



AD FONTES ACADEMY

2025 - 2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

The Ad Fontes Academy mission is to glorify God by assisting Christian parents in equipping their children to be servant-leaders through a superior classical education based on eternal biblical truth.

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Overview

Ad Fontes Academy (AFA) is a coed, independent, liberal arts, K-12 day school founded in 1996 upon classical Christian educational methods. Ad Fontes is accredited by the Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS), which is a member of the Virginia Council of Private Education (VCPE).

Admissions Criteria

Selective admission is based on academic records, third-party academic testing, and a personal interview. Ad Fontes Academy does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national or ethnic origin in the admission of students, financial aid or employment policies, or in any of its educational programs.

House System

All Upper School students participate in one of four houses (Athens, Atlantis, Ilium, Rome) to establish strong, supportive relationships and camaraderie between the grade levels, to develop student leadership skills, and to shape school culture. House Heads are seniors and juniors nominated and selected by students to work closely with school administration to lead the Upper School. Activities include weekly house meetings, house competitions, service projects, and social events.

High School Curriculum

The Ad Fontes Academy curriculum is a robust classical liberal arts and sciences program. All courses are taught at the honors or advanced level. AFA students are equipped to clearly and persuasively articulate the knowledge they acquire across the curriculum.

Ad Fontes students engage with classic texts and original source documents in classrooms of active discussion and debate using the Harkness Method. This develops skills in research, close reading, critical writing and historical analysis. The Ad Fontes humanities sequence consists of a chronological study of western literature and history from antiquity to modern Europe and America.

AFA teaches our students that they are both inheritors and responsible members of historical, social, and cultural contexts much greater than themselves. As part of this process, our curriculum relies heavily on a wide range of original source materials and whole texts.

Students learn geometry directly from Euclid, philosophy from Plato, and literature from Sophocles, while also encountering plenty of contemporary scholars and artists. This juxtaposition helps our learners develop the logic, critical thinking, and perseverance necessary to engage thoughtfully with the diverse world around them. Teachers regularly present "Outside the Box" awards to students who bring new insight to a question or problem.

Ad Fontes provides students with thorough preparation in critical thinking, mathematics and the sciences. As a foundation, all students complete a full-year course in Logic. Our goal is to shape students who think as mathematicians and scientists. The Advanced Math and Science courses are highly interactive, as students solve challenging problems and create beautiful, convincing mathematical arguments.

Ad Fontes students study Latin to strengthen their language, learning and thinking skills through a meticulous grammar program which provides a strong foundation for reading Latin literature and further language study.

Junior and Senior Thesis

In every field and endeavor, the most effective communicators rise to leadership. Thus, we emphasize writing and speaking throughout the Ad Fontes experience, including four years of high school rhetoric courses. Junior year, students study the five canons of rhetoric and the six parts of discourse, develop research and formal writing skills, and deliver multiple speeches. The capstone of an AFA education is the Senior Thesis, wherein each senior writes an original, relevant, and debatable 15-20 page thesis and presents an oral defense, consisting of a 15-minute oral presentation and 20-minute defense before a faculty and topic expert panel.

Sample of Recent Senior Thesis Topics

- The Sun Sets in Tehran: An Argument Against Iranian Nuclear Capability
- Huxley and Orwell: Totalitarianism and Comfort in Western Society
- The Case Against Lethal Autonomous Weapon System: How I Learned to Start Worrying and Hate the Robot
- The Sacred Icon: How Humanism Failed to Preserve Truth in Renaissance Church Art
- Playing God: The Ethical and Theological Failures of Genetic Enhancement
- The Bondage of Freedom: A Philosophical Analysis of Love's Role in Liberty

13 Upper school faculty members

38% Faculty with advanced degrees

5:1 Upper school student to faculty ratio

172 Students | **62** in Grades 7-12

10 Seniors | **10** average class size

AD FONTES ACADEMY CURRICULUM

Area of Study	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Literature	Medieval	Modern/US		Contemporary/Great Books
History/Government	Medieval	Modern/US		Contemporary/Government
Composition and Logic	Classical Composition I	Classical Composition II (Logic)	Rhetoric I	Rhetoric II
Science	Biology	Chemistry	Advanced Science Option	Physics
Math	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus	Calculus
Foreign Language	Latin I or II	Latin I, II or III	Latin II, III or IV	Latin III, IV or V
Christian Paideia/Philosophy	Historical Theo./Epistemology	Systematic Theo./Metaphysics	Apologetics/Ph.Rel.	Senior Seminar/Axiology
Electives	Leadership/Fine and Common Arts Options			
Physical Education	Ballroom Dancing/Etiquette			

Graduation Requirements 25 Credits

History.....	4.0
Literature.....	4.0
Rhetoric.....	3.0
Latin/Foreign Language.....	3 or 4.0
Mathematics.....	4.0; minimum of Precalculus
Science.....	3 or 4.0
Bible/Christian Paideia.....	2.0
Electives.....	3 years required
Logic.....	required
Senior Thesis.....	required

Math is required in the Junior year. One Math or Science credit required in the Senior year. Four Latin/Foreign Language credits or four Science credits required. The Primary component of Rhetoric II is the Senior Thesis.

Grading Scale

A+ 97-100..... 4.0	B- 80-82..... 2.7
A 93-96..... 4.0	C+ 77-79..... 2.3
A- 90-92..... 3.7	C 73-76..... 2.0
B+ 87-89..... 3.3	C- 70-72..... 1.7
B 83-86..... 3.0	D 65-69..... 1.0
	F 64 or below..... 0

A one-half quality point is assigned to "Advanced" courses geared to encourage students with academic aptitude and motivation to seek the most rigorous course of study. Cumulative GPA does not reflect classes taken before 9th grade or outside of AFA.

College Admission and Placement

Matriculated in bold

Air Force Academy
 Appalachian State University
 Baylor University
 Belmont University
 Boston University
 Cedarville University
 Christopher Newport University
 College of Charleston
 College of William and Mary
 Covenant College
 Elon University
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Furman University
 Geneva College
 George Mason University
 George Washington University

Georgetown University
 Gordon College
 Grove City College
 Hampden Sydney
 High Point University
 Hollins University
 James Madison University
 Johns Hopkins University
 Lehigh University
 Le Tourneau University
 Liberty University
 Lynchburg College
 Marymount University
 Messiah College
 Middlebury College
 New Saint Andrews College
 Norwich University
 Ohio State University
 Old Dominion University

Palm Beach Atlantic
 Patrick Henry College
 Penn State University
 Pepperdine University
 Randolph Macon College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 San Diego Christian College
 Sewanee, The University of the South
 Southeastern University
 St. John's College
 St. Louis University in Madrid
 St. Thomas Aquinas College
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 Stevenson University
 Sweet Briar College
 Texas A&M University
 Union University
 University of California-San Diego

University of California at Los Angeles
 University of Colorado at Boulder
 University of Delaware
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Maryland
 University of Memphis
 University of Richmond
 University of Tennessee
 University of Virginia
 Villanova University
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia Military Institute
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 Virginia Wesleyan University
 Wake Forest University
 Wheaton College

Academic Honors

Summa cum laude	3.90 and above
Magna cum laude	3.70 and above
Cum laude	3.50 and above

SAT Scores (as of March 2025)

Classes 2021-2025	Mid 50%	Mean
Reading	578-690	630
Math	530-635	583
Total	1108-1325	1212

This reflects scores from 52 students from the classes of 2021-2025 to show a larger sample size.

Fine Arts, Clubs and Athletics

Ad Fontes offers a wide variety of clubs and activities including Art, Book, Chess, Cooking, Play Reading, Wargaming, and Yearbook.

Students participate in Fine and Common Arts electives each high school year. Students have led and performed their own Shakespeare play as well as Theatre Club producing an annual play.

Athletically, Ad Fontes is a member of the NVIAC Conference. Students compete in five sports.

Upper Campus Reading List

LOGIC SCHOOL

Modern/US History

Selections from *The U.S. Constitution*
Selections from Jefferson, Lincoln, Booker T. Washington, Teddy Roosevelt, FDR and others

Modern/US Literature

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Twain
Call of the Wild, London
A Christmas Carol, Dickens
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Shakespeare
Animal Farm, Orwell
Fahrenheit 451, Bradbury
To Kill a Mockingbird, Lee

Contemporary History & Civics

The Prince, Machiavelli
Selections from *Politics*, Aristotle
Selections from *Notes on the Constitutional Convention*, Madison

Contemporary Literature & Great Books

Old Man and the Sea, Hemingway
Song of Roland, Anonymous
20,000 Leagues under the Sea, Verne
The Argonautica, Apollonius of Rhodes
I, Robot, Asimov
That Hideous Strength, Lewis
Lord of the Flies, Golding
Macbeth, Shakespeare

RHETORIC SCHOOL

Ancient Literature

Greek Myths, Coolidge
Antigone, Sophocles
The Iliad, Homer
The Odyssey, Homer
The Aeneid, Virgil
Julius Caesar, Shakespeare
Oedipus Rex, Sophocles

Medieval History

Selections from *Ecclesiastical History*, Eusebius
Selections from the canons of the council of Nicaea I, Chalcedon, and Ephesus
Life of St. Anthony, Athanasius
Selections from *On Holy Images*, John of Damascus
Selections from The Quran
The Magna Carta
Selections from *Summa Theologica*, Aquinas

Medieval Literature

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Gawain Poet
The Canterbury Tales, Chaucer
Beowulf, Anonymous
Macbeth, Shakespeare
The Divine Comedy, Alighieri

Modern/US History

Selections from *Democracy in America*, Tocqueville

Modern/US Literature

A Tale of Two Cities, Dickens
The Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne
Crime and Punishment, Dostoevsky
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Twain
All Quiet on the Western Front, Remarque
World War I Poetry (Dover Thrift Edition)
The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald
Brave New World, Huxley

Upper Campus Reading List

RHETORIC SCHOOL

Contemporary History & Government

Selections from *The Republic*, Plato

Selections from *Notes from the Constitutional Convention*, Madison

Selections from *Politics*, Aristotle

Contemporary Literature & Great Books

Pride and Prejudice, Austen

Frankenstein, Shelley

Moby Dick, Melville

Till We Have Faces, Lewis

Hamlet, Shakespeare

1984, Orwell

Madame Bovary, Flaubert

Selected poems, Elliot

Complete Short Stories, O'Conner

Latin III, IV, V

Selections read in Latin from *The Gallic Wars*, Julius Caesar

Somnium Scipionis, Cicero

Latin Prose Composition

Selections read in Latin from Catullus, Virgil, Horace, Juvenal, Ovid, and Thomas of Celano

Selections read in Latin from *Biblia Sacra Vulgata*, Saint Jerome

Rhetoric I,II

On Writing Well, Zinnser

Selections from *On Rhetoric*, Aristotle

Ad Herenium, Cicero

Geometry.

The Elements I-VI, Euclid

Calculus

Calculus: An Intuitive and Physical Approach, Kline

Christian Paideia

The Holy Bible (ESV)

Confessions & City of God, Augustine

Selections from *Summa Theologica*, Aquinas

Proslogion, Anselm

Pensees, Pascal

Mere Christianity & The Abolition of Man, Lewis

Orthodoxy & The Everlasting Man, Chesterton

Modern Christian philosophy & apologetics, Plantinga & Craig

The Brothers Karamazov, Dostoevsky