



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) 80

Students in the Class of 2025 19

% of students who identify as people of color 86%

Teacher-Student Ratio 1:10

Calendar Trimester

Graduates who enroll in 4-year colleges 100%

HIGHLIGHTS

- Khan Lab School (KLS) uses a **mastery-based learning model** that requires students to demonstrate understanding multiple times in multiple contexts, giving them agency and ownership of their education.
- **Cornerstone** passion projects empower students to independently pursue their interests and strengths at a deep level with support of teachers and staff.
- **Capstone** senior projects equip students with a breadth of knowledge and skill to succeed in college and beyond. A graduation requirement, Capstones empower students to deeply and effectively research, explore, and defend a thesis.
- **We do not provide letter grades or rank our students.** Students receive regular progress reports to map their achievement towards fulfilling course learning outcomes.
- Students receive advisor support for **social, emotional, and academic learning**.
- We do not offer Advanced Placement courses.

OUR SCHOOL

KLS 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

KLS 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 in the world around them. Our students are not singularly focused on chasing high marks or piling on AP courses (we don't offer them). 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 47 K-12 faculty and administrators foster a community who love to learn. We work diligently 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 educators locally and globally.

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 far younger age than many would expect. Wellness, caring, and creativity are also central to community life.

HOW TO READ OUR TRANSCRIPT

Mastery Credit is course-based whereas Capstone and Cornerstone Projects are student-driven. Mastery Credit is earned when a student has mastered course content and skills. Cornerstone Projects are earned when a student excels beyond the already high course expectations and applies their learning in a real-world context for at least 100 hours. Examples of Cornerstone Projects include (but are not limited to) internships, teaching, research, community service, and various passion projects. Applied learning is often transdisciplinary and requires our students to be responsible, independent, collaborative, creative, and entrepreneurial problem-solvers.

In Progress

If a student has not yet earned Mastery Credit in a course, the transcript will show a designation of “In Progress.” Current and scheduled courses for seniors will carry this label.

Mastery

Means all learning outcomes have been achieved. **A student with a grade of 90% and above at a traditional school would earn mastery at KLS.** The expectation is that students will earn Mastery in each of their classes.

Mastery with Distinction

Means the student has exceeded the course expectations and is achieving at a high level. Few students achieve this distinction beyond mastery. The process for being considered for Mastery with Distinction in a class is outlined in course syllabi.

Foundational Mastery

Means the student has met the minimum expectations and competencies outlined for the course. A student must achieve at least Foundational Mastery to progress to the next course in a discipline.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Cornerstone Projects

Minimum of 100 hours invested (akin to a full semester course) in a passion project plus oral defense in front of a committee panel. Cornerstone Projects are optional and difficult to obtain. Earning these credits requires rigorous original work and significant self-motivation.

Senior Capstone

In the final year at KLS, students are required to do a year-long Capstone project and present their findings to a committee. Students can fulfill this requirement through professional internships, college-level research, or high-level community engagement.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

2 years of history

4 years of English

3 years of mathematics

2 years of science

2 years of a foreign language

1 year of visual and performing arts

6 elective courses

1 year Capstone course

Students are required to take at least 5 academic courses each year, as they are expected to demonstrate a deep understanding of all competencies and skills identified in a course before moving on. During the senior year, students take a minimum of 4 courses, including a Capstone course.

Dual Enrollment Courses

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

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

Character Collaborative

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

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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)

California State Polytechnic University (Pomona)

Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University

Case Western Reserve University

Chapman University

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

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

Middlebury College
Montana State University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
North Carolina State University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Parsons School of Design

Pepperdine University

Pitzer College

Pratt Institute

Purdue University

Reed College

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rice University

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

University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, Riverside

University of California, San Diego

University of California, Santa Barbara

University of California, Santa Cruz

University of Chicago

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

Villanova University

Washington University in St Louis

Wellesley College

Whitman College

Willamette University

Woodbury University

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

*** Highlighted colleges indicate enrollment.**