In our caring high school community, students who love learning are challenged to think critically and read deeply, and to explore adventurously the wider world of learning at Boston University.

Founded in 1993, the Academy is a small, coeducational independent day school for highly motivated students in grades 9-12 located on the campus of Boston University.

The Curriculum

Boston University Academy’s distinctive curriculum combines liberal arts coursework with classes at Boston University. Operating independently, but drawing upon the considerable course selections, facilities and human resources of BU, Boston University Academy provides an ideal secondary school education for the most insatiable learners. BUA offers a nearly unlimited educational experience, one in which our students’ zeal for learning takes them as far as they are capable, even including BU graduate courses, as appropriate.

Built upon a strong liberal arts foundation, BUA’s curriculum provides the critical thinking and inquiry skills needed for an in-depth study of the humanities and sciences. Our approach to teaching the classical tradition prompts students to understand historical perspectives, think critically, delve deeply, master the use of primary texts, and hone interpretive powers. All BUA courses are honors level, and there is no tracking.

Grades 9 and 10

For their first two years, students take courses in traditional disciplines—English, mathematics, science, history, visual and performing arts, and physical education. Most students study two years of either Latin or ancient Greek to learn the foundations of language, as well as to read the primary texts, which serve as the backbone of BUA’s liberal arts curriculum. All 9th graders at BUA engage in a full-year “Foundations in Language and Logic” course.

Grades 11 and 12

Students continue to take courses offered by BUA in addition to enrolling in courses at Boston University. Most BUA students engage in courses at the University during their junior year, typically taking as many as two University classes each semester, and during senior year, taking as many as four University classes each semester. All seniors are required to take an English course (seminar) at BUA or at the University each semester. All University classes are taken with BU faculty and students, and, with the exception of English, are not required for graduation from BUA. All seniors complete a thesis paper with the guidance of a University professor as a graduation requirement through a year-long Senior Thesis project.

Boston University Academy students regularly complete between six (24 college credits) and twelve courses (48 college credits) from Boston University’s undergraduate curriculum prior to high school graduation. Therefore, BUA does not offer Advanced Placement courses, yet a small number of students choose to take AP exams each May. For the Classes of 2018 and 2019, 68% of scores earned were a 4 or a 5.
CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

WRITING WITH SOURCES  Junior-year American History and English (American Literature), in a series of coordinated exercises and papers that prepare for the Senior Thesis, introduce students to the humanistic research process, to the role of sources in inquiry and argument, and to methods of fairly incorporating them into one’s work.

JUNIOR RESEARCH SEMINARS  Juniors with defined academic interests may enroll in one of two optional Junior Research Seminars. These for-credit seminars are in addition to the traditional five academic courses a student takes each semester, provide students with skills in research methodology, and introduce our students to University faculty and the kinds of research being undertaken at Boston University. For many students, these seminars become the basis for the Senior Thesis. In each seminar, students are asked to produce academic work on topics of interest:

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) - Regular tours of the University’s science and engineering laboratories and the examination of current science periodicals give STEM students insight into cutting-edge scientific research. Many students conclude the course in University labs where they fulfill summer internships prior to beginning their senior year.

HAL (History, Arts, and Letters) - Students examine research methods in the humanities and social sciences, including navigating the myriad of University resources in developing research papers.

SENIOR SEMINARS  Although many of their courses take place at the University, seniors may opt for a semester-long Senior Seminar at BUA. These academic courses vary from year to year and offer students an in-depth study in a variety of disciplines. Fall 2018 Senior Seminars include ‘Modernity and Its Discontents’ and ‘Women in Literature’, each of which satisfies the senior-year English course requirement for graduation.

SENIOR THESIS  All BUA students complete an independently researched Senior Thesis on a topic of their choice. A year-long project and culminating experience, the Senior Thesis demonstrates students’ ability to read closely, research thoroughly, think analytically, and write coherently in scholarly fashion. In addition to working with a faculty advisor from BUA with regard to their thesis, students select a university professor to serve as advisor. Students present their research before their advisors and members of the Boston University Academy community in the spring.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY  All BUA students are required to study either Latin or ancient Greek in freshman year; most will continue that study in the sophomore year. We currently offer two language pilot programs: one allows qualified freshman who wish to continue study of a modern foreign language to do so via an online course, monitored by BUA, while the other allows sophomores to forego a second year of a classical language in lieu of a modern language at BU if they place into the third semester or higher. Juniors and seniors may opt for any language offered at BU. When taking University language courses, students often achieve, in two years, the equivalent of four years of high school language study. As a result, many BUA students graduate with proficiency in two languages: one classical and one modern.

STATE-OF-THE-ART RESOURCES  Located at the heart of BU’s campus, Boston University Academy offers students access to cutting-edge learning facilities: Mugar Memorial Library, science laboratories at the Photonics Center and the College of Engineering, as well as studios and performance spaces at the College of Fine Arts. Additionally, BUA students benefit from the intellectual resources at BU. Post-doctoral researchers and professors teach our students in University courses, work alongside our students in lab internships, and often speak at BUA’s weekly all-school meetings.

ATHLETICS
The BUA sports program features interscholastic teams to satisfy student-athletes looking for a competitive experience. All students are encouraged to be involved, but participation is not required. Current teams: basketball, crew, cross-country, fencing, sailing, soccer, tennis, and ultimate Frisbee.

Physical Education meets once a week and is required in freshman and sophomore years. BUA students have access to/benefit from BU’s extraordinary athletic facilities.

STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
Student groups at BU Academy are always changing, as students may propose new organizations geared toward their specific interests. A sample of regular activities include Admission Ambassadors, Art Club, Chess Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, The Muse (literary magazine), Math Club, Model UN, Performing Arts Outing Club, Peer Advisors, Peer Tutors, Philosophy Club, Robotics Team, Science Team, Student Council, and Yearbook.

ARTS - VISUAL AND PERFORMANCE
Boston University Academy students gain an appreciation for the arts by exploring their creativity through BUA and BU coursework and participation in extracurricular activities. Freshmen and sophomores are required to enroll in a visual or performing arts course each year. Juniors and seniors may opt into year-long seminars in Visual Arts, Music Theory or Drama. Students may participate in Art Club, Chamber Ensemble, Chorus, Drama Club, Jazz Band, and Photography Club after school. All students are welcome to audition for BU music groups, as well as the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra in residence at BU.
GRADING  Boston University Academy and Boston University award letter grades in all academic subjects. Grades are unweighted. BUA uses a traditional A-F grading scale. D is the lowest passing grade.

RANK IN CLASS  Given our small size and hybrid BUA/BU program, the Academy does not provide class rank or report GPA.

TRANSSCRIPTS  The Academy transcript reflects all coursework taken at both the Academy and at the University for each academic year. Grades recorded for University courses are provided by the Office of the University Registrar. If requested by a college admission or registrar office, each student may arrange for an official BU transcript to be forwarded.

### Grade Distribution - Tenth Grade, 2016-2017

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<th>Course</th>
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<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
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<th>C-</th>
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### Grade Distribution - Eleventh Grade, 2017-2018

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<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
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<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>F</th>
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NOTE: Each chart illustrates the distribution of final grades for all academic Academy courses in which members of the Class of 2019 were enrolled. The charts include students from all grade levels who were enrolled in these classes.

*Our students typically enroll in a wide array of classes at Boston University during junior year, so the second chart does not reflect final marks for all of a student’s classes. Since many of our juniors enroll in one or both introductory Biology courses at BU, we have included these two classes in the second chart.

### Standardized Test Information, Class of 2019 (includes June 2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Middle 50% Scores</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAT EBRW</td>
<td>670-760</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT Math</td>
<td>670-780</td>
<td>(Mean 730)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT English</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Math</td>
<td>28-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Reading</td>
<td>33-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Science</td>
<td>28-35</td>
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### Disciplinary Action Policy

BUA will report all suspensions and expulsions occurring during a student’s 9th - 12th grade career in the context of the school report provided to each college.

The school will also inform colleges if a student is placed on disciplinary probation at any time during their tenure in our community.
In the past six years, graduates of Boston University Academy have enrolled in the following colleges and universities. In a typical year, 100% of students enroll in 4-year colleges. The schools at which at least one member of the Class of 2018 enrolled are identified in bold type.

Amherst College  
Babson College  
Barnard College  
**Bates College**  
Bennington College  
Bentley University  
Binghamton University  
Boston College (2)  
**Boston University (23)**  
**Brandeis University (6)**  
Brown University (11)  
California Institute of Technology (3)  
**Carnegie Mellon University (3)**  
Case Western Reserve University (2)  
Champlain College  
Columbia University  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University (2)  
Dartmouth College  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
**Emory University (2)**  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering  
The George Washington University (3)  
Georgetown University  
Gordon College  
**Harvard University (16)**  
Harvey Mudd College (3)  
**Haverford College (3)**  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges (3)  
Ithaca College  
Johns Hopkins University (6)  
Lawrence University  
Lehigh University  
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences  
**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (7)**  
McGill University (4)  
Mount Holyoke College (2)  
The New School  
**New York University (7)**  
Northeastern University (14)  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College (3)  
Pomona College  
Princeton University (2)  
Purdue University (2)  
Reed College  
**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (6)**  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
**Sciences Po – Columbia University Dual BA Program**  
Skidmore College (3)  
**Smith College (8)**  
Stanford University (3)  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Trinity College (CT)  
Trinity College Dublin  
**Tufts University (5)**  
Union College (2)  
University of California at Berkeley (3)  
University of California at San Diego  
University of Chicago (8)  
University of Glasgow  
**University of Maryland, College Park**  
University of Massachusetts at Amherst (3)  
University of Massachusetts at Boston  
**University of Michigan (3)**  
University of Oxford  
University of Pennsylvania (2)  
University of Rochester (4)  
**University of Southern California (2)**  
University of St. Andrews  
University of Tampa  
The University of Texas, Austin  
**University of Toronto (2)**  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington University in St. Louis (2)  
Wellesley College (3)  
**Wesleyan University (2)**  
Williams College (3)  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (3)  
Yale University (5)