
advanced degrees

9:1
Student to
faculty ratio

CAPE FEAR ACADEMY COLLEGE CHOICES

Application Statistics for the Class of 2023

Average: 6.9 apps per student

Matriculation Statistics: Out of State 51% / North Carolina 49%

Students were accepted into the following colleges and universities:

American University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Skidmore College	University of New Hampshire (Main Campus)
Appalachian State University	High Point University	Springfield College	University of North Carolina at Asheville
Auburn University	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Stevens Institute of Technology	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Baylor University	Howard University	Suffolk University	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Boston College	James Madison University	The New School	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Boston University	Lees-McRae College	The University of Alabama	University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Brown University	Lewis & Clark College	The University of Montana	University of Pennsylvania
Butler University	Louisiana State University	The University of Tampa	University of Richmond
California State University (Long Beach)	Loyola Marymount University	The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)	University of Rochester
Carleton University	Marquette University	Trinity College Dublin	University of San Diego
Case Western University	McGill University	Tufts University	University of San Francisco
Catholic University of America	Meredith College	United States Military Academy at West Point	University of South Carolina
Clemson University	Miami University (Oxford)	University of California (Santa Barbara)	University of Toronto
Coastal Carolina University	Middlebury College	University of California (Santa Cruz)	University of Utah
College of Charleston	Milwaukee School of Engineering	University of Colorado Boulder	University of Vermont
Colorado College	Montana State University	University of Colorado Denver	University of Waterloo
Colorado School of Mines	Montclair State University	University of Connecticut	University of Wyoming
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	New York University	University of Dayton	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Davidson College	North Carolina A & T State University	University of Denver	Wake Forest University
DePaul University	North Carolina State University	University of Florida	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Dickinson College	Northeastern University	University of Georgia	Western Carolina University
Duke University	Pennsylvania State University (Scranton)	University of Guelph	Western University
East Carolina University	Pennsylvania State University (University Park)	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Wilfrid Laurier University
Elon University	Providence College	University of Maryland (College Park)	Wofford College
Emerson College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Massachusetts (Boston)	Xavier University
Emory & Henry College	Rhodes College	University of Miami	Yale University
Florida State University	Roger Williams University	University of Mississippi	
Fordham University	San Diego State University		
Furman University	Santa Clara University		
George Mason University	Savannah College of Art and Design		
George Washington University	Sewanee: The University of the South		
Georgetown University			

**COLLEGE
COUNSELING
MEMBERSHIPS**

NACAC
National Association for
College Admission Counseling

**SACAC**
Southern Association
for College Admission Counseling

**ACCIS**
Association of College Counselors
in Independent Schools

Disclosure Policy

Colleges and universities rely on college counselors to provide a comprehensive and honest appraisal of our students. Cape Fear Academy has the responsibility to notify any educational institution to which a student has applied or been accepted to, of any change of status CFA through graduation, which may include a disciplinary report. It is Cape Fear Academy's policy to report any student suspension if asked by the college or university.