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**Head of Rhetoric School
& Dean of Academics**
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Enrollment (2026-2027)
PreK - 12th: 434
Rhetoric (9th-12th): 87
Class of 2027: 10 students
2027 is the third graduating class of ACS.

Accreditations: Association of
Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS),
Texas Private School Accreditation
Commission (TEPSAC)
Memberships: Society for Classical
Learning (SCL), TAPPS (athletics and
academics), NACCAP

School of Rhetoric (2026-2027)
Faculty: 20
70% Advanced degrees
Student-teacher ratio: 10:1*
Average class size: 12
2027 graduate class size: 10
**ratio reflects full-time equivalents*

How to Read an ACS Student

An ACS graduate has typically:

- **Argued** over Plato's dialogues, Aristotle's *Physics*, and the best interpretation of complex biblical texts.
- **Read** primary texts from Aristotle, Plato, Virgil, Quintilian, Augustine, Aquinas, Luther, Calvin, Newton, Kierkegaard, Austen, Bonhoeffer, Lewis, Faulkner, and many others.
- **Written** cumulative analytical essays across every discipline.
- **Gained** an understanding that God is a God of order, as seen through the study of mathematics, science, and logic.
- **Participated** in Socratic seminars centered on textual analysis and moral inquiry.

Specialized Learning Support

ACS utilizes a four-member team to support individualized academic accommodations. For 2026-2027, the Learning Support program serves 13% of the total student body and 29% of the Rhetoric student population.



**AUSTIN
CLASSICAL SCHOOL**
FOR CHRIST AND HIS GLORY

School Profile 2026-2027

Our Mission

Austin Classical School exists to glorify Jesus Christ by co-laboring with families to cultivate wise, virtuous, and humble students through an excellent classical Christian education.

Our Community

ACS is composed of 219 families stretching across 45 zip codes in the Austin metro area. 30% of families will receive tuition assistance or TEFA funding for the 2026-2027 school year.

Our School: classical, Christian, and collaborative.

To be **classical** signifies four things at once: 1) we study the foundational works of Western civilization; 2) we train students in the historic liberal arts and sciences; 3) we learn from primary sources; and 4) chiefly, we pursue formation of the whole person in wisdom and virtue, not solely in preparation for a career. Our students read the Great Books because such works are time-tested, move the heart and mind, and challenge narrow ways of thinking. Across all disciplines, students are trained not only to master subjects but to understand the world through multiple perspectives.

To be **Christian** is, for us, to treat the Christian faith and the classical tradition as conversation partners. We believe education is fundamentally a form of discipleship: the careful ordering of the loves. As Augustine taught, we are what we love; therefore, our work is not merely to transfer information, but to help students know and want what is good, true, and beautiful, and then live accordingly. The aim is formation, never indoctrination.

To be **collaborative** is to recognize and treat the education of the whole person as a profound co-laboring between the school, the student, and the family. As our Rhetoric students step into increasing ownership of their intellectual and moral lives, we guide them through a process of shared discernment. Rather than dictating a singular path, we partner with families to make thoughtful choices that honor both the student's unique calling and the family's enduring values, ensuring that academic mastery and personal maturity are always nurtured in community.

Academic Schedule

- **Monday – Thursday (On-Campus Instruction):** Rhetoric students attend university-style block classes built around seminar discussion, instructor-guided inquiry into deep problems, and synthesis of ideas across disciplines.
- **Friday (Independent Study):** Students work from home on a self-managed academic day, extending questions raised in class, pursuing substantial research and writing, and practicing ownership of their own time and learning.

Curricular & Pedagogical Distinctives

Depth over breadth. Students dwell with primary course texts — reading Plato, Augustine, Dante, and Tocqueville rather than textbooks about them — and cycle through world history three times across their years at ACS, each pass deeper than the last.

Integrated disciplines. Courses are designed and ordered with intentional crossover, promoting interdisciplinary thinking and the pursuit of truth across multiple disciplines.

Formation through word and discussion. Humanities courses run on Socratic seminars, close reading, frequent analytical essays, poetry recitation, oral examinations, and public presentation. As a result, students learn to think, write, and speak both logically and winsomely.

The order of creation. Every student studies Latin and takes three or more years of mathematics alongside three foundational lab sciences, learning to see the order, reason, and beauty God has built into the world.

An integrated view of society. Economics and government converge in a single honors, dual-credit capstone course, Political & Economic Philosophy, where 12th grade students contemplate how people ought to order their common life.

Hospitable, nurturing, and holistic environment. ACS fosters and embraces multifaceted learners. Within the Rhetoric school, the full continuum of learners is nurtured and cultivated to flourish. We recognize the diverse range of long-term goals for our students, and we partner with each individual and family to create personalized pathways for their upper-level studies.

CEEB Code:

446465

PreK-12th grade
Founded in 2013
501(c)(3) non-profit

Graduation Plan & Courses Offered*

Subject (credits)	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
History (4)	Ancient History	Med. & Ren. History	U.S. History in Global Context	Modern History °
Literature (4)	Ancient Literature	Med. & Ren. Literature	Modern Literature	The Novel °^
Christian Studies (2.5)	Development of Doctrine & Church Hist. I	Exegesis & Hermeneutics	Applied Exegesis & Church History II	Principles of Practical Theology & Senior Thesis
Classical Studies (4)	Logic II	Classical Rhetoric & Composition	Rhetoric Seminar and Principles of Leadership	Political & Economic Philosophy °^
Math (3)	Algebra I or Geometry	Geometry or Algebra II	Algebra II Pre-Calculus Comp Science °^ Prob & Stat °	Pre-Calculus Calculus ° Prob & Stat ° Comp Science °^
Science (3)	Biology	Physics	Chemistry	Anatomy & Physiology °^
Classical Languages (2)	Latin I or II	Latin II or Latin III °^	Latin III °^ Latin IV °^ Greek I °^	Latin IV °^ Greek I °^
Fine Arts (2)	Rhetoric Choir and Studio Art or Theater	Rhetoric Choir and Studio Art or Theater	Rhetoric Choir and Studio Art or Theater	Studio Art or Theater or Photography
Electives (2.5)	Personal Finance · Creative Writing with CS Lewis · Intro to Psychology · Spanish & Cross-Cultural Ministry I/II · American Sign Language · Additional Honors Math & Science · Service Learning Practicum · Intro to Linguistics			
P.E. (1)	Athletics (TAPPS)			

28 credits required of every graduate. ° Honors (weighted 5.0)

^ Dual Credit via Colorado Christian University (weighted 5.0)

Optional courses vary by student interest and faculty expertise.

**As an emerging school, ACS has intentionally refined its graduation requirements with each graduating class. This plan reflects the requirements for the Class of 2027.*

Capstone Project: Senior Thesis

All seniors complete a year-long research project demonstrating their ability to engage deeply with primary sources, apply reasoning and rhetorical skills, make meaningful connections across disciplines, and present and defend their work orally. This rigorous undertaking involves developing a thesis proposal and outline, conducting extensive research and analysis, writing a 15-page thesis, and presenting and defending the thesis orally before a faculty panel and the ACS community.

Co-Curricular & Formation

- **House System:** Four houses serve grades 7-12 providing fellowship, leadership opportunities, and service experiences both in and out of school. Students participate in house competitions and service projects throughout the year that foster relationships across grade levels.
- **Student Government:** Student government plans and leads Student Life events on campus, serving as liaison between the students and the administration.
- **Servant Leadership**
 - *Community:* Students complete and document annual off-campus service hours.
 - *ACS campus:* As part of a PreK-12 campus, students have opportunities to participate in unique experiences on campus that create meaningful connections campus wide.
- **Athletics:** Offerings include football, basketball, volleyball, golf, tennis, cross-country, track and field, as well as a vibrant fencing club.
- **Culmination Experience:** Students embark on a European trip, bringing their academic studies to life through a firsthand, hands-on experience.

Honors Sequences

Students may earn honors designation in one of four areas, each culminating in a senior thesis in the chosen field:

- **Classics:** Latin III + either Latin IV or Greek I
- **Foreign Language & Cross-Cultural Ministry:** Spanish & Cross-Cultural Ministry I + II
- **Natural Philosophy:** Advanced math + advanced science
- **Humanities:** Advanced thesis in literature, history, or philosophy

Dual Credit

Dual credit classes are offered through **Colorado Christian University (CCU)**, with credit transferable to many U.S. colleges. Dual-credit work deepens, rather than replaces, our classical and Christian aims.

Dual Credit courses offered for 2026–27: Computer Science · Latin III · Latin IV · Greek I · Political & Economic Philosophy · The Novel · Anatomy & Physiology

Grading, GPA, & Class Standing

Most courses use a 4.0 scale; Honors and Dual-Credit courses use a weighted 5.0 scale. Grades below a C earn no credit.

Coursework at ACS is rigorous and challenging, and thus, it is unusual for a student to receive all A's in this academic environment. While honors and dual credit courses are weighted, the **highest GPA for the class of 2027 is 4.14**.

A traditional ranking system provides an inaccurate comparison of our students to larger schools and does not offer a realistic distinction between graduating students of ACS. Therefore, **ACS only ranks the top 10 percent for each graduating class for the purpose of admissions to Texas public universities.**

Top 10% threshold: weighted GPA ≥ 4.14

Highest current GPA: 4.14

GPA Scale

Number Grade	Letter Grade	Standard GPA	Honors/DC GPA
90-100	A	4.0	5.0
80-89	B	3.0	4.0
70-79	C	2.0	3.0
60-69	F	0.0	0.0

College Acceptances — 2025-2026

ACS' first graduating classes, a total of six students

Abilene Christian · Baylor · Concordia Texas · Houston Christian · LeTourneau · Liberty · Oklahoma State · Texas A&M · Texas Tech · University of Arkansas · University of Tennessee

Testing Data for Class of 2027

CLT: 89 - average for the full senior class

SAT: 1269 - average for the full senior class

ACT: 31 - average among five students who tested

Testing data is reported by graduating cohort. As the program grows, the school will continue to expand its reporting of standardized testing data.