

Welcome to Austin High Parent Camp!

Academy for Classical Studies Class of 2027



DISCOVERING OUR HUMANITY

"EDUCATING THE MIND WITHOUT EDUCATING THE HEART IS NO EDUCATION AT ALL."

-ARISTOTLE

"EQUIPPING YOUNG HEARTS AND MINDS TO SAVE CIVILIZATION ITSELF."

-MARY PAT DONOGHUE, ST. JEROME'S PRINCIPAL



TRUTH
BEAUTY
AND
GOODNESS



MIND
MOVES
MATTER



Academy for Classical Studies Office



Liz Jenkins, Administrator
elizabeth.jenkins@austinisd.org



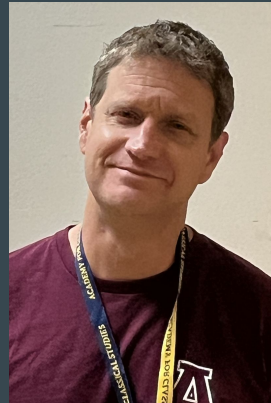
Maria Quick, Administrative Asst.
maria.quick@austinisd.org



Stacy Webster, Instructional Coach
stacy.webster@austinisd.org

The Academy for Classical Studies 9th Grade Teachers & Support Staff

- Geography - Elizabeth Clausen and Max Vanderheyden
 - elizabeth.clausen@austinisd.org
 - max.vanderheyden@austinisd.org
- Biology - Lee Prestwood
 - clyde.prestwood@austinisd.org
- Geometry - David Stern
 - david.stern@austinisd.org
- ELA - Kerri Ault & Will Padgett
 - kerri.ault@austinisd.org
 - william.j.padgett@austinisd.org
- ACS Counselor - Erin Hall
 - erin.hall@austinisd.org



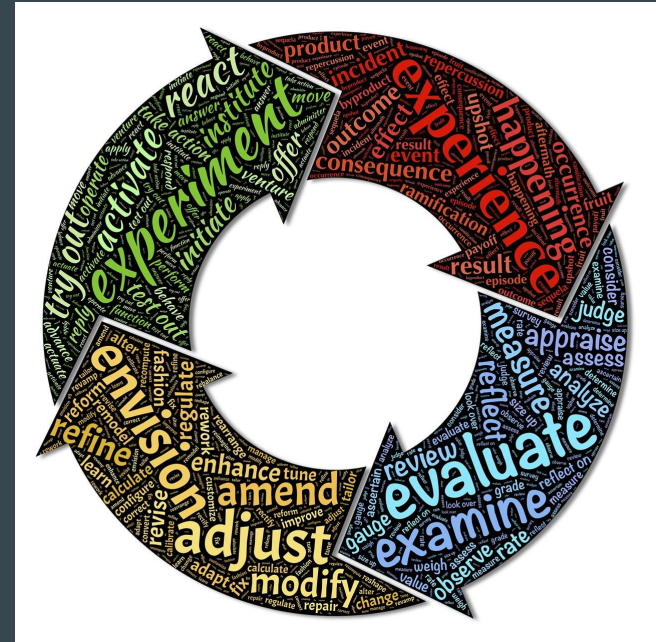
THE THEORY BEHIND OUR ACADEMIES

- Formation of Academies and all our work is connected to and supported by Pillars embedded and woven through daily classes, learning experiences, curriculum & planning
- Smaller Learning Communities within the large school support students better
- Students still take the core courses and instruction aligns with those TEKS and objectives, but the curricular lens we use & HOW we do it may look different in ACS
 - EX: Reading text—purpose for reading, ways to interact w text, etc. but text is different



CLASSICAL STUDIES IS...

- Philosophy, logic, rhetoric, critical thinking, writing across all genres, seeking to make changes in the world to make it a more ethical place
- Socratic Seminars & other discussion formats, Ethics Research and Projects, Persuasive Writing and thinking campaigns
- Creative, Independent Thinking and also Collaborative, Innovative Thinking



CLASSICAL STUDIES IS...

- The pursuit of TRUTH, BEAUTY, and GOODNESS in all that students learn
- We will tackle tough questions that may not have answers but students will learn techniques that will help them deal with the challenges of life.
- Our students learn soft skills that are essential in the workplace.
- Our goal is for students to graduate with the ability to live life beautifully regardless of what occupation they choose.

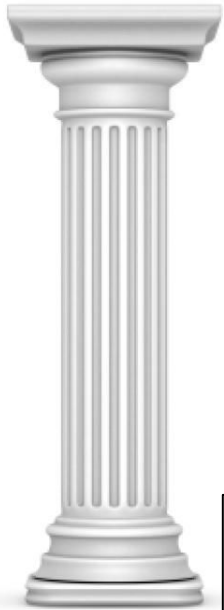


WHAT ARE WE GETTING INTO?

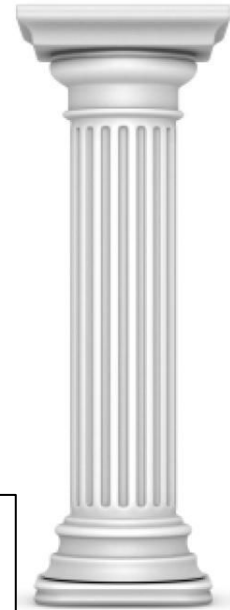


"A Classical education for the digital reality in which we live."

ACS PILLARS + VISION

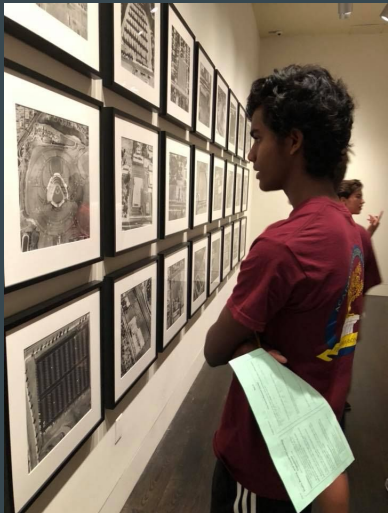


THINK LOGICALLY
SPEAK ELOQUENTLY
WRITE PERSUASIVELY
LIVE ETHICALLY



*"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education."
-Aristotle*

OUR CLASSICAL JOURNEY



- **Freshman Year:**
 - Fall Learning Expedition: Truth, Beauty, and Goodness Field Trip
 - Spring Learning Expedition: Classical Pillars Field Trip
 - Model UN Simulation
- **Sophomore Year:**
 - Fall: World Religions Tour
 - Spring: Marfa, TX
- **Junior Year:**
 - No classical specific learning experiences but, there are a ton of summer travel opportunities that your students can go on! (See Elizabeth Clausen or Stacy Webster for more information)
- **Senior Year:** Italy (Rome, Assisi, Florence)



THINK LOGICALLY



SPEAK ELOQUENTLY



PHOTO FUN OF ACS SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES



WRITE PERSUASIVELY



LIVE ETHICALLY



HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR STUDENT?

- Involvement beyond the academy—athletics, fine arts, CTE, clubs and organizations
- Come to the 9th grade Parent Mingle
- Assist with fundraising for signature experiences
- Program fee \$100 (School Cash Online)
- Join the ACS Facebook page and like us on Twitter
- Use your academic counselor and admin team
 - We're there to help in any way they can!
- Help your student self advocate!
 - Talk to the teachers
 - Use BLEND and TEAMS
 - Check them daily
 - Sign up for the class Reminds
 - Advisory/SEL
 - Check AHS website for summer assignments
 - 9th grade teachers will have their room available during lunch for students who need somewhere to go (please let your student know)



Join the ACS Parent Board!!!

- Join the Academy for Classical Studies Parent Board
1st meeting on Zoom on August 23 @ 10:00
 - Email the PB President Lauren Whelan at laurenwhelan@sbglobal.net
 - 1st meeting via zoom
 - ID: 739 135 8790
 - PW: Classical

Struggling Student Protocol

Are you keeping up with a calendar? (BLEND, agendas, to-do lists)

Do you have a distraction-free study zone at home?

Are you completing A day homework on A day and B day homework on B day?

Have you attended a FIT session for re-teaching or corrections?

Are you utilizing online resources like BLEND, Khan Academy, Quizlet, etc?

Do you have a set time each day devoted to homework and studying?

Have you attended tutorials or office hours to work with the teacher?

Are you attempting all work and submitting assignments on time?

Have you met with your team of teachers to problem solve?

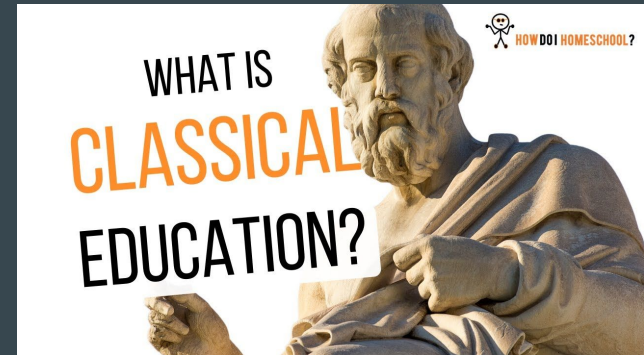
Parent/Counselor/Teacher/Student intervention meeting

ACADEMY FOR CLASSICAL STUDIES DISTINCTION

ACS students can graduate with recognition of membership in the Academy for Classical Studies. However, many will want to earn the highest distinction for graduation.

To earn the highest distinction, a student must:

- Take 4 credits of a classical elective choices OR 3 credits and a year of Latin
- 80 Civic Engagement Points
 - ◆ X2VOL
- Completion of a 4 year digital portfolio of work
- Completion of a senior capstone or internship



What courses count towards the ACS Distinction?

- Latin 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Standard Fine Arts classes - Art, Choir, Band, Orchestra, Theatre Arts, Dance, Ballet Folklorico
- Classical-focused Electives -
 - ◆ AP European History or AP Human Geography
 - ◆ Debate, Logic, Model, United Nations
 - ◆ Journalism, Creative Writing, Film Studies
 - ◆ AP Psychology, Psychology, Sociology

Why would I want to earn the ACS Distinction?

- A special cord worn on graduation day
- An award received at the Senior Awards Ceremony
- Curriculum and projects that set you apart from all other students in the country
- It's work that your counselor can speak to when writing your college letters of recommendation
- Something to be proud of!



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT POINTS

→ Visit an art gallery, see a play, come to hear a speaker in the Austin High speaker series, do something ethical in the community, and the list goes on!



Portfolio & Seminar

What is the portfolio?

A digital portfolio that showcases student work in the Classical Academy. Each student builds the portfolio in class over the course of the 4 years at Austin High.

What is Senior Seminar?

A semester long course that the student takes during senior year. There are 3 choices a student has - A thesis paper, an internship (ex: Law firm, non-profit, advertising agency), or an ethical service project

Join us for four optional presentations at 6:40

- Fine Arts (Orchestra Room)
- Mental Health (Choir Room)

Thank You!

Your Classical Academy Team