



2017 2018 College Profile

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CEEB: 430-967

Accreditations

Southern Association
of Independent Schools (SAIS)
Southern Association
of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

Head of School

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Upper School Director

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Director of College Advising

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Grades Infant-12th Grade

Total Enrollment 1,046

Upper School (9-12) 302

Class of 2017 85

Class of 2018 94

Founded in 1970, University School of Jackson (USJ) is West Tennessee's premier college preparatory school. From the developmental curriculum in the pre-kindergarten program to the Advanced Placement courses in the Upper School, USJ focuses on the needs of the individual student, providing an environment in which each student can maximize his or her potential in academics, athletics, fine arts, and leadership. We attract students throughout West Tennessee; some of our students travel an hour or more each day to our campus. USJ students routinely win awards in state and regional academic, athletic, and fine arts competitions.

Students

Students who choose USJ seek a school with a challenging college preparatory curriculum and extensive extracurricular programs. An education at USJ prepares students for the most academically selective colleges and universities. In addition, a USJ education provides our students with access to many college scholarship opportunities. Not only do USJ students earn scholarships and gain acceptance to a college of their choice, our students also find that they are well prepared to succeed in college. Each candidate for admission to USJ is evaluated on the basis of a personal interview, admission tests, and academic records. USJ admits students of any race, color, gender, and national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, and national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Faculty

The Upper School staff consists of 36 faculty and administrators, with 27 masters degrees and four doctorates. Faculty are selected on the basis of their academic qualifications in the subject they teach, effective communication skills, and an abiding commitment to the teaching profession.

Environment

Our Upper/Middle School campus features science labs with separate classrooms, a comprehensive wireless network that supports the 1:1 laptop program, 500-seat performing arts theater, Library/Media Center, and one of the finest secondary school athletic complexes in Tennessee. USJ's unique learning environment challenges students to do their best in all that they pursue. Expectations for our students are high as we prepare them for the world beyond USJ.

Honor Code

The Honor Code at USJ is predicated on the belief that all students are honorable young men and women and have the right to be trusted. Our students desire to learn more in an atmosphere where honesty and integrity endure and are integral parts of their lives. Elected class representatives and one speaker administer the Honor Code, guided by the Dean of Students and two faculty advisors. Students respect the council members' leadership and impartiality.



Academic Profile

Grading Scale

Letter Grade/GPA

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 65-69

F < 65

GPA – Honors & AP Weighting

Letter grades on transcripts are unweighted. GPA is based on the weighted average of all honors and AP courses. Honors courses are given a 0.5 point weight, and AP courses are given a 1.0 weight to the semester grade in calculating the 4.50 GPA. Academic honors are determined by the 100-point average using number grades only with the honors grades weighted 5 points and the AP grades weighted 10 points.

Class Rank

Due to the small class size and challenging curriculum, we believe class rank is not a strong discriminator with which to predict college performance. Therefore, USJ does not rank.

Scores for Advanced Placement Exams Taken in 2017

Total Number of AP Students
110

Total Number of AP Exams taken
194

Percent of AP Students with
Scores of 3+

USJ
86%

State
60%

Global
60%

All USJ students who are enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam.

16 Advanced Placement Courses

English Language, English Literature, Calculus (AB/BC), Biology, Chemistry, Physics, U.S. History, AP Music Theory, AP European History, Spanish Language, French Language, Psychology, 2-Dimensional Design, 3-Dimensional Design, and Drawing.

Students are required to take the AP exam in the spring in order to earn the AP weighting.

(* Number of AP classes can vary due to student course requests.)

Honors Courses

English I & II, Algebra I, Algebra II & Trigonometry, Geometry, Precalculus, Spanish I, French I, Spanish II, French II, Spanish III, French III, Spanish IV, French IV, Biology I, Chemistry I, and Physics.

Graduation Requirements

- 4 units of English
 - 4 units of Math (Algebra I, II, III & Trigonometry, Geometry)
 - 3 units of Social Science (U.S., World History, Social Science)
 - 3 units of Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
 - 3 units of the same World Language
 - 1 unit of Creative/Performing Arts
 - 5 units of electives
- 23.0 Total Units + Community Service**
(minimum of 50 hours)

Graduation Honors

Seniors are honored for their academic excellence. Graduating with Honors requires a 94.5 weighted average, High Honors requires a 96.5 weighted average, and Highest Honors requires a 98.5 weighted average.

Calendar & Day

The school year has two semesters; each with two quarters and end-of-semester exams. The school day has seven periods that are 50 minutes each. Given the privilege of a free period, seniors must take five courses and a study hall both semesters.

Memberships

College Board, Educational Testing Service, ERB, ACT, National Association of Independent Schools, Southern Association of Independent Schools, Tennessee Association of Independent Schools, Memphis Association of Independent Schools, Mu Alpha Theta, National Association for College Admission Counseling, Southern Association for College Admission Counseling, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, National Art Education Association, National Association for Music Education, National Honor Society, National Social Studies Honor Society, Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, Société Honoraire de Française, National English Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, and National Art Honor Society.

Advanced Placement Scholars (# of Students/Grade Mean)

Year	Scholars	With Honor	With Distinction	Total
2017	12/3.21	13/3.79	20/4.25***	45/3.96
2016	7/3.30	5/3.57	11/4.06**	22/3.84
2015	9/3.88	5/3.85	14/4.17	28/4.06
2014	14/4.12	6/4.04	12/4.10	32/4.18
2013	11/3.38	8/3.65	13/4.28*	32/3.99

*w/3 National AP Scholars and 1 International Diploma Scholar w/AP average of 4.50

**w/1 National AP Scholars w/AP average of 4.56

***w/3 National AP Scholars w/AP average of 4.56

Typical Course of Study

University School of Jackson offers a challenging course of study for students throughout their four years in the Upper School. These academic pursuits are blended with extracurricular activities of the student's choosing, including athletics, club leadership and participation opportunities, and the arts, and together result in a well-rounded life of excellence. Students are also encouraged to balance their participation in curricular and extracurricular activities with time spent with family and friends, helping them learn how to lead productive, fulfilling, and enriched lives.

Grade 9

- English I or I Honors
- Algebra I or I Honors
- French I or I Honors or Spanish I or I Honors
- Biology I or I Honors
- World History
- Elective

Grade 10

- English II or II Honors
- Geometry or Geometry Honors
- French II or II Honors or Spanish II or II Honors
- Chemistry I or I Honors
- Government/Economics
- Elective

Grade 11

- English III or AP Language
- Algebra II or II and Trigonometry Honors
- French III or III Honors or Spanish III or Spanish III Honors
- Physics, Physics Honors, AP Biology, or AP Chemistry
- U.S. History or AP U.S. History
- Elective

Grade 12

- English IV Modern Literature or AP Literature
- Algebra III & Trigonometry, Precalculus Honors, or AP Calculus AB/BC
- 3 Elective choices from Electives list, below:
- French IV Honors
- Spanish IV Honors or AP Spanish Language, AP French Language
- Physics, Physics Honors, AP Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Biology
- U.S. History, AP U.S. History
- AP European History

Electives

- Accounting
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Art I, II, III
- Band
- Book Study Seminar
- Broadcast Journalism
- Choir/Chorus
- Computer Coding

- Creative Writing
- Criminal Justice
- Digital Tools for Arts
- AP European History
- Forensic Science
- Intro to Theater/Advanced Theater
- Journalism
- AP Music Theory

- Personal Finance
- Psychology
- AP Psychology
- Sculpture I, II
- Speech
- Strength and Conditioning
- Studio Art

- Studio Art AP: 2-Dimensional Design, 3-Dimensional Design, and Drawing
- Study Abroad*
- U.S. & World Issues
- Wellness
- World Religions

(* Course offerings can vary due to student course requests.)

* Study Abroad (1/2 credit elective)

- Costa Rica Study Abroad Program: Students are immersed in Spanish for three weeks, earning more than 40 contact hours of instruction at the Intensa Language Institute. The trip is offered during the summer of even years.

- French Study Abroad Program: Students are immersed in French for three weeks, earning more than 40 contact hours of instruction. The trip is offered during the summer of odd years.

Class of 2017

ACT (100% tested)		Quintiles					
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
33-36	16%	GPA	4.73	4.30	3.97	3.56	2.84
28-32	27%	ACT	33	30	27	23	23
24-27	32%	ACT Middle 50% Range 27-31					
20-23	24%						
<20	1%						

Student averages in Class of 2016

≥4.0 = 42 (49%)	3.99-3.5 = 21 (25%)	3.49-3.0 = 13 (15%)	2.99-2.5 = 5 (6%)	2.49-2.0 = 4 (5%)	≤2.0 = 0 (0%)
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National Merit Competition

Class of	Finalist	Commended	Class Size
2017	1	3	85
2016	-	2	82
2015	1	2**	73
2014	3*	2	67
2013	1	2**	88

*w/1 National Achievement Finalist

**w/1 National Achievement

College Acceptance Summary for Classes of 2013-2017

The colleges listed below have accepted a USJ student from the Classes of 2013-2017.

An asterisk indicates that a USJ graduate from the Classes of 2013-2017 has attended this college.

Academy of Art University	Hampton University	Rollins College	*Miami
American University	*Harding University	*Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	*Michigan
Arkansas State University	*Harvard University	*Samford University	*Mississippi
Arkansas Tech University	Huntingdon College	Santa Clara University	Missouri
Art Institute of Los Angeles	*Jackson State Community College	*Savannah College of Art	*Missouri-Kansas City
Art Institute of Nashville	*Jones Junior College	*Sewanee: University of the South	New Hampshire, Durham
Auburn University	Kenyon College	South Dakota School of Mines	*North Alabama
Austin Peay State University	*Lee University	Southeast Missouri State	North Carolina-Asheville
Azusa Pacific University	Lindsey Wilson College	University	North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Baldwin Wallace University	*Lipscomb University	Southern Illinois	North Carolina-Wilmington
Baptist College of Health Science	*Louisiana State University	University,Carbondale	North Texas
*Baylor University	*Louisiana Tech University	*Southern Methodist University	*Pennsylvania
Belmont University	Loyola- Chicago	Southern University of A&T	Rochester
*Bethel University	Lyon College	Colege	South Alabama
*Birmingham-Southern College	*Martin Methodist College	St. Edwards University	South Carolina
*Boston College	Marymount Manhattan	*St. Louis University	South Carolina Upstate
*Boston University	Maryville College	St. Thomas Aquinas College	Southern California
Brigham Young University	*Memphis College of Art	Stanford University	St. Francis
Butler University	Mercer University	Stetson University	Tampa
California Baptist University	*Middle Tennessee State	Tennessee Technological	*Tennessee-Chattanooga
Carson Newman	University	University	*Tennessee-Knoxville
Centre College	Milikin University	*Tennessee Wesleyan College	*Tennessee-Martin
Chicago Art Institute	*Millsaps College	Texas A&M University	Texas
*Christian Brothers University	*Mississippi College	*Texas Christian University	The Cumberlands
Cincinnati Christian University	*Mississippi State University	The King's College	Viginia
Citadel	*Montana State University	*Trevecca Nazarene University	Washington
Clemson University	*Morehouse College	Tulane University	Utah
*Costal Carolina University	*Murray State University	Tusculum College	Utah Valley University
College of Charleston	*New York University	Tuskegee University	Valdosta State University
College of Wooster	North Carolina A&T State	Union College	*Vanderbilt University
Colorado School of Mines	University	*Union University	Vassar College
Concordia University	North Carolina State		Virginia Military Institute
*Cumberland University	Northeastern University	University of ...	*Viterbo University
*Delta State University	*Northwestern University	*Alabama	Wagner University
Duke University	Nova Southeastern University	*Alabama-Birmingham	Wake Forest University
Duquesne University	Ohio State University	Alaska	*Washington University in St. Louis
Dyersburg State Community	Oklahoma City University	*Arkansas	*Watkins College of Art and Design
College	*Oklahoma Wesleyan University	*Arkansas-Little Rock	Webster University
East Tennessee State University	Palm Beach Atlantic University	California Irvine	Western Kentucky University
*Eckerd College	*Pellissippi State Technical	*Colorado at Boulter	Wittenberg University
Emory University	Community College	Colorado at Denver	*William Jewell
Florida Institute of Technology	Point Park University	Denver	*Wofford College
Florida Southern University	*Pratt Institute	Florida	
Florida State University	Purdue University	*Georgia	
Fordham University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Kansas	
*Freed-Hardeman University	*Rhodes College	*Kentucky	
Furman University	Rice University	Massachusetts-Amherst	
*Georgetown University	Rochester Institute of Technology	Massachusetts-Boston	
*Georgia Tech	*Rockford College	*Memphis	