



# True North Classical Academy 2022 - 2023 School Profile

True North Classical Academy is a network of non-profit, tuition-free public charter schools serving students of Miami-Dade County. Our school network serves grades K-12 across four campuses. Our curriculum is a rigorous liberal arts education that emphasizes the pursuit of knowledge and virtue through study of complex, influential texts through Socratic inquiry.

CEEB/ACT Code: 102515

K-12 Enrollment: 1,542

High School Enrollment: 303

9317 Sunset Drive  
Miami, FL 33173  
(305) 749-5725  
[www.tnclassical.org](http://www.tnclassical.org)

## ADMINISTRATION

**Michael Bileca**  
President & Founder  
[mbileca@truenorthcharter.org](mailto:mbileca@truenorthcharter.org)

**Jeanine Finlay**  
Head of Schools  
[jfinlay@truenorthcharter.org](mailto:jfinlay@truenorthcharter.org)

**Amaris Leal**  
Head of Upper School  
[aleal@truenorthcharter.org](mailto:aleal@truenorthcharter.org)

**Emma Rowlands**  
Dean of Academics  
[erowlands@truenorthcharter.org](mailto:erowlands@truenorthcharter.org)


## COLLEGE COUNSELING

**Jacky Horowitz**  
Director of College Counseling  
305-749-5725 ext. 204  
[jhorowitz@truenorthcharter.org](mailto:jhorowitz@truenorthcharter.org)

## SCHOOL RANKINGS

As of 2022, True North Classical Academy Schools ranked:

- Highest rated-schools in Miami-Dade County
- K-12 Top 1% in Florida
- A-Rated schools since inception

 Cognia Accredited



Graduating our first senior class in 2023



Classical content and methodology fosters a culture of excellence

## TRUE NORTH CLASSICAL ACADEMY'S VISION & MISSION

The mission of True North Classical Academy is to inspire a thirst for knowledge within our students, aligning passion to purpose, in the pursuit of the True, Good, and Beautiful. True North achieves its vision through a rigorous, knowledge-rich curriculum grounded in the tradition of the classical liberal arts. Through steadfast focus on scholarship, citizenship, and leadership in an environment that values and models intellectual and moral virtue, we seek to empower our students to reach their highest potential, develop into exceptional persons and citizens, and sustain a lifelong love of learning.

## THE HONOR CODE

The Honor Code is instilled in all students from the moment they begin at True North. The Honor Code was originally developed by our graduating class to embody the core virtues we stand by and is signed by all students each academic year.

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

True North Classical Academy offers a highly rigorous, accelerated academic curriculum built on two fundamental beliefs: that both virtue and knowledge are necessary to live the good life; and that a flourishing, free society requires its members to be wise citizens of virtue. Primary source texts and the Great Books drive our humanities instruction. They present students with a rich and varied array of content and an introduction to the history of human thought and great ideas.

Classical virtues, leadership, and service opportunities, and the cultivation of self-governance are taught explicitly through the curriculum and in the spirit of the Western heritage. The Socratic method is implemented widely throughout upper school classrooms and as appropriate in elementary classrooms, thus engaging students in powerful discussions and contributions in the classroom. A senior thesis on a topic of fundamental importance delivered and defended in front of an audience of faculty and peers, is required to graduate.

## SENIOR THESIS AND DEFENSE

Each graduate completes a capstone project known as the Senior Thesis. The Senior Thesis is the culmination of the student's years at the academy. In this project, students work closely with a faculty advisor to read and discuss two to three significant Great Books. The student will produce a thesis that synthetically brings forth their own answer to a major philosophical question and participates in an oral defense of their work.

## HUMANE LETTERS

Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the curriculum at True North is Humane Letters. Throughout grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, English and History are integrated in the Humane Letters courses: these include daily seminars, directed Socratically and revolving around readings from Western Civilization's best works in philosophy, drama, history, poetry, novels, and essays. This collaborative setting allows for the development of the art of conversation, which includes above all the habit of listening well to both the great authors as well as their peers. The class is an exploration of the permanent questions that animate any truly human life through the history and literature of the Great Books.

## COVID-19 IMPACT

Fortunately, our instruction time was minimally interrupted and we provided in-person instruction to all students for the past two years. The area mostly impacted was our extracurricular & after-school offerings. The number of offerings was limited and our students had to find extracurricular activities outside of school in the community. Moving forward, we redesigned our club, honor society, and community service framework and are offering more diverse activities for our high school students.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
English Language/Literature	4.0	Classical & Modern Foreign Languages	4.0
Math	4.0	Fine & Performing Arts	2.0
History and Society	4.0	Physical Education & Fitness	1.0
Science (min. 2 lab courses)	4.0	Elective Courses	1.0

TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM SEQUENCE				
	9 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	10 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	11 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE
LITERATURE	Humane Letters I: American Experience	Humane Letters II: European Influences	Humane Letters III: Ancient World Texts	Humane Letters IV: Rome to Modernity
HISTORY	Humane Letters: Early American History	Humane Letters: European Influences	AP or Honors United States History	Humane Letters: Rome to Modernity / Economics
SCIENCE	Biology or Chemistry	Chemistry, Physics, or AP Biology	AP Biology or Physics	AP Biology, Physics II, Anatomy & Physiology
MATH	Geometry or Algebra II	Algebra II or Pre-Calc/Trig	Pre-Calc/Trig, Honors Calculus, or AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, or AP Computer Science A
WORLD LANGUAGES	French I, Latin I, Spanish I-III	French II, Latin II, Spanish II-IV	French III, Latin III, Spanish III & AP Spanish Language & Culture	French IV/AP, Latin IV/AP, Spanish IV & AP Literature & Culture
FINE & PERFORMING ARTS	Music Core	Fine Arts Elective	Fine Arts Elective	Fine Arts Elective

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP), DUAL ENROLLMENT (DE), AND HONORS (H) COURSES

Because our curriculum is rigorous in nature, we administer limited AP courses and exams. Students are only eligible to take a maximum of 3 AP courses per academic year starting Junior year. Any student who takes an AP course must also sit for the exam. Students have the opportunity to participate in a limited number of DE courses and earn college credit via Doral College or Miami Dade College. In order to take any AP or dual enrollment course, a student must be approved by the teacher and have a minimum weighted GPA of a 3.0. It is important to note, courses will have an AP or DE designation on official transcripts. Most courses are offered at an Honors level and designed by an H on official transcripts.

#### AP COURSES OFFERED

AP Calculus AB	AP Spanish Language & Culture
AP Calculus BC	AP Spanish Literature
AP Statistics	AP Studio Art
AP Biology	AP Computer Science A
AP Physics 1	AP United States History
AP Art History	

#### 2021-2022 AP EXAM PASS RATES

	TNCA	Global
AP Spanish Language & Culture	100%	81%
AP Calculus AB	90%	56%
AP Biology	89%	68%
AP United States History	47%	48%

#### GPA DISTRIBUTION

At TNCA, we do not rank students. They earn 1 extra quality point for Honors courses and 2 extra quality points for AP & DE courses on their grade point averages. Below is the distribution of the Class of 2023 weighted GPAs.

GPA	Students	Percentage
4.50+	17	24%
4.0 – 4.49	25	35%
3.75 – 3.99	9	13%
3.50 – 3.74	11	15%
3.0 – 3.49	5	6.5%
2.0 – 2.99	5	6.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### CLASS OF 2023 SAT SCORES

