



Hickory Christian

ACADEMY

Contact Us:

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Administration

Tracy Robinson, Headmaster
Mark Maier, Logic/Rhetoric Principal
Renea Featherstone, Guidance Counselor

School Facts

- High School Code: 341814
- PS – 12th Grade Enrollment: 483
- First Graduating Class: 2006
- Students Graduated from HCA: 208
- HS Teachers: 11 Full Time, 6 Part Time
- High School Enrollment: 136
- Teachers with College Degrees: 100%
- High School Class Size Limit: 21
- High School Teacher/Student Ratio: 1 to 8
- Graduates Attending 4 Year College: 90%
- Calendar: 176 days, 7 periods daily
- Tuition: \$6829
- Over \$200,000 need based tuition grants annually

History

Hickory Christian Academy began in 1995 with three teachers and 19 students. The school added a grade each year until its first senior class graduated in 2006. Even with five other private schools in Catawba County, HCA's enrollment has increased every year as the school's reputation for offering a rigorous Classical Christian education has spread throughout the community. Our enrollment is comprised of students residing in six counties: Catawba, Lincoln, Burke, Caldwell, Alexander and McDowell.

A Classical & Christian Education

A classical education was the only teaching method used in western civilization for over two thousand years. It spanned from classical Greece and Rome to the puritan and colonial eras of our nation. Dante, da Vinci, Galileo, Newton, Columbus, Shakespeare; and even George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams are all products of a classical education.

In 1947 Dorothy Sayers presented her famous essay, *The Lost Tools of Learning*, at Oxford University. Sayers argued that the modern education system spent too much time teaching literal knowledge of subjects and too little time teaching students how to learn, analyze, and synthesize the content. She states, ***“For the sole end of education is simply this: to teach men how to learn for themselves; and whatever instruction fails to do this is effort spent in vain.”***

Sayers also pointed out that the developmental stages of children closely aligned to the three stages of the Trivium: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric. A classical education emphasizes concrete thinking and memorization of the facts of the subjects in the elementary years, analytical thinking and understanding of the subjects in middle school, and abstract thinking and articulation of the subjects in high school.

In 1992, Sayers' essay inspired the “how-to” book for classical Christian education, *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning*. This book sparked the birth of the Classical Christian Education movement and the Association of Classical & Christian Schools (ACCS) organization.

For additional information on a Classical & Christian Education, please visit the ACCS web site at <http://accsedu.org/>

Membership and Accreditation

HCA has been a member of the Association of Classical & Christian Schools since May 1997 and accredited since June 2015.

Curriculum

HCA is both Classical and Christian; therefore, our curriculum is not like many Christian schools. While others use almost exclusively Christian publishers, HCA seeks out the best textbooks and relies on our teachers to impart a Christian worldview into the subject.

With its excellent teachers, quality curriculum, and Trivium methodology, HCA gives all students an academically rigorous, comprehensive education – a truly classical education. Hickory Christian Academy is not an elite school but rather one which takes ordinary students and provides them with an extraordinary education.

Students who attend HCA from pre-school through 12th grade will have received an education that includes

- Thorough instruction in phonics and math facts, PS - 3rd
- Rigorous instruction in classical and modern Western literature and history: 4th - 12th
- Intensive instruction in English grammar, vocabulary, and spelling: 1st - 8th
- Demanding instruction in writing: essays, research papers, and thesis papers/presentations: 6th - 12th
- Comprehensive foundation in math: 1st - 7th
- Focused instruction in Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, & Calculus: 8th - 12th
- Opportunity to take AP courses: AP English Lit, AP English Language, and AP Calculus
- Comprehensive foundation in science: 1st - 8th
- Rigorous instruction in high school lab sciences: Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Honors Physics, Honors Anatomy: 9th - 12th
- Five years of Latin instruction: 3rd - 7th
- One year of formal Logic: 8th grade
- One and a half years of formal Rhetoric: 11th-12th
- Thorough training in the Scriptures: 1st - 12th
- Thorough training in fine arts, including the study of great artists and classical composers: 1st - 8th
- Opportunity for further fine arts training through drama productions, choral performances, and art classes: 9th -12th

Minimum Graduation Requirements

English	4.0
Math	4.0
Science	3.0
Social Studies	3.0
Foreign Language	2.0
Theology	2.5
Rhetoric	1.5
Fine Arts	1.0
Health & PE	1.0
Electives	2.0
Total Required	24.0 credits

Grading Formula

Course grades are calculated by the following formula: tests, major projects, essays, and research papers - 45% to 50%; quizzes (announced and unannounced) and minor assignments - 25% to 30%; homework - 15% to 25%. Semester grades are calculated by the following formula: two nine-week grades count 42.5% each and the comprehensive exam grade counts 15%.

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage Range	GPA Points
A	92-100	4.0
A-	90-91	3.7
B+	88-89	3.3
B	82-87	3.0
B-	80-81	2.7
C+	78-79	2.3
C	72-77	2.0
C-	70-71	1.7
D+	68-69	1.3
D	65-67	1.0
F	0-64	0.0

Class Rank

Students enrolled at HCA need high average to superior academic and cognitive ability in order to successfully complete the curriculum. Therefore, cognitive and academic assessments are required as part of the admissions process. Hickory Christian Academy reports class rank by quartiles, unless college requires deciles or exact.

Grade Point Average

GPA is on a 4.0 scale and is weighted. It is computed at the end of each semester and includes all courses taken in 9th – 12th grade. Grades are weighted with an additional 1.0 quality point in honors courses and an additional 2.0 quality point in AP courses.

SAT Averages (Reading + Math)

100% tested; ACT Composite converted to SAT R+M

*Class of 2017 scores are through Oct 2016.

	Top 25%	Top 50%	Top 75%	All
Class of 2013	1337	1258	1214	1163
Class of 2014	1403	1334	1276	1186
Class of 2015	1402	1314	1257	1175
Class of 2016	1276	1201	1166	1111
Class of 2017*	1353	1295	1242	1167
5 Year Average	1354	1280	1231	1160

Hickory City/Catawba County	1015/1006
North Carolina	1006
United States	1010

Advanced Placement and Honors Courses

As a Classical and Christian school, Hickory Christian Academy teaches all courses at a level and pace that prepares students for success at selective and highly selective universities. HCA currently offers three AP courses: AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, AP Calculus, and 13 honors class; although scheduling prevents students from taking more than 8 or 9 honors courses throughout their high school. Additionally, eligible juniors and seniors may choose to take one or more online dual enrollment courses through Catawba Valley Community College. However, students are not permitted to take a dual enrollment course to replace the same class offered at HCA. Please note that many students are not able to take dual enrollment courses due to schedule load (6 year-long academic core courses per year), sports involvement (80% of students play one or more varsity sport), and after school jobs (many of our juniors and seniors work after school and/or weekends).

College Acceptances

Anderson University
*Appalachian State University
Auburn University
*Aveda Institute of Charlotte
Belmont Abbey College
*Berry College
*Boyce College
*Caldwell Community College
*Campbell University
Cape Fear Community College
*Catawba Valley Community College
*Clemson University
*College of Charleston
College of William and Mary
*Columbia International University
Cornell University
Covenant College
*Davidson College
*East Carolina University
*Elon University
*Erskine College
*Guilford College
*Fashion Institute Tech - NYC
Florida State University
Furman University
*Gardner-Webb University
*George Mason University
*Georgia State University
Georgia Tech
*HCA graduate attends or attended

High Point University
*Hollins University
*Houston Baptist University
James Madison University
Johnson & Wales University
*Kent State University
*Lees-McRae College
*Lee University
*Lenoir-Rhyne University
LeTourneau University
*Liberty University
Lipscomb University
Louisiana State University
*Mars Hill College
*Montreat College
*North Carolina Central University
*North Carolina State University
*North Greenville University
Ohio State University
Ouachita Baptist University
*Pace University
*Pensacola Christian College
*Pittsburg State University
*Queens University
Quinnipiac University
Radford University
Savannah School of Art and Design
Sewanee University
Texas Christian University

The Citadel
University of Arkansas
*University of Alabama
Univ. of Alabama - Birmingham
University of California - Los Angeles
*University of Georgia
*University of Mississippi
*University of Mobile
*Univ. of North Carolina - Asheville
*Univ. of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
*Univ. of North Carolina - Charlotte
*Univ. of North Carolina - Greensboro
Univ. of North Carolina - Pembroke
*Univ. of North Carolina - Wilmington
*University of Notre Dame
University of Pittsburgh
*University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee
*University of Virginia
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
*Virginia Tech
*Wake Forest University
*West Point
*Western Carolina University
*Western Piedmont Comm College
*Wheaton College
*Wingate University
Wofford College

High School Curriculum Overview

9th	10th	11th	12th
Honors English I or English I <i>Romeo and Juliet, Scarlet Letter, Huckleberry Finn, Oliver Twist, Red Badge of Courage, The Great Gatsby, Animal Farm, Night, To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Honors English II or English II <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh, Antiquities of the Jews, The Iliad and the Odyssey, Oedipus Cycle, Oresteia, Aeneid, Julius Caesar, Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	AP Eng Language & Comp <i>Everything's an Argument, Lunsford</i> <i>Patterns for College Writing: a Rhetorical Reader and Guide, Kirszner</i>	AP Eng Literature & Comp <i>Bedford Intro. to Lit., Myer Writing About Lit., Roberts, Reading Between the Lines, Veith How to Read Literature Like a Professor, Foster</i> <i>Heart of Darkness, 1984, Othello, The Glass Menagerie</i>
		Honors English III or English III <i>Eusebius, Beowulf, The Discarded Image, Divine Comedy, Canterbury Tales, Turning Points, Macbeth, Pilgrim's Progress</i>	Honors English IV or English IV <i>Henry V, Much Ado About Nothing, Gulliver's Travels, Richard III, A Tale of Two Cities, Heart of Darkness, Brave New World, 1984,</i>
Honors Geometry <i>Geometry: An Integrated Approach, Larson</i>	Honors Algebra II <i>Algebra and Trigonometry: Functions & Application, Foerster</i>	Honors Trigonometry <i>Algebra and Trigonometry: Functions & Application, Foerster</i>	AP Calculus <i>Calculus I, Larson</i>
			Honors Calculus <i>Calculus I, Larson</i>
Algebra I: <i>Algebra I Smith</i>	Geometry: <i>Geometry: An Integrated Approach, Larson</i>	Algebra II: <i>Algebra and Trigonometry Smith</i>	Honors Trigonometry <i>Algebra and Trigonometry: Functions & Application, Foerster</i>
			Discrete Math <i>Essentials of Statistics Triola</i>
Biology <i>Exploring Creation With Biology, Wiles</i>	Chemistry <i>Exploring Creation With Chemistry, Wiles</i>	Environmental Science <i>Environmental Science, Holt</i>	Theology IV (year-long)
		Honors Physics: <i>Exploring Creation With Physics, Wiles</i>	
US History <i>US History, BJU Press</i>	Western Civilizations I: <i>Historical and Chronological Context of the Bible, Gore</i>	Western Civilizations II: <i>The Western Heritage, Kagan, Ozment, Turner</i>	Honors Rhetoric II (year-long) (includes thesis paper & presentation w/ panel Q&A) <i>The Rhetoric & the Poetics of Aristotle, Johnson</i>
Spanish I <i>En Español I, McDougal Littell</i>	Spanish II <i>En Español II, McDougal Littell</i>	Theology III (semester) Rhetoric I (semester): <i>(The Rhetoric and the Poetics of Aristotle, Johnson)</i>	
Theology I (semester) Health & PE (semester)	Theology II (semester) Civics (semester) <i>Civics Today, Remy</i>	Honors Spanish III (year-long) <i>En Español III, McDougal Littell</i>	Honors Anatomy <i>The Human Body, Fearfully and Wonderfully Made, Wiles</i> OR Honors Spanish IV <i>En Español IV, Gahala and Carlin</i> OR 20th Century History <i>The World in the 20th Century: From Empires to Nations, Brower</i>
		OR Psychology <i>Intro to Psych and Counseling: Christian Perspectives & Applications, Meier</i>	
Electives (semester courses) Choose Two of the Following: Art I, Art II, Art III, Art IV, Drafting I, Drafting II, Strength Training, Team Sports, Drama, Chorus, Computer Application, Journalism, or Study Hall	Electives (semester courses) Choose Two of the Following: Art I, Art II, Art III, Art IV, Drafting I, Drafting II, Strength Training, Team Sports, Drama, Chorus, Computer Application, Journalism, Study Hall, or Yearbook (year-long)	Electives (semester courses) Choose Two of the Following: Art I, Art II, Art III, Art IV, Drafting I, Drafting II, Strength Training, Team Sports, Drama, Chorus, Computer Application, Journalism, Study Hall, or Yearbook (year-long)	