

2018-19



School Profile



College Matriculation from 2014 to 2018

American University.....	2	Indiana University at Bloomington	2	The University of Arizona.....	1
Amherst College	3	Johns Hopkins University.....	3	The University of Edinburgh.....	1
Bard College.....	1	Kenyon College	4	The University of Iowa	1
Barnard College	11	Lafayette College	1	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1
Bates College.....	3	Lake Forest College	1	The University of Texas, Austin.....	2
Bennington College.....	1	Lehigh University	2	Tufts University	9
Bentley University.....	1	Lewis & Clark College	2	Tulane University.....	11
Berklee College of Music	4	Loyola Marymount University.....	1	University College Maastricht.....	1
Boston College	1	Macalester College	4	University of British Columbia.....	1
Boston University.....	12	Marquette University	1	University of California	
Bowdoin College	2	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1	Berkeley.....	3
Brown University	9	McGill University	3	Davis	7
Bryn Mawr College	2	Middlebury College.....	6	Los Angeles.....	17
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.....	5	Mills College.....	1	Riverside.....	2
California State Polytechnic University - Pomona.....	1	Muhlenberg College.....	1	Santa Barbara.....	3
California State University, Channel Islands	1	New York University	24	Santa Cruz.....	8
California State University, Chico	1	Northeastern University.....	13	University of Chicago.....	5
Carleton College.....	2	Northwestern University.....	5	University of Colorado at Boulder	1
Carnegie Mellon University	1	Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences	14	University of Denver.....	3
Case Western Reserve University	1	Occidental College	5	University of Michigan	4
Chapman University.....	2	Oregon State University.....	1	University of North Carolina School of the Arts.....	1
Claremont McKenna College	1	Pitzer College.....	8	University of Notre Dame	1
Clark University	2	Pomona College.....	6	University of Oregon	11
Colby College	1	Pratt Institute.....	1	University of Pennsylvania.....	4
College of Charleston.....	1	Princeton University.....	1	University of Puget Sound.....	2
Colorado College	2	Purdue University.....	1	University of Redlands.....	2
Columbia University	3	Reed College.....	7	University of Rhode Island.....	1
Connecticut College	2	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	2	University of Rochester.....	2
Cornell University.....	4	Rhode Island School of Design	4	University of San Francisco	1
Dartmouth College.....	1	Saint Louis University	1	University of Southern California.....	11
Dominican University of California.....	1	San Francisco State University	3	University of St Andrews.....	1
Duke University	1	Santa Clara University.....	5	University of Vermont.....	3
Eckerd College	1	Sarah Lawrence College.....	8	University of Virginia.....	1
Elon University.....	1	Scripps College.....	6	University of Washington.....	2
Emory University.....	2	Seattle University.....	3	University of Wisconsin, Madison.....	1
Fordham University.....	5	Skidmore College	9	Vassar College	1
Franklin & Marshall College	1	Smith College	5	Wake Forest University.....	5
Georgetown University.....	1	St. Olaf College	1	Washington University in St. Louis	5
Georgia Institute of Technology.....	1	Stanford University.....	5	Wellesley College	2
Grinnell College.....	1	Swarthmore College	2	Wesleyan University.....	11
Hamilton College - NY	2	Syracuse University.....	2	Whitman College	2
Hampshire College.....	3	The American University of Paris	1	Whittier College.....	2
Harvard University	1	The College of Wooster	2	Willamette University.....	1
Haverford College.....	1	The Evergreen State College.....	1	Worcester Polytechnic Institute.....	2
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	1	The George Washington University.....	3	Yale University	5
		The New School - All Divisions	5		

100% of our students attend a four-year college or university.

Mark Salkind
Head of School

Charlotte Worsley
Assistant Head for Student Life

Geoff Ruth
Academic Dean

Bobby Ramos
Director of Admissions

Clarke Weatherspoon
Dean of Equity & Inclusion

Lauren Gersick
Director of College Counseling



Overview

Urban School of San Francisco seeks to ignite a passion for learning. Urban's extraordinary teachers challenge our 420 students with an acclaimed academic program that combines a college-preparatory curriculum in math, science, arts and humanities with a comprehensive service learning and competitive athletics program, and a rich selection of co-curricular activities. But the most enduring aspect of an Urban education is that students learn to take responsibility for their education and become active citizens in their own communities. Located adjacent to Golden Gate Park, Urban School has been at the forefront of educational excellence since our founding in 1966, pioneering nationally regarded innovations such as block scheduling, integrated service learning and the first 1:1 laptop program at any California independent high school.

Student Activities

At Urban, we believe that high school is an important experience in its own right. Through strong relationships with their teachers, advisors and with each other, Urban students learn early on how to navigate a culture of collaboration, inclusion and mutual

respect, both inside and outside the classroom. Urban has dozens of special interest student clubs, as well as student government, an active outdoor and class trips program, and a student newspaper and yearbook. Performing arts opportunities include fall and winter theater productions, circus class performances and the annual One Acts. Urban also offers an advanced and junior jazz band, a chamber orchestra and The Urban Singers chorus.

Athletics

A member of the Bay Area Conference and Bay Counties League-West, Urban fields interscholastic teams in baseball, basketball, cross-country, fencing, golf, lacrosse, soccer, track, softball, tennis and volleyball. More than 65% percent of all Urban students participate in our athletics program.

Admissions

Urban seeks students with an enthusiastic approach to learning and a clear capacity for success in a challenging academic program. The school received more than 700 applications for the incoming class, and we draw students from public, independent and parochial schools

in San Francisco (81%) and across the Bay Area (19%). Urban is committed to reflecting the ethnic, racial and socio-economic diversity of the Bay Area. Our student body comprises 40 percent students of color, and for the 2018-19 school year, 29 percent of the student body will receive \$3.9 million in financial aid.

Evaluation at Urban

Urban's evaluation and grading practices combine the best of innovative and traditional approaches, consistent with our long history as a nationally recognized educational leader among secondary schools. Designed to challenge students to perform at their highest level, Urban's assessment system includes cycles of ongoing teacher feedback and student reflection. Written reports are provided twice per term—at the midpoint and at the end of each 12-week class—along with a final course letter grade. We know from more than 50 years of experience that our use of specific, differentiated evaluative feedback fosters high levels of student engagement, depth of understanding and achievement, all of which support our mission to inspire a passion for learning.

Teaching and Learning at Urban School

Block System: A leader for more than 50 years in block system scheduling in high school, Urban's program exposes students to the independence, depth of learning and academic challenge common in college and beyond. The academic year is divided into three 12-week terms: fall, winter and spring. Students take four intensive classes each term, and many classes last for one or two terms. Due to longer class periods, a one-term class is equivalent to a semester course and a two-term class is equivalent to a year-long course.

Graduation Requirements: Urban School requires 22 academic credits for graduation, distributed across the curriculum. One credit is equivalent to a year-long course. In completing

Urban's graduation requirements, students exceed the minimum course requirements for admission to the University of California system. The school also requires physical activity credits and 9th and 10th grade health education coursework for graduation.

Pioneering Use of Digital Tools:

Urban has offered a 1:1 laptop program for students and faculty since 2000. Technology is fully integrated across the curriculum to support and foster active, student-centered learning. Beyond Urban, faculty members serve as master teachers around classroom-based integration of digital tools in professional workshops and conferences throughout the year.

Service Learning: Urban's nationally regarded Service Learning program

is tailored to the developmental needs of adolescents and to the educational mission of the school. The four-year program encourages students to approach unfamiliar situations and diverse populations with empathy; to develop a sense of identity, responsibility and purpose in relation to the surrounding community; and to act on their desire and ability to affect positive, thoughtful change.

Educational Partners: Urban School has partnerships for semester-long programs with both The Oxbow School, an intensive interdisciplinary program combining visual arts with academics in Napa, CA, and with CITYTerm, an experience-based educational program affiliated with the Masters School in New York City.

Urban Advanced Studies (UAS): The Urban School curriculum provides an exceptionally strong college preparatory foundation across all subjects. Designated as UAS, many of our classes are comparable to college-level work in pace and content, and are recognized by colleges—including the University of California—as honors-level. Offered in every subject area, UAS coursework is developed by the Urban faculty and is not limited to the College Board Advanced Placement curriculum. Students are counseled as to the number of UAS classes taken each term.

We provide AP exam preparation in mathematics, the sciences, world languages, music theory, studio art and English literature.

Curricular Highlights

Urban students are encouraged to explore deeply across a range of subjects. The block system allows for college-level specificity in a broader reaching high school context. Below, we've highlighted a sampling of noteworthy Urban academic programs.

Mathematics Urban's math program draws from traditional and contemporary approaches. Starting with Math 1, 2, 3 and Functions, which are close to the traditional Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 and precalculus sequence, we emphasize a spiraled content structure, revisiting and re-integrating concepts with increasing levels of challenge at each level. Many of our lessons and teaching approach serve as the backbone for syllabi for the professional development of high school math teachers across the US. Urban elective offerings include highly conceptual options, such as UAS Infinity and UAS Space – both complements to calculus. Urban's advanced UAS Computer Science 2 and 3 are college level classes that prepare students for programming in any language.



Urban is a founding leader of the Bay Area BlendEd Consortium, a partnership among five leading independent high schools, which offers classes combining face-to-face and online instruction, while preserving the core relational culture and values that are at the heart of Urban's and our partner schools' educational missions. BlendEd courses are an extension of Urban's innovative, technologically integrated curriculum.



UrbanX Labs is Urban's integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the design, technology and engineering educational needs of the 21st century. UrbanX courses teach students the fundamentals of discovery, innovation, creativity and problem-solving, all deeply rooted in Urban's highly academic and supportive teaching environment. Courses include

electronics and robotics, engineering, computer science and advanced coding, industrial design and more.

Multidisciplinary Courses

These classes span and blend traditional disciplines, encouraging students to apply their skills and knowledge across subjects. Many of these courses involve a significant field component.

- » **UAS Rethinking Poverty** looks critically at how poverty has been recognized, defined and understood, both locally and globally.
- » **Cal Studies**, a one credit interdisciplinary course that explores the economic, environmental and socio-political implications of a single issue, such as water.
- » **Global Migration** examines patterns in migration, as well as the various reasons that lead people to move.

Curriculum Guide

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS UAS denotes Urban Advanced Studies, Urban's most rigorous coursework.

<p>Math Three credits required 9th: Math 1A and B* 10th: Math 2A and B 11th: Math 3A and B</p>	<p>Advanced Math Applications Discrete Mathematics Statistics & Probability</p>	<p>Computer Science 1 UAS Computer Science 2 UAS Computer Science 3</p>	<p>UAS Functions UAS Calculus A and B UAS Analytic Geometry</p>	<p>UAS Space: Group Theory UAS Infinity: Set Theory and Chaos</p>
<p>Science Two credits required 9th: Fundamentals of Science 1A and 1B (bio/chem) 10th: Fundamentals of Science 2A and 2B (bio/chem)</p>	<p>Applied Physics: Electronics & Robotics Applied Physics: Motion & Machines Astronomy Marine Biology Entomology: Bugs & Biodiversity</p>	<p>Geology Human Anatomy and Physiology Applied Chemistry: Materials Science UAS Advanced Chemistry A and B</p>	<p>UAS Advanced Chemistry C: Environmental Chemistry UAS Environmental Science: Physical Resources UAS Environmental Science: Ecology UAS Advanced Biology: Genetics</p>	<p>UAS Advanced Biology: Infectious Disease UAS Advanced Physics: Mechanics UAS Advanced Physics: Electricity and Magnetism UAS Advanced Physics: Waves and Light</p>
<p>History Two credits required 9th: 20th Century World History (A and B) 10th/11th: UAS Making America and UAS Remaking America</p>	<p>South African History Birth of Modern China Civics and Elections Comparative Religion Contemporary Issues: Research and Writing Economics</p>	<p>Elections US Foreign Policy in the 20th Century and Beyond The French Revolution Globalization UAS Race in Latin America History</p>	<p>UAS Asian American History UAS America Transformed (1865-1929) UAS Colonial Origins UAS Constitutional Law UAS Contemporary China</p>	<p>UAS Environmental History UAS History of South Asia, Parts 1 & 2 UAS History of Women In America UAS Modern Middle East</p>
<p>English Four credits required 9th: The Journey (English 1A and 1B) 10th: Composition (English 2A and 2B) 11th: UAS Shakespeare/Electives 12th: Electives</p>	<p>Politics and Language Examining the Good Life Journalism+ UAS British Literature: Breaking Boundaries UAS Introduction to Creative Writing</p>	<p>UAS Russian Literature: Dostoevsky and Chekhov UAS Toni Morrison UAS Advanced Shakespeare UAS American Romanticism UAS Creative Nonfiction UAS Faulkner</p>	<p>UAS Nigerian Literature UAS Latin American Literature UAS Literature of Dystopia and Sci-Fi UAS Modern American Literature</p>	<p>UAS Modern Irish Literature UAS Poetry: Form and Meaning UAS The Naturalist as Writer UAS Russian Literature</p>
<p>World Languages Three credits required*</p>	<p>Chinese 1-3 UAS Chinese 4-6</p>	<p>French 1-3 UAS French 4-6</p>	<p>Spanish 1-3 UAS Spanish 4-6</p>	
<p>Visual and Performing Arts Two credits required</p>	<p>Performing Arts Acting 1 UAS Acting 2 Peer Education Theater Ensemble Circus Techniques Theater Production (Fall or Winter) Introduction to Urban Singers Introduction to Jazz Band</p>	<p>Introduction to Chamber Orchestra 20th Century American Popular Music Chamber Orchestra Lab Jazz Band Advanced Jazz Band Urban Singers UAS Music Production and Engineering</p>	<p>Music Theory 1 UAS Music Theory 2: Composition UAS Applied Music Theory Visual Arts Drawing/Mixed Media Graphic Design Architectural Design</p>	<p>Making Media Industrial Design Painting Photography Sculpture Video Production UAS Printmaking UAS Stone Carving</p>
<p>Senior Projects and Multi-Disiplinary Courses</p>	<p>Art as a Daily Practice California Studies</p>	<p>Theater One Acts Advanced Musical Ensemble</p>	<p>Research and Action Project UAS Advanced Visual Art Seminar</p>	<p>Global Migration UAS Rethinking Poverty</p>
<p>Service Learning Two credits required, distributed over four years</p>	<p>Freshman Service Learning: Identity and Ethnic Studies</p>	<p>Sophomore Service Learning: Identity and Community Partnerships</p>	<p>Junior Service Learning Independent Internship and Seminar: Identity at Urban and Beyond</p>	<p>Senior Service Learning: Independent Internship and Synthesis Seminar</p>
<p>Bay Area BlendEd</p>	<p>Advanced Computer Science: Complexity Theory and Advanced Algorithms Art History Through Inquiry Bay Area Cinema & Filmmaking</p>	<p>Beats, Rhymes & Life: an Exploration of Hip-Hop, its History & Global Impact California Coastal Oceanography Creative Writing: Very Short Stories</p>	<p>Comic Book Literature #Entrepreneurship through Design Thinking Introduction to Organic Chemistry Introduction to Psychology</p>	<p>Multivariable Calculus Public Health and Vulnerable Populations Seismic Studies and Earthquake Engineering</p>

* Some students may test into second year math or language as freshmen. Courses are subject to change annually. * Does not fulfill an English requirement



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The Urban School of San Francisco admits students without reference to race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Urban does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, financial aid program, athletic and school-administered programs.

The Urban School of San Francisco is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS), the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), the Secondary School Admission Test Board (SSATB), the National Association of College Admissions Counselors (NACAC) and the Independent Curriculum Group. Urban also holds memberships in A Better Chance, Inc. (ABC), the Bay Counties League, and is a partner and summer locale for Aim High.