



Christopher Columbus High School

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www.columbushs.com

CEEB/ACT Code: 101048

SCHOOL PROFILE 2011-2012

President

Br. Kevin Handibode, fms

Principal

Br. Michael Brady, fms

Academic Dean

Mrs. Patricia Call

Curriculum Dean

Mr. Pedro Garcia-Casals

Deans of Students

Mr. Chris McKeon

Mr. David Pugh

Guidance Chair

Mr. Juan Vila

College Counseling Director

Br. Angelo Palmieri, fms

Christopher Columbus High School is a Catholic, college preparatory, all-male secondary school. Established in 1958, the school fosters three distinct traditions: the pursuit of academic excellence, the heritage of Catholic education, and the unique spirit and mission of the Marist Brothers which aims to nurture the growth of the whole student in heart, mind, and body.

Set on a beautifully landscaped 19 acre campus in Miami, Florida, the school features seamless integration of cutting edge technology throughout all 8 academic buildings, including Smart Boards and LCD projectors in all classrooms, fully-equipped science labs, a media center, and a state-of-the-art technology complex with a digital based library, computer labs, and a production studio.

Outstanding athletic facilities include a football/soccer field, a baseball complex, gymnasium, tennis courts, track, and a weight room. As the largest Catholic all-boys high school in Florida competing in sports at the 8A level, Columbus High School has a long history of winning championships.

A tremendous sense of caring, pride, brotherhood, and commitment to the school's vision and mission is exhibited by students, teachers, staff, administrators, and parents.

MISSION STATEMENT

Christopher Columbus High School aims to make Jesus Christ known and loved, as we prepare young men for higher education and their continuous challenge of harmonizing faith, culture, and life.

Accreditation

AdvancED / SACS CASI

Affiliation

Marist Secondary Education
Association

Archdiocese of Miami

National Catholic Education
Association

National Association of College
Admissions Counselors



Students & Faculty

The racial/ethnic background of the student body is comprised of 82.6% Hispanic, 14% White, 3% African-American, and .4% Asian/Pacific. The student-teacher ratio at Christopher Columbus High School is about 15:1. The professional staff includes 15 Marist Brothers, 2 priests, and 82 laypersons; 2 librarians/media specialists and 9 counselors/advisors; 45% hold an advanced degree; 60% have over 20 years of teaching experience, and half have been with the school well over 15 years.

Curriculum Design

The school's college preparatory curriculum features a variety of instructional strategies and enrichment programs to serve a diverse learning community and enable students to achieve their full potential. Our standards-aligned courses are offered in ability groupings to accommodate students' learning styles and abilities. Smaller class sizes, coupled with sound educational practices which are assistive and supportive by design, and various summer and after school enrichment opportunities provide optimal opportunities for all of our students to succeed. The Advanced Placement, dual-enrollment and honors level classes offer our proficient young men opportunities to excel at an accelerated pace and possibly earn sophomore standing at many colleges upon completion of their high school years.

Columbus High School's *Mas Family Scholars Program* is considered to be one of the most challenging academic programs in South Florida. Designed for the gifted, highly motivated student, the program balances AP, dual-enrollment and honors courses with enrichment activities, summer classes, a guest lecture series, internships and independent study projects.

Academics

In order to graduate, a student must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better, complete a minimum of seventy-five hours of community service, and satisfy a minimum of twenty-four credits in the following areas: English (4), Mathematics (4), Science (3), Social Studies (3), Religious Studies (3), World Language (2), Art (.5), Computer Science (.5), Personal Fitness/Physical Training (1), Electives (3).

Students may earn college credit through our extensive **DUAL-ENROLLMENT** program offered through Florida International University and St. Thomas University. These courses are indicated below with an asterisk (*).

Advanced Placement Courses

Art Drawing Portfolio	Macro Economics *
Biology	Micro Economics *
Calculus AB/BC *	Spanish Language
Chemistry	Spanish Literature *
Comparative Government *	Statistics
Computer Science *	Studio Art
English Language	Physics
English Literature *	U.S. Government *
Environmental Science	U.S. History *
European History *	World History

Honor Courses

Adv. Interdisciplinary Studies	Geometry & Trig. (comb.)
Adv. Science Research	Holocaust & Civil Rights
Algebra 1	Human Physiology
Algebra 1 & 2 (combined)	Imaginative Literature
Algebra 2 & Trigonometry	Journalism and Media
American History*	Math Analysis *
Art 3 Portfolio	Media Assistant
Biology 1 & 2	New Test. & Cath. Thought
Calculus	Organic Chemistry
Chemistry 1 & 2	Physics 1 & 2
Christian Lifestyles	Pre-Calculus *
College Algebra & Trig.	Printmaking
Comparative Studies	Psychology *
Computer Applications *	Religious Studies 1 & 2
Computer Lab Assistant	Science Lab Assistant
Computer Programming *	Social Studies Teach. Assist.
Concert Band 2, 3 & 4	Spanish 4 *
Creative Writing	Spanish S4 *
Economics *	Spanish Seminar
English (4 years)	Statistics
Forensic Chemistry	U.S. Government *
Foundations of Morality *	World History
French 3 & 4	WWII & Korean War
Geometry	Yearbook 2 & 3

Grading Scale

The marking system is based on letter grades, where D is the lowest passing grade. Quality point average and student rank are both cumulative and weighted to reflect the level of difficulty. Honor courses are given an additional quality point for grades A+ through C-, and AP courses are given two additional quality points.

Grade Points	Range	Quality
A+	97-100	4.33
A	93-96	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D	60-69	1.00
F	0-59	0.00

National Recognition

National Merit Scholars

Class of 2012

1 Semi-finalist
3 Commended Students
12 Hispanic Nat'l Finalists

Advanced Placement

2,622 AP exams administered to 1,366 students between 2007 and 2011, with 80% scoring 3+. 100% of enrolled AP students sit for the AP examinations.

AP Distinction in 2011

3 National Scholars
21 Scholars with Distinction
20 Scholars with Honor
26 Scholars

SAT & ACT

Christopher Columbus High School student scores consistently exceed State and National mean

College Acceptance

The following is a partial list of institutions where about ninety-nine percent of Christopher Columbus High School alumni are currently attending. Most other graduates join military service.

American University
 Amherst College
 Auburn University
 Barry University
 Bentley University
 Boston College
 Boston University
 Brown University
 Carnegie-Mellon University
 Catholic University of America
 Clemson University
 College of the Holy Cross
 Cornell University
 Creighton University
 Dartmouth College
 Duke University
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.
 Emory University
 Florida Atlantic University
 Florida International University
 Florida State University
 Fordham University
 George Washington University
 Georgetown University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Harvard University
 John Hopkins University
 Loyola University of Chicago
 Loyola University of New Orleans
 Miami Dade College
 New York University
 Northeastern University
 Northwestern University
 Notre Dame University
 Purdue University
 Rennsselear Polytechnic Institute
 Rutgers University
 St. John's University
 Stetson University
 Syracuse University
 Swarthmore College
 Tulane University
 University of Alabama
 University of Chicago
 University of Florida
 University of Miami
 Univ. North Carolina Chapel Hill
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Southern California
 University of Texas at Austin
 University of Virginia
 Vanderbilt University
 Wake Forest University
 Washington University
 Williams College
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute
 Yale University