



Program Overview

Pope High School is proud to congratulate its second graduating class of the STEM Academy. The STEM Academy continues to grow and change to meet the interests of our students. Pope's STEM Academy now offers the following pathways: Advanced Math and Science, Computer Science, Engineering and Life Sciences. Each student participates in rigorous, cross-curricular learning environments culminating in an individualized capstone project. STEM Academy students have opportunities to engage with STEM experts through field trips, conferences, and speaker's bureau. Numerous STEM-related clubs allow students to participate in regional and state competitions to enhance their STEM skills. A majority of academy students who participate in this challenging academic program enjoy the Pope Culture by also participating in Fine Arts, Athletics and extra-curricular activities.

Capstone Projects

Advanced Math and Science

AP Capstone Program:
AP Seminar (11th) and
AP Research (12th)

Engineering:

PLTW Engineering Design
and Development Capstone
Course

Computer Science

Programming, Gaming and
App Design Capstone
Course

Life Sciences:

AP Capstone Program, or
Scientific Research Course

STEM Scholar Data

AP Tests taken	299
AP 3 or higher	77%
Biology EOC Distinguished Learners	84%
Algebra I EOC Distinguished Learners	94%
Geometry EOC Distinguished Learners	92%
Average SAT	1382
Average ACT	29
Average GPA Weighted	4.15W
Average GPA	3.63

STEM Academy Enrollment

Year	Grade Levels	Students
19-20	9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th	115
18-19	9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th	111
17-18	9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th	105
16-17	9 th , 10 th , 11 th	80
15-16	9 th , 10 th	57
14-15	9 th	28



Extracurricular Events

Robotics competitions
Technology Students
Association
Future Fest Conference
Girls in STEM
Girls Who Code
Gavel Club
Science Olympiad
Science National Honor Society



STEM Graduates

College Majors

Mechanical Engineering
Computer Science
Physician Assistant
Public Health
Biomedical Engineering
Biology/Psychology
Pre-Medicine
Nursing
Civil Engineering
Aerospace Engineering

STEM Graduates

College Acceptances

- Georgia Tech & UGA
- New York University
- Tulane University
- Purdue University
- Vanderbilt University
- Wake Forest University
- Baylor University
- Alabama & Auburn
- University of Cincinnati
- Florida State University
- Indiana University
- University of Tennessee
- MIT & NYIT
- Johns Hopkins University
- Emory University & more

Frequently Asked Questions

About Pope STEM Academy

1. Are academy cohorts together all day and segregated from the rest of the school?

Academy cohorts are together for most required academy courses (STEM Bio, STEM Chem, STEM Physics, and AMS Math classes). Cohorts benefit from smaller class sizes, like-minded interest in academic rigor, and development of lasting friendships.

2. How does the academic rigor of Pope's Academy compare to other magnet schools?

Pope offers 28 AP courses; this is equal to or more than the number of AP courses at other CCSD schools. Students in the STEM Academy take all honors or AP level math and science courses as a required part of the program. Students may elect to take additional honors or AP classes in areas unrelated to their academy.

3. How do academy classes differ from non-academy classes of the same subject?

Academy teachers design cross-curricular lessons with a yearly thematic approach. The theme culminates in public presentations of long-term projects which focus on collaborative learning, technology, critical thinking, and public speaking. Guest speakers, field trips and other activities support academic enrichment goals.

4. What are the benefits of being in the academy?

Students hone their skills in STEM fields along with like-minded classmates. Teachers observe increased student growth of "coming into one's own" more so than traditional classes due to the unique family-like experience of cohorts, specifically in class participation and public speaking. Thematic projects, speaker series, team building, social events, and field trips give students unique learning experiences and meaningful discussion points for college interviews and admissions essays.

5. Why choose Pope's Academy over another CCSD magnet program?

Both students and teachers repeatedly say that building comradery within a rigorous academic program while still being a part of the spirited "Pope Culture" gives students the best of two worlds. Students can engage in intellectual debates in academy classes and attend pep rallies, plays, and athletic games with friends they have made in both academy and non-academy classes.

6. Can I be in Pope's fine arts program and the academy?

Yes. Many academy students participate in Pope's Fine Arts program, however scheduling conflicts can occur where students may need to make a choice between classes. The administration and the Fine Arts teachers plan ahead to reduce the greatest number of scheduling conflicts. Some students choose to attend summer school to open a spot on their schedule in order to reduce chances for schedule conflicts.

7. Can I play sports and be in the academy?

Yes. With good time management, many students successfully juggle the rigor of the academy and athletics

8. Do I have to take a STEM Elective every year?

STEM students on the traditional pathway (Comp Science 3-4, Engineering 4, Life Science 3-4) are expected to complete a series of 3 to 4 STEM Electives. The final course is a capstone course in their field of study. Students often take health & PF in summer school to allow for additional electives during the school year.

9. What is a capstone project?

A capstone project is a unique piece of individualized work, like an invention or master's thesis. All academy students MUST complete a capstone project. Most are completed through course work (AP Capstone, Engineering Design and Development, Computer Science - Programming, Gaming and App Design, Life Science - Scientific Research); however, some students get approval for a STEM Internship as their capstone project.

10. Do I have to do participate in STEM clubs and competitions?

STEM Academy students are expected to participate in at least one of many STEM related clubs.

11. Where can I find more information about the STEM Academy?

Visit the Pope Academics page: http://www.cobbk12.org/pope/Academies/academies_index_2016.aspx

12. Is there a Pope STEM Foundation I can join?

Yes, find out more about PSAF by going to the link above.