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### **2018-2019 Profile**

Dean of Faculty  
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**The School:** Founded in 1906 and accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), The Oxford Academy is an independent, nonsectarian, college preparatory boarding school for boys, enrolling 48 students in grades 8-PG.

**CEEB Code:** 070912

**Mission Statement:** Within a culture of mutual trust and respect, where teachers and students are partners in education, The Oxford Academy challenges each young man to reach his potential through individualized learning experiences that encourage self-awareness and a growth mindset.

**The Program:** Oxford Academy enrolls students between the ages of 13 and 20, with many students enrolling for 11th and 12th grades. Up to one-third of the student body is international. Oxford's boarding-only program focuses intensively on individual academics. Close academic guidance, and personalized course design is supported by a structured schedule that includes proctored study halls throughout the day and weekly advisor meetings. Our experience is that the confidence students gain in individualized classes goes on to serve them well in larger classes. Oxford recognizes the importance of collaborative learning with courses such as Senior Seminar, weekly team lab work and frequent experiential projects across disciplines. Daily participation in intramural or varsity sports is required. The intensive focus on academics is enhanced by a number of extracurricular opportunities including leadership roles such as dormitory representatives, as well as an environmental club, photography club and a philanthropy club. The Academy brings in speakers on important health and social topics and contributes to the surrounding community with local service opportunities.

**The Faculty:** Of 22 faculty, 45% hold master's degrees or higher. An ongoing program of evaluation and professional development is geared toward understanding and teaching young men with a variety of instructional needs.

**Academic Year:** The school year consists of five terms, each six weeks long, and a five-week summer session. Students may complete a course at any time during the school year once the requirements are met. Students are admitted on a rolling basis, as space permits. Diplomas are issued in December, February, June and July.

**Progress Assessment:** Oxford Academy is transitioning towards a mastery-based learning environment with a plan to eliminate the 0-100 point achievement scale. Currently, long-term academic growth is measured using the Progress Assessment Rubric (PAR) which identifies benchmarks in each of the academic disciplines, and the Habits of Mind PAR. During the first term of the 2018-19 school year, narrative feedback for each class, a longstanding practice at Oxford, took the place of numerical grades. Habits of Mind marks (NY/not yet, I/inconsistent, C/consistent) are issued weekly, and reflect the student's consistency in meeting his personal Habits of Mind goals. When evaluating a student's transcript, HoM marks should be considered a reflection of the habits and behaviors integral to success in academic and life pursuits. Historically, an Oxford Academy student with a term average of 80 who consistently meets his HoM goals, is considered an Honors student.

**Class Rank and GPA:** The Oxford Academy prefers not to rank its students, nor does it calculate grade point averages.

Firstly, curriculum at Oxford is entirely individualized with most classes consisting of one student and one teacher. Ranking is not possible since it reflects the comparison of performance among students based on specific criteria intended to 'level' the work of various groups of students. The range of performance at Oxford runs from very high to remedial in any given subject area. Our intention is to challenge each student to the limits of his ability, but mark him according to how nearly he reaches the expectations set for him.

Secondly, we do not calculate grade point average for our students because most of our graduates have not attended Oxford for their full high school careers. Other schools have various formulas for calculating GPA and it would be difficult to determine a cumulative GPA taking into account the various standards of other schools, as well as the individualized nature of classes.

Finally, the main reason that Oxford neither ranks its students nor calculates GPA is that both these practices reflect comparison of performance, which completely contradicts our educational philosophy of individualized learning.

**Graduation Requirements:**

16 Credits to include 4 English, 3 Social Studies, 3 Mathematics, 2 Science (including 1 Lab Science), 2 Foreign Language and 2 Electives.

**Scholarships:** need-based scholarships available.

**Core Course Offerings:**

*English* English 9-PG, English-as-a-Second-Language, Senior Seminar composition class, Language Arts

*Mathematics* Pre-Algebra through Calculus, Statistics, Senior Math/Applied Math, Personal Finance

*Social Studies* World & U.S. History, Economics, Geography, Psychology, Electives

*Science:* Biology, Human Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Marine Biology, Physics, Physical, Earth, Conceptual Physics, Electives

*Languages* Spanish, Latin

*AP Courses:* English Language & Composition, European History, U.S History, Human Geography, AB & BC Calculus, Statistics

*Fine Arts* Studio Art, Photography, Portfolio Development

**Students:** During the past year, our students came from over 12 states and 9 foreign countries.

**Class of 2018:** Of 17 Seniors, 100% of students who applied to college were accepted at four-year colleges.

**College Acceptance:**

The variety of schools our alumni attend is as diverse as our student body.

During the past three years students were accepted at the following schools: Alfred University, American University- London, American University-Paris, Bard, Bishop's, Birmingham-Southern College, BU, Brevard College, Cabrini College, Carleton, Case Western, Centenary College, Clark University, Clarkson, Class Afloat, Colorado College, College of Notre Dame de Namur, Columbia, Connecticut College, Dalhousie, Dean College, Drew College, Edinburgh, Embry Riddle Aeronautical, Endicott, Evergreen State, Fairleigh Dickinson, Fordham, Franklin College-Switzerland, Full Sail, Goucher, Green Mountain, Guilford, Gustavus Adolphus, Hampshire College, Hartwick, Haverford College, Heythrop-London, Hofstra, Indiana Univ, Ithaca, King Fahd Univ, King's College, Landmark College, Lawrence, Lynn Univ, Marist, NYU, Northeastern, Oglethorpe, Ohio Wesleyan, Quest, RPI, RIT, Roger Williams Univ, Rollins College, Rutgers, Sacred Heart, St. Andrews, St. John's (New Mexico), St. Michael's, SCAD, Schiller International Univ-Paris, Schreiner Univ, Simon's Rock of Bard, Skidmore, SMU-Tx, Stetson, Stevens Institute of Technology, Suffolk, Susquehanna, Syracuse Univ, Tulane, Univ of Alabama, Univ of Calif-Berkeley, Univ of Colo-Boulder & Denver, Univ of Conn, Univ of Hartford, Univ of Ill-Champagne & Urbana, Univ of Ken, Univ of Mass-Dartmouth, Univ of Miami, Univ of the Pacific, Univ of Pittsburgh, URI, Univ of San Francisco, UVM, Washington College, Wentworth, McDaniel College, Western New England, Westminster, Wheaton College, WPI