KHAN LAB SCHOOL

School Profile 2024-25

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Khan Lab School: Founded 2014 by Salman Khan

Type: K-12, Independent, Day, Co-educational

Total School Enrollment (K-12): 280

Upper School Enrollment (9-12): 84

Students in the Class of 2025: 19

Students who identify as people of color: 86%

Teacher-Student Ratio: 1:10

Calendar: Trimester

Graduates who enroll in 4-year colleges: 100%

OUR SCHOOL

Khan Lab School is a non-profit, mastery-based, independent school designed to implement the innovative educational ideas developed by Khan Academy founder, Sal Khan. In his 2012 book, *The One World Schoolhouse*, Khan outlines a vision for the future of K-12 education, based on student-centered and mastery-based models. In 2014, he founded Khan Lab School to test and refine these ideas in an actual school setting. It has now grown to a full K-12 program on two campuses, serving 280 students in Silicon Valley.

OUR STUDENTS

Khan Lab School believes that young people are capable of far more than society currently recognizes. Students at KLS embrace this philosophy in their unique journeys and experience the meaningful outcomes of mastery learning. Instead of competing against one another, they collaborate and make real contributions to the world around them. Our students are not singularly focused on chasing high marks or piling on AP courses. Instead, they take agency in their own learning, seek to understand course content, cultivate a range of interests and skills, and demonstrate their achievements in various contexts. Our students are innovators in every way, advancing their mastery-based education, and, most importantly, their own futures.

OUR FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION

Khan Lab School's team of 47 K-12 faculty and administrators fosters a vibrant community of learners. We work to ensure consistency in mastery across disciplines, while also maintaining a commitment to meeting students where they are. The quality of learning remains consistently high, even as our lab school regularly reimagines and tests new methods of teaching and learning. Our team is committed to this model, designed to help our community share best practices with other educators.

OUR CURRICULUM

With Khan Lab School's mastery-based learning model, students must demonstrate an understanding of content and skills identified in a course before progressing. KLS creates space within and beyond core academics for students to explore interests. Students can extend their learning beyond the classroom through dual enrollment and other programs. In this way, they further develop skills and apply learning within contexts meaningful to them—and often develop expertise at a younger age than many would expect. Wellness, caring, and creativity are also central to student life.

ACCREDITATIONS

Khan Lab School is accredited by:

• Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

• Cognia, a parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI)

• Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC)

• Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI)

AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS)

National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)

Western Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC)

Mastery Transcript Consortium® (MTC) Member School

OVERVIEW

- Khan Lab School (KLS) uses a **mastery-based learning model** in which students progress through the curriculum at their own pace, advancing only after demonstrating a clear and thorough understanding of the subject matter. Instead of being graded based on time spent in class or relative performance compared to peers, students are evaluated on their ability to consistently apply knowledge and skills.

- **We do not provide letter grades or rank our students.** Instead, students receive regular progress reports to map their achievement towards fulfilling course learning outcomes.

- **We do not offer Advanced Placement courses;** instead our students earn college credit through dual enrollment.

HOW TO READ OUR TRANSCRIPT

Mastery Credit is earned when a student has mastered course content and skills. Overall course mastery levels are designated on the transcript as follows:

Mastery with Distinction (New in Fall 2022):

The student has surpassed course expectations, demonstrating exceptional achievement. Few students achieve this distinction beyond Mastery.

Mastery

The student has achieved all learning outcomes for the course. This level is **equivalent to a grade of 90% or higher in a traditional grading system**. The expectation is that students will earn Mastery in each of their classes.

Foundational Mastery (New in Fall 2022):

The student has met the minimum expectations and requirements outlined in the course. This level of mastery is necessary for progression to the next course.

In Progress

Indicates that a student has not yet achieved Mastery in a course. This designation appears on the transcript until course requirements are fully met. Current courses for seniors will carry this label.

Dual Enrollment

Khan Lab School partners with Foothill College to offer several courses that are listed on the transcript as "Dual" enrollment courses. While students receive credit for courses taken at Foothill College, they are evaluated using an A-F grading scale that is not translated into our model. Please refer to the official Foothill College transcript for course grades.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Senior Capstone

Seniors are required to do a year-long research-based Capstone project and present their findings to a committee. This project is intended to prepare students for college- and graduate-level research-based work.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn a minimum of 21 Mastery Credits in core courses in order to graduate from Khan Lab School. Credits are earned by meeting the 15 college-preparatory courses 'A-G' to be eligible for admission to the University of California, including the successful completion of a year-long Senior Capstone, and 6 elective courses.

2 years of History
4 years of English
3 years of Mathematics
2 years of Science
2 years of a World Language
1 year of Visual and Performing Arts
1 year Senior Capstone
6 Elective Courses

Some external courses may be used to fulfill graduation requirements. They will be shared through an attached transcript from the course provider. Credit bearing courses taken in the summer appear on the transcript in the upcoming school year.

Community Engagement Program (CEP) (New in 2024-25)

Through this program, students can earn credit for impactful and rigorous academic work done in collaboration with a community organization or member. To participate, students must submit a proposal for approval and, upon completion, present their work to a thesis committee composed of community partners and KLS faculty/staff. The committee assesses a portfolio of work to determine mastery.

ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS

In addition to credit-bearing courses, academic distinctions reflecting exceptional work in the following programs will appear on a student's transcript under the section "Academic Distinctions."

Cornerstone Projects

Cornerstone projects, similar to an independent study, are unique opportunities for students to propose, undertake, and defend an interdisciplinary, year-long, independent project of their own design. Cornerstones often incorporate college-level research experiences or community impact. Cornerstone projects, while optional, are a student's first opportunity to do independent work in preparation for the Senior Capstone.

Teaching Assistant

Students serve as an in-class teaching assistant (TA) for any class in which they have achieved mastery. A TA might be responsible for in-class tutoring and teacher support. If they have the expertise, they may also be invited to lead lessons.

Curriculum Design

If a student has expertise and passion for a particular subject area, and they want to share that with others, they can design their own class for other students to take. They design the syllabus and assessments, create rubrics, create their own lesson plans, and co-lead the class with an instructor. These courses appear on the transcript under Academic Distinctions.

COURSES BY SUBJECT AREA

History & Social Studies
World History
American (US) History
Government and Politics

English
Methods and Meaning
Comparative Literature
American Literature
Senior Seminar

Mathematics
Algebra I
Algebra II
Geometry
Advanced Topics in Geometry
Precalculus
Calculus I
Calculus II
Statistics
Data Science
Multivariable Calculus
Linear Algebra
Independent Study: Mathematics

Science
General Biology: BIO 10*
Fundamentals of Chemistry: CHEM 25*
Physics and Engineering
Physics: Mechanics and Optics

World Languages
Spanish I
Spanish II
Spanish III
Spanish IV
Spanish V
Advanced Cultural Studies in Spanish
Online Option: Multiple Languages

Visual and Performing Arts
Art and Design
Advanced Studio Art
Advanced Topics in Art: Portfolio
Digital Design
History of Western Music
Music Production

Other Electives
Senior Capstone
Architecture
Computer Science
Teaching Innovation Lab
Philosophy
Psychology

*Dual Enrollment Courses: KLS partners with Foothill College to offer several courses that are listed on the transcript as "Dual Enrollment Courses."

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE / MATRICULATION LIST (Classes of 2021–2024)

Arizona State University
Babson College
Bard College
Barnard College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
California Institute of Technology
California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo) (2)
California State Polytechnic University (Pomona)
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University (2)
Claremont McKenna College
Colby College
Colgate University
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Evergreen State College
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grinnell College (2)
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
Hawaii Pacific University
Johns Hopkins University
Lewis & Clark University
Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (4)
Middlebury College
Montana State University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University (3)
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Parsons School of Design

Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Reed College (3)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University (2)
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Stevens Institute of Technology
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
The University of Texas at Austin
Tufts University
Tulane University
University of California, Berkeley (4)
University of California, Davis (2)
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles (3)
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara (2)
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago (2)
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Massachusetts Boston
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Portland
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of Vermont
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin–Madison
Vassar College (2)
Villanova University
Washington University in St Louis
Wellesley College (2)
Whitman College
Willamette University
Woodbury University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

* Highlighted colleges indicate enrollment.