



# NORTH SHORE COUNTRY DAY

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## 2022-2023 School Profile

North Shore Country Day is a coeducational, college preparatory school of 547 students in junior kindergarten through grade 12, located in the Chicago suburb of Winnetka, IL. Since its founding in 1919, NSCD has been an exceptional environment for teaching and learning. With rigorous academic pursuit as the cornerstone, North Shore provides a wealth of opportunities for all our students to excel—in the classroom and the lab, on the stage and the playing field, and in their communities and beyond. The unique fellowship established across divisions and between faculty and students builds a strong learning environment.

Classes are small and provide a stimulating environment for learning and exchanging ideas. Teachers engage students in critical thinking and writing exercises and provide regular feedback on their work. The upper school fosters intellectual engagement, academic performance and personal growth. Students learn how to solve problems and analyze. They learn how to think for themselves and communicate effectively. Our students describe our school environment as demanding, accepting, engaging, dedicated, caring, intellectual, hardworking, athletic, artistic, compassionate and rigorous. The school is a member of and accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS).

**STUDENTS:** 547; lower school—196; middle school—132; upper school—219. Students of a variety of backgrounds come from 28 suburban communities and the City of Chicago. Students of color make up 35% of the total population.

**FACULTY:** 85; 63% with advanced degrees; 8:1 student to faculty ratio. Average class size: 14. Average teaching experience of 15 years.

**FACILITIES:** Set on 16 acres, North Shore's academic buildings include a state-of-the-art library featuring several types of collaborative and quiet study spaces. It is also home to the new Live and Serve Laboratory—the hub of our service-learning and community-partnership programs. A stairway, which also serves as a gathering and presentation space, connects the new library to the 20,000-square-foot Conant Science Center above. Our upper school building provides flexible and modern room arrangements including learning

studios, seminar rooms, a digital media lab, community gathering and study areas. The Arts Center and Auditorium provide 2-D and 3-D art studios, music labs, multifunction learning spaces and a 500-seat theater.

**CLASS RANK AND GPA:** In accordance with its mission and policies, North Shore Country Day does not rank its students nor does it offer any internal academic distinctions or awards. Individual cumulative GPAs are provided on both the transcript and secondary school report accompanying each application. GPAs are based on a 4 point system which factors in pluses and minuses (A=4.0, A-=3.67, B+=3.33, etc.). AP course grades receive a weight of .5. Only courses taken at North Shore are included on the NSCD transcript and in each student's cumulative grade point average.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM:** In order to maintain a balanced courseload, students are encouraged to take no more than two AP courses in 11th grade and three in 12th grade.

| HUMANITIES                            | SCIENCE /MATH                  | WORLD LANGUAGES                   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| AP English Literature and Composition | AP Calculus AB                 | AP French Language and Culture    |
| AP U.S. History                       | AP Calculus BC                 | AP Spanish Language and Culture   |
| AP Art and Design                     | AP Statistics                  | AP Spanish Literature and Culture |
| AP Drawing                            | AP Computer Science Principles | AP Chinese Language and Culture   |
| AP Music Theory                       | AP Computer Science A          |                                   |
| AP U.S. Government and Politics       | AP Chemistry                   |                                   |
|                                       | AP Biology                     |                                   |
|                                       | AP Physics I                   |                                   |

**COURSES OFFERED:** A rigorous curriculum with a broad emphasis on liberal arts prepares students well for college. **Each of our courses is taught at the highest level or what would be considered the honors level at many high schools; as such there are no separate designations for honors courses on our transcript.** In addition to classes in English, mathematics, science and history, we offer language instruction in Spanish, French and Mandarin Chinese. An average class size of 14 students fosters extensive classroom interaction and discussion that will serve students well as they enter college.

## UPPER SCHOOL COURSES

| SUBJECT   | YEAR COURSES   | SEMESTER COURSES   |  | ADVANCED/AP COURSES  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <b>ENGLISH</b><br>Four credits required   | English: Ninth Grade<br>English: 10th Grade<br>English: 11th Grade<br>English: 12th Grade    |  |  | AP English Literature<br>Advanced Open Creative Writing<br>Independent Study   |
| <b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b><br>Three credits required, including one year of U.S. History                 | Human Geography<br>Modern History<br>U.S. History  | Law in American Society<br>Microeconomics<br>Philosophy of Ethics<br>Global Women's Issues<br>Open Entrepreneurship Lab<br>Comparative World Religions<br>Food: Science, Systems & Society<br>Holocaust & Human Behavior<br>Gender & Sexuality Studies   |  | AP U.S. History<br>AP U.S. Government & Politics<br>Advanced Topics in African-American Studies<br>Advanced Topics in Latinx Studies<br>Advanced Open Entrepreneurship Lab<br>Independent Study  |
| <b>MATHEMATICS</b><br>Three credits required  | Algebra I<br>Geometry 10<br>Algebra II 10<br>Advanced Functional Analysis<br>Pre-Calculus 10 | Intro to Computer Science I<br>Intro to Computer Science II  |  | Geometry 15<br>Algebra II 15<br>Pre-Calculus 15<br>Calculus<br>Advanced Open Computer Science<br>AP Calculus AB<br>AP Calculus BC<br>AP Computer Science Principles<br>AP Computer Science A<br>AP Statistics<br>Multivariable Calculus<br>Independent Study |
| <b>SCIENCE</b><br>Three credits required, including one year each of Physics, Chemistry and Biology | Physics: Conceptual<br>Chemistry 10<br>Biology 10  | Psychology I<br>Psychology II<br>Food Chemistry and Molecular Gastronomy<br>Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology I<br>Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology II<br>Food: Science, Systems & Society<br>Science & Public Policy<br>Engineering: Research, Design & Development<br>Applied Physics & Engineering<br>Contemporary Issues in Environmental Science |  | Physics: Quantitative<br>Chemistry 15<br>Biology 15<br>AP Physics I<br>AP Chemistry<br>AP Biology<br>Advanced Open Research<br>Independent Study   |
| <b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b><br>Three credits required  | Chinese I-V<br>French I-V<br>Spanish I-V   |  |  | AP Chinese Language & Culture<br>AP French Language & Culture<br>AP Spanish Language & Culture<br>AP Spanish Literature & Culture<br>Chinese: Special Topics<br>French: Special Topics<br>Spanish: Special Topics<br>Independent Study                       |
| <b>FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS</b><br>Two credits required   | Instrumental Ensemble  | Introduction to Piano & Music Theory<br>Chorus<br>Enharmonic Minors<br>Acting<br>Directing Workshop<br>Film Studies<br>Theater Workshop<br>Stagecraft<br>Stagecraft: Design for Production<br>Visual Studies<br>Art Production   | Sculptures in Clay<br>Functional Wares<br>Sculptural Forms<br>Text & Time<br>Character Design for Animation & Illustration<br>Digital Design<br>Drawing<br>Fashion Design<br>Painting<br>Photography | AP Music Theory<br>Advanced Open Studio: Music<br>Advanced Open Studio: Theater<br>Advanced Open Studio: Visual Art<br>AP Art and Design<br>AP Drawing   |

**ALSO REQUIRED: Theater**—During the four years of upper school, students are required to perform onstage in at least one production and participate on or offstage in a second. **Interim Week**—Students must participate in Interim Week each year, and at least one must have a community engagement component. **Senior Service**—All 12th graders must complete a two-week Senior Service project in May. **Athletics/Physical Education**—All ninth graders must participate in a fall sport and all 10th and 11th graders must participate in one season of athletics. All students must also complete four credits of PE/wellness.

## CURRICULUM FEATURES

**DAILY SCHEDULE** The daily schedule includes four 75-minute academic blocks per day. These longer class periods allow students to practice and develop skills and strive to understand and analyze material on a deeper level. They also provide teachers with more flexibility to design a range of learning experiences. Each block meets four times in a seven-day rotation, at a different time throughout the cycle. This provides structured variety and evenly distributes class time lost to early dismissals throughout an athletic season. The schedule also includes a 45-minute block each day dedicated to community time, wellness and performing arts, which incorporates Morning Ex, advisory, community gathering, P.E., health and a performing arts time once per rotation for additional rehearsal opportunities.

**INTERIM WEEK** One week each year is set aside from regularly scheduled classes for students to participate in an in-depth experience of educational value outside the traditional classroom environment. Teachers seek to establish a learning experience that will challenge students to expand their horizons. Interim Week participation must be planned so that at least one of each student's four experiences is a community engagement program. Recent Interim offerings include: Nature, Writing and Solitude; The Trout Bum Experience; Oak Terrace Bilingual Tutoring; The Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright; Arabic Souqs and Service; The Actors Gymnasium; and Creative Design with a Laser Cutter.

**SENIOR SERVICE PROJECTS** The Senior Service project is an opportunity for students to apply their interests, talents and skills away from NSCD classrooms. Each senior conceives and designs their own project. Students are expected to make this opportunity one that is personal, worthwhile and representative of their total North Shore experience. It is our hope that students will learn more about serving a larger community and learn something about themselves. Students commit at least 60 hours over a two-week period.

**SERVICE LEARNING** Service is an integral part of life in the upper school, as we strive to be true to the school's motto, "Live and Serve." All students are encouraged to perform service throughout their time at NSCD in addition to the required Interim and Senior Service projects. The new Live+Serve Laboratory in the library is the hub of our service learning and community-partnership programs. It is a creative, collaborative project space for teachers to bring their classes and for students to pursue individual passion projects, providing students with the tools to prototype ideas—such as a laser cutter and 3-D printer—and a space for multimedia production. The Live+Serve Lab also re-emphasizes the importance of project-based and service learning in our JK-12 curriculum.

**ADVANCED OPEN/INDEPENDENT STUDY** Advanced Open courses and independent studies are opportunities for juniors and seniors to design and pursue investigation in an area of specific interest that goes beyond the curricular options. Advanced Open courses are available in science, computer science, creative writing, music, theater and visual art. They challenge students to work with faculty mentors and peers to generate research questions, investigate them and present their own original work. Independent Study is available in every discipline and is designed to support students who have fulfilled the graduation requirements within a department. Recent topics and courses include: quorum sensing, creative writing, history and performance of musical theater, impact of SnapChat on teenagers and bee behavior.

**MORNING EX** Throughout the course of the year, students, faculty, alumni and visitors appear on stage to share academic work, present life experiences and give artistic performances to the three divisions of the school. Recent Morning Ex presentations include: a Susan Marshall '76 Memorial Concert performance by the Neave Trio, a cutting edge chamber ensemble; "Your Eyes are a Mirror of the World," a presentation on a faculty member's recent sabbatical; and "Belonging: In Silence and Outloud," a collaboration of students and faculty in all three school divisions.

**OFF-CAMPUS STUDY PROGRAMS** NSCD is a participating school of School Year Abroad, providing homestay programs in China, France, Italy and Spain. North Shore is also a sending school with The Mountain School, Oxbow, High Mountain Institute, School for Ethics and Global Leadership and the Island School.

**ACTIVITIES/CLUBS** By participating in activities of interest outside the classroom, students gain poise and confidence, as well as forge lifelong friendships. Upper school activities at NSCD include: Athletic Council, Community Service Club, Diller Street Journal, Environmental Club, GSA, Mirror (yearbook), P.I.L.L.O.W.S. (Poetry in the Literary Lives of Worldly Students), Prosody (literary magazine), Student Council, Model United Nations, SOAR (Students Organized Against Racism), Feminist Book Club and Film Club.

**ATHLETICS** Approximately 85% of the upper school students participate in at least one of the 17 sports offered: baseball, basketball (M/W), cross country (M/W), field hockey, golf (M/W), paddle tennis (M/W), soccer (M/W), tennis (M/W), track and field (M/W), and volleyball.

**PERFORMING ARTS** At NSCD, fine and performing arts are an integral part of the curriculum. Opportunities include: a capella, chorus, string ensemble, fall play, winter play, spring musical, standards cabaret and the Take 10 playwriting showcase.

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION: 2018-2022

The following colleges and universities enrolled the 2018-2022 graduates of North Shore Country Day. Institutions listed in bold matriculated two or more graduates. Typically, 100% of NSCD seniors are offered admission to four-year colleges and universities.

### **American University**

Amherst College  
Auburn University  
Barnard College  
Bates College  
Beloit College

### **Boston College**

### **Boston University**

Bowdoin College

### **Bradley University**

Brown University  
Brunel University London  
Champlain College

### **Chapman University**

Clemson University

### **Colby College**

### **Colgate University**

College of Lake County  
College of the Holy Cross

### **Colorado College**

Columbia University  
Cornell College  
Cornell University

### **Davidson College**

### **Denison University**

### **Dickinson College**

Dominican University

### **Drexel University**

Duke University  
Earlham College

### **Elon University**

### **Emory University**

Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts  
at The New School

Fordham University

### **George Washington University**

### **Georgetown University**

Georgia Institute of Technology

### **Harvard University**

Haverford College

### **Howard University**

### **Illinois State University**

### **Indiana University Bloomington**

Johns Hopkins University

### **Kenyon College**

### **Knox College**

Lafayette College

### **Lake Forest College**

### **Lawrence University**

### **Lewis & Clark College**

Loyola Marymount University

### **Loyola University Chicago**

Macalester College

### **Marquette University**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### **Miami University**

### **Middlebury College**

### **New York University**

North Park University

### **Northeastern University**

### **Northwestern University**

Occidental College

Pitzer College

### **Purdue University**

Rhodes College

Rice University

Richmond The American International  
College in London

### **Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology**

### **Saint Louis University**

### **Santa Clara University**

Sarah Lawrence College

### **Skidmore College**

### **Southern Methodist University**

St. John's College

Stanford University

Temple University

### **Texas Christian University**

The College of William and Mary

The College of Wooster

The New School

The Ohio State University

### **The University of Edinburgh**

The University of Texas at Austin

Trinity College

### **Tufts University**

### **Tulane University**

### **Union College**

University of California, Berkeley

### **University of Colorado Boulder**

### **University of Denver**

University of Glasgow

University of Illinois at Chicago

### **University of Illinois at**

**Urbana-Champaign**

### **University of Iowa**

### **University of Miami**

### **University of Michigan**

### **University of Notre Dame**

### **University of Pennsylvania**

### **University of San Diego**

### **University of Southern California**

University of St Andrews

University of Vermont

### **University of Virginia**

### **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

### **Vanderbilt University**

### **Wake Forest University**

### **Washington University in St. Louis**

Wesleyan University

### **Williams College**

Xavier University

### **Yale University**