



# KHAN LAB SCHOOL

## School Profile 2023-24

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**Khan Lab School** Founded 2014 by Salman Khan

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

Total School Enrollment (K-12) **295**

High School Enrollment (9-12) **90**

Students in the Class of 2024 **16**

% 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 295 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 23 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

Within Khan Lab School's mastery-based learning model, students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of all competencies and skills identified in a course before moving on. While the time it takes a student to finish a course may vary, the depth of mastery remains constant. KLS creates space within and beyond core academics for students to explore their passions. In this space, they further develop their skills and apply their learning within contexts that are meaningful to them—and quite often develop expertise at a far younger age than many would expect. Wellness, caring, and creative expression 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.

## SPECIAL 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 only 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)

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

## AFFILIATIONS

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 History  
US Government and Politics

### English

Methods and Meaning  
Comparative Literature  
American Literature  
Senior Seminar

### Mathematics

Algebra I  
Geometry  
Algebra II  
Pre-calculus  
Calculus I  
Calculus II  
Statistics and R Programming  
Data Science  
Multivariable Calculus  
Linear Algebra  
Independent Study: Mathematics

### Science

General Biology: BIO 10\*  
Fundamentals of Chemistry: CHEM 25\*  
General Chemistry: CHEM 1A\*  
Physics 2A  
*\* Courses indicate dual enrollment*

### World Languages

Spanish I  
Spanish II  
Spanish III  
Spanish IV  
Advanced Topics: Spanish  
Online Option: Multiple Languages

### Visual and Performing Arts

Art and Design  
Advanced Studio Art  
Advanced Topics in Art: Portfolio  
History of Western Music  
Music Production  
Music: Enterprise and Design

### Other College-Preparatory Electives

Computer Science I  
Computer Science II  
Practical C Programming  
Web Development

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## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE / MATRICULATION LIST (Classes of 2021–2023)

Arizona State University  
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**  
**Carnegie Mellon University**  
**Chapman University**  
Colby College  
Colgate University  
Colorado College  
Colorado School of Mines  
Columbia University  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Fordham University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
George Washington University  
**Georgetown University**  
**Georgia Institute of Technology**  
**Grinnell College**  
Harvard University  
**Harvey Mudd College**  
Hawaii Pacific University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Loyola Marymount University  
**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  
Parsons School of Design  
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  
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 California (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

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

**\* Highlighted colleges indicate enrollment**