

# SAN DOMENICO

AN INDEPENDENT, COLLEGE-PREPARATORY, K-12 SCHOOL

## School Profile: 2021-2022



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### THE SAN DOMENICO DIFFERENCE

San Domenico School was founded by the Dominican Sisters in 1850, the same year California gained statehood. As California's oldest independent school, our core values of Study, Reflection, Community, and Service are guiding principles that inform our educational philosophy. At San Domenico, we encourage students to continually explore their sense of purpose through academics, activities, reflection, and service. San Domenico's 515-acre campus is situated among the hills of San Anselmo, just 30 minutes north of San Francisco, 45 minutes from Berkeley, and 90 minutes from Silicon Valley.

### SCHOOL COMMUNITY

At SD we believe that economic, cultural, and social diversity enhances the educational experience of our entire community. Our day and boarding school community is comprised of 340 students from the Bay Area, the United States, and around the world, 130 of whom live on campus. For the 2021-2022 school year, we welcome international students from 23 different countries to our campus. 45% of our students identify as students of color. 36% percent of students receive tuition assistance. The combination of these factors creates a unique, diverse, and global community of students that promotes respect and understanding in and out of the classroom.

### ACADEMICS

We encourage students to think critically, question meaningfully, and listen openly and thoughtfully. To facilitate these goals, our academic program has been designed with the following guidelines and criteria:

- A modified block schedule to allow for full student/faculty engagement across the curriculum
  - All courses are taught at a rigorous college preparatory level
  - 19 Advanced Placement (AP) Courses and 7 Honors courses are available to our students
- We believe in a balanced academic schedule and **limit AP/Honors enrollment to 3 courses per year**. Students who wish to enroll in more than 3 AP/Honors courses may appeal for consideration. While this is not common, it is possible for qualified students.
- Grades are calculated by semester on a 4.0 scale and our weighted GPA includes an additional point (1.0) for each Honors and AP course with a C- or higher
  - San Domenico does not rank students

## COVID-19 RESPONSE AND IMPACT

### 2019-2020 School Year

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning on March 16, 2020 San Domenico moved its entire academic program fully online - offering daily synchronous online instruction for local students and equivalent asynchronous instruction for international students studying in time zones across the globe.

For the Second Semester of the 2019-20 school year, a student's grade represents the average of their pre-distance learning grade (January 7 -March 13) and either an A (100) or A- (94) for the distance learning quarter (March 16-June 5).

### 2020-2021 School Year

For the 2020-21 school year, San Domenico was able to return to in-person instruction for interested students in October 2020. Classes were taught in a hybrid model, with some students in seat and some simultaneously on Zoom, with their instructor teaching in person. Additionally, we provided live, synchronous classes in the evening PST for our international students learning from all over the world. This commitment to year-long, synchronous learning meant that no student's academic experience of our curriculum and program was modified or sacrificed. San Domenico returned to our traditional A-F grading scale for the 2020-21 school year.

Individual student circumstances regarding COVID-19 will be discussed in their counselor letter of recommendation, if necessary.

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## GRADING SCALE UPDATE

Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, San Domenico slightly altered its grading scale to better align the numerical ranges within each individual letter grade. No grades earned before the 2020-21 school year were retroactively altered.

### GRADING SCALE Thru 19-20

A	95+
A-	90-94
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

### GRADING SCALE Beginning in 20-21

A	93+
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

## NOTABLE PROGRAMS

### The Music Conservatory

Our **Virtuoso Program** is for advanced string musicians who wish to engage in the rigorous pursuit of pre-professional music training while in high school. As members of both an orchestra and a string quartet, our musicians have approximately 18 hours of musical instruction each week in addition to regular practice and performances which add another 10+ hours to their schedules. Participation is by audition only upon entrance to the Upper School. Virtuoso Program courses are listed as full 5-credit classes on participants' San Domenico transcript.

### Social Justice & ROSE Project (Real Opportunities for Service in Education)

Our Philosophy, Ethics and World Religions (PEWR) program is rooted in our Dominican background. As such, students engage in an educational experience grounded in social justice and reflection. Our required junior year Social Justice seminar employs the Socratic method to interrogate the social, political, ecological and economic aspects of striving for equitable justice in our modern world. All San Domenico students are then tasked with applying the lessons taken from their Social Justice seminar to create a capstone ROSE service project. All students are eligible to apply and interview for up to \$3,000 in scholarship funding for their ROSE project through our **Julie Davis Butler Award** program.

### Project Wayfinder

Project Wayfinder was developed at the Stanford d.School and uses a wayfinding metaphor - using traditional and indigenous navigation techniques and skills to journey through the natural world - to equip students and teachers with the tools and skills to create purposeful lives. This practice is in strong alignment with San Domenico's commitment to providing students not only exceptional education but, also, a sense of personal purpose and meaning. Seniors at SD can elect to enroll in a semester-long Project Wayfinder course housed in our Philosophy, Ethics, and World Religions department. This year, Project Wayfinder is being taught by 200 teachers to more than 4000 students at 56 schools and colleges.

### Co-Curricular Program

Recognizing the importance of learning and engagement outside of the classroom, San Domenico has a dedicated 70 minute Co-Curricular block integrated into the schedule each week. The time is traditionally used for clubs, organizations, non-Varsity athletics, or interests that require more than a weekly lunch block to accomplish their goals. This includes opportunities like Model UN, Junior State of America, Knitting Club, Hydroponics Club, Ultimate Frisbee, Mountain Biking, Archery, and more. This time also ensures that students with other after school commitments do not miss out on opportunities for community engagement. The Co-Curricular period provides yet another opportunity for connection, intellectual exploration, creativity, social impact, and fun.

**340**  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Enrollment

**72**  
SENIORS in the  
Class of 2022

**25%**  
INTERNATIONAL  
Students

**75%**  
U.S.  
Students

**40%**  
BOARDING  
Students

**60%**  
DAY  
Students

**45%**  
STUDENTS  
AS BIPOC  
AND/OR AAPI

**15**  
AVERAGE  
CLASS SIZE

## ACADEMIC & TESTING PROFILE

**Class of 2022  
Weighted GPA**  
*(Final Through Junior Year)*

**Range:**  
2.79-4.53

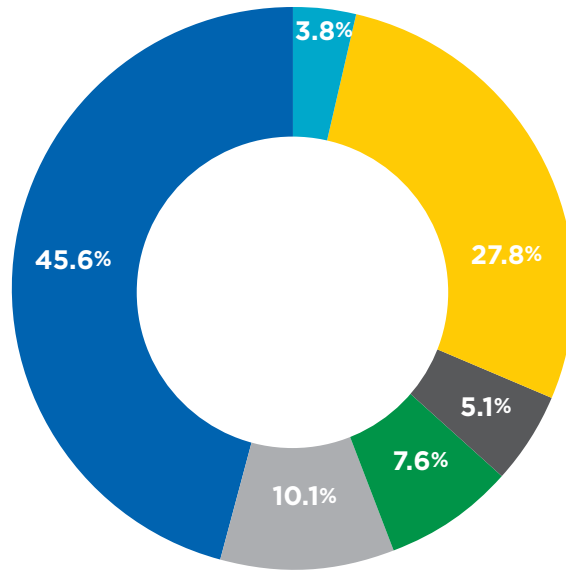
*Given the limited standardized testing data as a result of COVID-19 testing cancellations, we will not be able to provide representative average testing ranges for the Class of 2021 or the Class of 2022*

### Discipline Reporting Policy

*In keeping with the San Domenico Honor Code, we are committed to fostering an environment rooted in personal integrity and a culture of respect and trust. San Domenico will report major disciplinary infractions only when asked directly to do so by colleges and universities, and will support students to do the same.*

Subject Area	Required Courses		Elective Courses <small>For a full list, please visit: <a href="http://www.sandomenico.or/academics/upper-school/curriculum">www.sandomenico.or/academics/upper-school/curriculum</a></small>	
<p><b>English</b> (4 Years)</p>	<p>English 9 English 10 English 11 or <b>AP English Language &amp; Composition</b> English 12 or <b>AP Literature &amp; Composition</b></p>		<p><b>English Language Learners</b> ELL 1 &amp; 2 Literature and Composition</p>	<p><b>English 12 Electives 21-22</b> Senior Composition (Full Year) Creative Writing (Semester-Long) World Literature (Semester-Long)</p>
<p><b>Social Science</b> (3 Years)</p>	<p>Global Studies Modern World History US History or <b>AP US History</b></p>		<p><b>AP Psychology</b> <b>AP Macroeconomics</b> <b>AP Microeconomics</b></p>	<p>Ethnic Studies (Semester-Long) International Relations (Semester-Long) Applied Economics</p>
<p><b>Science</b> (3 Years)</p>	<p>Conceptual Physics Biology Chemistry or <b>Chemistry Honors</b></p>		<p><b>AP Biology</b> <b>AP Chemistry</b> <b>AP Environmental Science</b></p>	<p><b>AP Physics C: Mechanics</b> Physics in Engineering Human Biology</p>
<p><b>Math</b> (3 Years)</p>	<p>Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 or <b>Algebra 2 Honors</b></p>		<p>Pre-calculus or <b>Pre-calculus Honors</b> Calculus <b>AP Calculus AB</b> <b>AP Calculus BC</b> <b>AP Computer Science Principles</b></p>	<p>Introduction to Statistics <b>AP Statistics</b> <b>AP Computer Science A</b> Multivariable Calculus</p>
<p><b>Philosophy, Ethics, and World Religions</b> (4 Years)</p>	<p>Global Studies Myth and Meaning Social Justice</p>		<p>Ethics in Science and Medicine Project Wayfinder Introduction to Philosophy</p>	
<p><b>World Languages (Mastery of Level 3)*</b></p> <p><small>*World Language not required for international students for whom English is a second language or who have satisfied study of a second language through middle school</small></p>	<p>Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 3 Spanish 4 <b>AP Spanish Language &amp; Culture</b> <b>Advanced Seminar Spanish</b></p>		<p>Mandarin 1 Mandarin 2 Mandarin 3 Mandarin 4 <b>AP Mandarin</b></p>	<p><i>Students may petition to take a world language not offered at SD through approved online or off-site courses</i></p>
<p><b>Visual, Digital and Performing Arts</b> (2 Years)</p>	<p><b>Music Electives</b> San Domenico Singers Piano Ensemble Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra Vocal Ensemble Virtuoso Program (see above) VP Chamber Music VP Orchestra da Camera <b>AP Music Theory</b></p>		<p><b>Theater Electives</b> Theater Arts 2, 3, 4 <b>Theater Arts Honors</b> Theatre Performance Workshop</p> <p><b>Dance Electives</b> Beginning Pointe Intermediate &amp; Advanced Ballet Dance 2 Dance Ensemble</p>	<p><b>Film Electives</b> Film 1, 2, 3 Film 4: Independent Study</p> <p><b>Visual Arts Electives</b> Ceramics 1 / 2 Ceramics 3 / 4 Visual Arts 2, 3 <b>Visual Arts 4 Honors</b> Photography 1 / 2 Graphic Design <b>AP Studio Art (2D &amp; 3D)</b> Advanced Art Independent Study</p>

## CLASS OF 2021 COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS BY INSTITUTION TYPE



- INTERNATIONAL
- CALIFORNIA PUBLIC 4-YEAR
- CA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- CALIFORNIA PRIVATE
- OUT-OF-STATE PUBLIC
- OUT-OF-STATE PRIVATE

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC)
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS)
- California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)
- Western Association of College Admission Counselors (WACAC)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC)