About OSSM

Created by legislative action in 1983, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics began classes in 1990 as Oklahoma's only co-educational, two-year, public, fully-residential high school for juniors and seniors with exceptional ability in science and mathematics. OSSM is situated in Oklahoma City in the heart of the Innovation District.

The 95 students (46 seniors and 49 juniors) represent 30 high schools in 17 counties throughout the state of Oklahoma. Our students come from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. Historically, 100% of our graduating seniors enroll at a four-year college or university directly after graduation. All 26 faculty members hold at least a master’s degree; 76% hold a doctorate in their academic teaching discipline.

Our Mission

• To educate students who show promise of exceptional academic development through a program of instruction and discovery that challenges them far beyond the traditional high school model, providing a superior foundation for careers in chosen fields.

• To serve as a catalyst for advancing public school STEM education in Oklahoma by providing residential, regional, summer, and virtual learning programs that extend advanced science and math education to a diverse student demographic.

• To inspire students to make a difference in the State of Oklahoma and the world by leveraging their knowledge and curiosity for the betterment of mankind.

OSSM ranks in the top 1% of high schools in the nation (Niche.com).

OSSM was recently named by Newsweek as one of the leading public schools in the nation.
Admissions

OSSM is a two-year program of study. Students are admitted to OSSM in their junior year and invited to return for their senior year if they remain in good academic standing.

Admission is competitive and is initiated by written application, which includes essays and faculty and counselor recommendations. Students selected to be semi-finalists are invited to interview with the admission committee.

Student Life

Our courses are all taught at a college level—they are rigorous and demanding, and classes run from 8am to 6pm Monday-Friday.

Students have a mandatory two-hour study hall Sunday-Thursday evenings from 8pm-10pm.

Extracurriculars

Outside of school hours, OSSM students may participate in academic competitions, robotics, intermural activities, and club rowing.

Service Hours

Students are required to complete 60 hours of community service and 60 hours of school service to graduate.

Directed Studies

Directed Studies courses regularly include topics in Computer Science, Engineering, Literature, History, and Modern Politics.

Most Directed Studies receive P/F grades and do not count towards graduation requirements. Some exceptions occur.

Research and Mentorship

Our proximity to the OU Health Sciences Center, the OK Medical Research Foundation, and downtown OKC allows students extensive opportunities for research and internships. OSSM students who are in good academic standing may participate in independent research or mentorships, receiving hands-on experience in their field of interest outside of the classroom.

Mentorships have been a part of the academic program at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics since the first graduating class.

Class Schedule

Students follow a collegiate class schedule: Classes Meet M-W-F for 50 Minutes or T-Th for 75 Minutes.

Students are enrolled in a minimum of seven academic courses, fine arts, and physical education each semester.

Science laboratories meet weekly for two- or three-hour sessions.

In addition to the typical seven-course load, all students are required to participate in physical education two days a week.

To satisfy the fine arts requirement, our students may take classes in music, dance or visual arts.
Graduation Requirements

Sixteen units are required for graduation (Each semester course = .5 units).

Each required science class at OSSM includes three hours of lecture and a two- or three-hour laboratory session per week.

All courses utilize collegiate textbooks.

Humanities (4 courses required):
- English Composition/American Literature (11th)
- US History I & II or East Asian History/History of the Modern Middle East if US History taken prior to OSSM (11th)
- Ethics/World Literature (12th)
- History of the Western Tradition I & II (12th)

Humanities Electives:
- Science Fiction: Literature & Film
- US Foreign Policy
- History of Medicine

Chemistry (2 courses required)
- General Chemistry I (w/lab)
- General Chemistry II (w/lab)
- Organic Chemistry I & II (w/lab)
- Biochemistry (w/lab)
- Physical Chemistry

Mathematics (Four courses required, including Calculus II. Placement determined by exam)
- Pre-Calculus II/III
- Calculus I/II
- Probability & Statistics
- Multivariate Calculus
- Linear Algebra
- Complex Analysis
- Differential Equations
- Independent Study

Computer Science (1 course required)
- Intro to Computer Science
- Object-Oriented Programming w/Java
- Data Structures I & II
- Computer Architecture
- Networking

Biology (2 courses required)
- General Zoology (w/lab)
- Plant & Soil Science (w/lab)
- Human Anatomy & Physiology (w/lab)
- Introduction to Neuroscience
- Genetics
- Conservation Biology
- Ecology (w/lab)
- Endocrinology
- Biochemistry (w/lab)
- Embryology
- Microbiology
- Environmental Science

Physics (Three courses required)
- General Physics (w/lab)
- Mechanics (w/lab)
- Electricity & Magnetism (w/lab)
- Modern Physics I & II
- Robotics Engineering
- Exploration Geoscience
- Thermal Physics Waves and Optics
- Theoretical Physics

Foreign Language
(2 semesters of same language taken at OSSM required.)

Languages offered:
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Latin
- Spanish

Fine Arts (2 courses required)
Offerings vary

Physical Education
Required each semester at OSSM
Academics

GPA and Class Ranking

Because of our diverse demographics with students coming from various academic backgrounds, OSSM does not rank students. OSSM’s emphasis is on academic challenge; all academic courses are advanced and/or accelerated courses.

The academic culture encourages students to take academic risks and challenge themselves; as a result, OSSM does not calculate a cumulative grade point average.

Standardized Testing (Class of 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>Middle 50%</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Students Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>28 - 35</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>27 - 34</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>27 - 35</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>25- 34</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>27 - 34</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>44</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT</th>
<th>Middle 50%</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Students Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evidence Based Reading and Writing</td>
<td>630 - 740</td>
<td>688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>660 - 790</td>
<td>718</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1320 - 1500</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Placement (AP)

OSSM does not teach AP courses; however, OSSM students take AP exams each spring.

In May 2022, 38 students took 109 AP exams; 73% of the AP Exams earned scores of 3 or higher.

Grading Information

The academic year is comprised of two semesters. Progress reports are given at 6 and 12 weeks. Final grades are given after the eighteenth week of each semester.

All students are required to sit for a comprehensive three-hour final in each course.

Due to the rigor of our courses, we suggest the following grading scale be used to evaluate a student’s coursework:

\[87 \text{ -} 100 = A\]
\[77 \text{ –} 86 = B\]
\[70 \text{ –} 76 = C\]
\[< 70 = \text{No credit received}\]

Students receive a Pass (P) for Physical Education, Fine Arts and Directed Studies.

Mentorships also receive a Satisfactory (S) or Pass (P) grade.

Grade Averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Averages</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
<th>Spring 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>85.16</td>
<td>85.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>87.76</td>
<td>88.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>86.63</td>
<td>85.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>85.24</td>
<td>86.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>91.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities (all)</td>
<td>89.17</td>
<td>90.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US History and Social Sciences Electives</td>
<td>93.99</td>
<td>92.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics/World Literature</td>
<td>91.15</td>
<td>92.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Western Tradition</td>
<td>86.30</td>
<td>86.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# OSSM Class of 2022 College Acceptances* (Class size: 55)

*Bold denotes Matriculation

| College Name                          | Illinois Institute of Technology | Johns Hopkins University | Knox College | Lawrence University | Lehigh University | Lewis & Clark College | Macalester College | Missouri Southern State University | Missouri University of Sci and Tech | Northwestern University | Oberlin College | Ohio State University | Oklahoma City University | Oklahoma State University | Penn State University | Princeton University | Purdue University | Reed College | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | Rhodes College | Rice University | Saint Louis University | Seattle University | Seton Hall University | Southern Methodist University | Southwestern Oklahoma State University | St Olaf College | Stevens Institute of Technology | Stony Brook University | Texas A & M University | Texas Christian University | The University of Alabama | The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | The University of Texas at Austin | The University of Texas at Dallas | The University of the South | Trinity University | University of Alabama at Birmingham | University of Alabama in Huntsville | University of Arkansas | University of Central Oklahoma | University of Delaware | University of Detroit Mercy | University of Evansville | University of Hawaii at Manoa | University of Illinois | University of Maryland-College Park | University of Massachusetts-Amherst | University of Michigan | University of Mississippi | University of Missouri-Kansas City (BA/MD) | University of Notre Dame | University of Oklahoma | University of Oregon | University of Rochester | University of San Francisco | University of the Pacific | University of Tulsa | University of Washington | Washington and Lee University | Washington University in St Louis | Wichita State University |

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## Notable Student Achievements 2022

- Class of 2022: Nine National Merit Semi-Finalists; Four Commended Scholars; Two National Hispanic Recognition Scholars; Two National Indigenous Recognition Scholars.
- Three Questbridge National College Match Recipients.
- Physics Olympiad Gold Medal Semifinalist.
- First-place award at the International Science and Engineering Fair.
- MIT Research Science Institute Participant.