

**DUE TO COVID-19, THIS GENERAL CATALOG MAY BE UPDATED TO REFLECT ONGOING CHANGES.**

**Southwestern Academy is a coeducational, college preparatory boarding and day school for U.S. grades 6-12 with two very different and beautiful campuses: in San Marino, California, in the heart of Southern California's San Gabriel Valley and near Sedona, Arizona, deep in Northern Arizona's Red Rock Country.**

To our Prospective Students and Families:

Since our school opened its doors in 1924, several thousand boys and girls from across America and around the world have studied, lived, and played at Southwestern. That's a long time, especially for schools in the American Southwest. Three generations of young people, including grandchildren of alumni, have attended our campuses in a charming residential town near Pasadena and in a magnificent red rock canyon near Sedona.

Southwestern was dedicated at its founding in April 1924 "to leaders of the future – *pro summo bono* – For the Highest Good". Some things have changed since then. The school's first radio, a big box built by students that first year, is certainly different from today's Wi-Fi broadband around both campuses. The school's original Model T Fords are still here, but only as museum pieces. Jets bring students from across oceans and continents, instead of trains bringing a few students to Southwestern from Mexico and nearby states. Today girls are equal to our boys in activities and leadership. But the important things haven't changed: the caring teachers, enthusiastic staff, active teams and clubs, working together to help each girl and boy here.

Come join us! We're having some exciting times, learning in small groups, enjoying rich educational experiences, preparing not only for college entrance but also for a lifetime of success.

Come feel Southwestern's spirit, at each of our campuses. It *feels good* here, and you're welcome to be part of this school and its rich heritage.

Kenneth Veronda  
Headmaster

## SOUTHWESTERN ACADEMY

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### THE SCHOOL

Southwestern is unique! We offer one school with two campuses and two learning environments. Young people from across the United States and around the world prepare here for college and a rewarding future. They receive a thorough education in a safe, supportive, caring environment at their choice of two very different and beautiful campuses, one in a residential community, the other in a ranch setting. Each campus provides summer programs as well as a regular school year.

Southwestern is accredited by the Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC). Southwestern offers both American and international students personalized, stimulating classes, and supportive, nurturing care that allows individual student success and understanding of diverse cultures.

The Academy admits bright, motivated, healthy, active young people who are able and eager to take part in the school's varied activities. We welcome capable students willing to do better work with our faculty's dedicated support.

Small classes increase individual teacher contact and encourage the pursuit of interests beyond course requirements. Extensive opportunities for athletic training and competition, for developing skills in the arts, and for participating in school and community service projects build self-confidence and develop positive attitudes and daily routines for success.

The California campus is in the peaceful residential suburb of San Marino, California. Nearby are the spectacular Huntington Library, Art Galleries, and Botanic Gardens. Pasadena, to the north, is home to the California Institute of Technology, Old Town shops and entertainment, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the world-famous Rose Parade and Rose Bowl.

The 8.5-acre campus has facilities for a broad academic and athletic program. Boarding students are accepted in U.S. grades 6-12 or for a postgraduate year when desired. Commuting students are also accepted.

The campus includes dormitories for male students, a library, a computer room, science labs, ESL facilities, music and art rooms, an auditorium, cafeteria, gym, and athletic fields. Dormitories for female students are located nearby in a residential area. School vans carry the girls to and from dorms and campus, about two miles away.

Greater Los Angeles offers a wide variety of activities from skating, shopping, skiing, and amusement parks, to whale-watching cruises, plays, beaches, hikes in the local mountains, concerts, and many other cultural and educational events.

The Arizona Ranch Campus is near Sedona on Beaver Creek, 100 miles north of Phoenix, 45 miles south of Flagstaff. Academic and student life programs are innovative and experiential, emphasizing integrated core curriculum including environmental sustainability and project-based field assignments.

The stunningly beautiful 180-acre Ranch campus has a full range of facilities and features a heated indoor swimming pool, gym, computer lab, observatory, and a well-equipped sports center. Recreational activities include camping, hiking, backpacking, volleyball, basketball, soccer, skiing, golf, horseback riding and care, swimming, and mountain biking.

Students in grades 9-12 may divide their time between the two campuses. All San Marino students have opportunities for study trips to the Beaver Creek campus during the school year. Academics are coordinated between campuses.

Electronic tools such as classroom computers, Internet on broadband cable lines, and wireless in dorms and classes, CD-ROM technology, computer design software, voice mail, and e-mail for all students and staff, facilitate learning and support dedicated teachers in assisting each student.

## THE STUDENTS

Southwestern has a diverse mix of students: male and female; boarding and day; domestic and international; and middle and high school. We work hard to maintain a balanced enrollment representing a variety of ethnic groups and a balance between American and international students.

During the regular school year (early September through June), the San Marino campus has approximately 144 students in grades 6 through 12. A post-graduate year after 12th grade is also available. The Arizona campus is limited to 36 students in 9th through 12th grades.

Southwestern takes pride in the many students who have been motivated to improve their performance in our program. We prepare our students for college entrance but aim beyond that goal alone. The Academy aims to awaken and stimulate the whole person (mentally, morally, and physically) and prepare the student not only to achieve and stay in college, but also to meet the responsibilities of future family and citizenship. All students at Southwestern are required to give a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer community service in order to graduate.

## HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Southwestern was founded in San Marino on April 7, 1924 by Maurice Veronda, who directed its growth until his death in 1961. His philosophies and efforts made the school a special, successful place for students wanting to reach higher personal goals. Southwestern continues as a non-profit educational corporation under a Board of Trustees. Kenneth Veronda has been headmaster since his father's death.

The school's name recognizes the unique spirit of the Southwestern United States, and the double-arrow design of the logo commemorates Native American villages that were located along the streams at both our California and Arizona campuses before European settlement.

The San Marino Campus is part of an original Spanish grant later legalized by Abraham Lincoln. The old rancho had been planted in orange and avocado trees when Southwestern opened in 1924. Pioneer Hall, the original building, had been the ranch home of California Governor George Stoneman.

The Beaver Creek Ranch Campus was added in 1963 as San Marino's elegant homes began to surround the campus and replace outdoor activities with more urban experiences. Beaver Creek was homesteaded under a grant from Theodore Roosevelt and then became a large and elaborate hunting resort before Southwestern's students came to enjoy the spectacular setting.

Southwestern's long heritage includes a unique spirit that permeates the Academy's trustees, staff, students, alumni and friends, to work "for the highest good", as stated in the motto of the school, "pro summo bono."

## ACTIVITIES

The activities vary at the two campuses according to environment, interest, and availability. Activities are planned each weekend and some weeknights throughout the year. Some of these adventures include:

San Marino: visits to concerts, plays, shopping centers, amusement and theme parks, ice skating, beaches, skiing, movies, zoos, museums, hiking and camping in nearby mountains and deserts, watching baseball, hockey, soccer, football, and basketball games, golf, horseback riding, ethnic centers (Little Tokyo, Chinatown, Korea Town, etc.), and other places students suggest.

Beaver Creek: hiking, camping, golf, a climbing wall, snow skiing, fishing, canoeing, swimming, mountain trail biking, movies, museums, national parks and monuments, shopping trips, horseback riding, basketball and baseball games and other activities suggested by students.

Most students participate in one or more on-campus clubs. The International Club brings students together for multicultural activities. Rotary sponsors an Interact Club for community service opportunities. SAS, the Southwestern Arts Society, and SEA, Southwestern Environmental Associates, plan trips and experiences in those areas. The Student Council coordinates the activities of campus clubs.

An International Dinner each month features a country-specific program and the foods of countries represented at Southwestern. Students develop and present an informative program about their country and prepare and serve foods of their homeland for the school community to enjoy.

## FIELD TRIPS

Most classes take advantage of the tremendous variety of resources in the Southwestern United States. At the San Marino campus, where class size averages 10-12 students, a school van can easily transport a class for outside learning experiences.

The Beaver Creek campus provides opportunities for both day and overnight trips. Students visit and explore the Grand Canyon, Phoenix, the Sonoran Desert, state and national parks and monuments. Moab and all of Southern Utah's National Parks, including Zion, Arches, and Bryce are within easy driving distance. Frequently there are all-school trips. Summer sessions at both campuses include a weekly trip.

## ATHLETICS

Numerous sports activities are provided for recreation and physical education as a way to help motivate students academically. Participating in sports leagues, Southwestern fields teams in volleyball, basketball, soccer, baseball, cross country – all major sports except tackle football. Athletic activities are usually held in the late afternoon. All students are involved in varsity, junior varsity, junior high, and/or intramural athletics or PE classes.

There's tennis and sand volleyball in San Marino, and a climbing wall at Beaver Creek. Gyms and fields are available at both campuses and golf courses are located nearby.

## STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Southwestern students publish a student photo directory, and an annual creative writing and art magazine, *Seeds*. Our yearbook, *The Confab*, is also published by our students and distributed at the end of the school year. *The Confab* has been printed on campus since 1924.

## RULES AND PROCEDURES

The Student Handbook describes the behavior expected of a Southwestern Academy student. In general, this means students will be expected to comply with reasonable rules, attend classes, do their assignments on time, and set a good example for others in all their conduct.

Smoking and vaping are not permitted on campus or during any school sponsored event. Possession and/or use of alcohol or narcotics in any form are grounds for expulsion. There is a system of daily rewards and penalties that is used to enforce these and other important rules. See the Student Handbook on our website for details on rules and discipline.

## DRESS STANDARDS

Southwestern does not require school uniforms. We do have a dress code. Students must be clean and neat. No clothing should call unusual or unacceptable attention to the wearer. Slacks, collared shirts with a tie (or Southwestern's polo shirt) are required for boys, and slacks or skirts with appropriate blouse or polo shirt, or dresses for girls. Details and examples are listed in the Student Handbook that is given to each student upon arrival. It is also available on our website. Physical education uniforms and Southwestern polo shirts are sold through the Director of Operations.

## FOOD SERVICE

Boarding students are provided with a buffet-style cooked breakfast, and a hearty lunch and dinner. Commuting students join the boarding students for a hot lunch at no additional charge. Teachers and staff eat with the students. When weather permits, lunch is occasionally served outdoors.

Menus are planned with variety and nutritional balance, and change on a three-week cycle. There are daily salad and soup bars. Most special diets such as vegetarian are accommodated. A student snack bar is available on both campuses. Parents and the school may place restrictions upon snacks.

## PARENT INFORMATION

A Parent Handbook contains the school calendar and other important information about the school day and holidays. Answers to many questions may be found in this resource. Parents are urged to read the handbook carefully and to keep it available. A copy of all materials is online under "Download Center" at the school's website.

A monthly activities calendar is posted on the website. This includes information about special events, sports, and other campus happenings.

Parents and grandparents are important partners in Southwestern's educational work. Family members and friends are always welcome to visit, attend campus events, join us for a meal, schedule conferences with teachers, and volunteer to assist with activities.

## ACADEMIC FACILITIES

The San Marino Campus includes seven Spanish Colonial buildings encircling a large playing field. Lincoln Hall is the main academic building; it houses an assembly and study hall, ten classrooms, a science lab, a computer lab, offices for teachers, counselors, and deans, and the library. Pioneer Hall includes several classrooms, dining halls, and offices for the headmaster and business manager. A separate building includes large art and music rooms, and an additional science classroom and lab. Veronda Place houses the admissions staff and meeting rooms.

At the Beaver Creek Campus, students congregate twice daily for assembly and study hall at The Hogan learning center. Multiple rooms and buildings are used for various classes, offices, and recreation, including Coconino, Yavapai, and Hohokam dorms, the Hopi House residence, the Canyon Room for recreation, Robber's Roost, and the grand old Rimrock Room for recreation and programs.

## BOARDING FACILITIES

On the San Marino Campus there are four dormitory halls for male students, each designed to accommodate up to twenty students. Four nearby off-campus dorm units accommodate thirty female students. Apartments for Supervisors adjoin the dorms. Pioneer Hall has two dining rooms, the kitchen, and a guest room.

At the Beaver Creek Campus, seven stone cottages encircle the main campus area and are used as faculty and staff residences. Residence halls accommodate up to 36 students.

Parents and students are given a list of dorm needs before the beginning of a school term. This list is also posted on the school's website. All common areas have TVs and broadband Wi-Fi. Dorm rooms have twin beds, desks, chairs, dressers, shelves, and wardrobes.

## WEEKENDS AND VACATIONS

Boarding students may leave campus with their parents (or with friends with parental permission) each weekend and for two long holidays. Boarding students are welcome to stay on campus any or all weekends at no extra charge and can take part in all regularly scheduled activities and travel around our campus communities. Commuting students may join activities for a charge.

International students may remain on campus over the long holidays with prior notification at no extra charge. Meals and supervision are provided every day. No outside guardian for international students is needed.

## DORM PARENTS

Dorm parents have apartments adjacent to each dormitory that they supervise. The dorm parent is responsible for the well being of the students under his or her care.



## DIRECTIONS AND TELEPHONING

### San Marino Campus:

From Pasadena, exit I-210 at Lake Avenue and drive three miles south. The campus is three blocks south of the Langham Hotel.

From downtown Los Angeles, take the Pasadena Freeway (110) north to Fair Oaks, then south (right) to Monterey Road, and east (left) one mile to the campus. Southwestern is one mile west of the Huntington Library.

### San Marino Campus phone:

(626) 799-5010, then press "5".

Please call in advance for tours.

### Beaver Creek Campus:

From I-17, take the Sedona exit (#298), then drive east following the road signs two miles to Beaver Creek and the campus entrance, located in the Coconino National Forest.

### Beaver Creek Campus phone:

(928) 567-4581.

Please call in advance for tours.

## TUITION AND FEES

### **Academic Year**

American student academic tuition is \$21,250 for the 2020 – 2021 academic year.

Fees for room and board total \$24,150 for the school year.

International student fees are \$51,500, including tuition, ESL classes, tutoring and testing as needed, and all room and board every day of the school year.

### **Summer Adventures 2020**

Full Summer - 12 weeks - \$19,950

Half Semester – 6 weeks - \$11,550

A completed application and a non-refundable \$100 fee are required. An on-campus interview is recommended when possible, with a daylong visit to classes and an overnight stay for prospective boarding students. When distance makes this impractical, Skype interviews are held.

Students are admitted at any time in the year when space permits. Fees for late entrance are pro-rated after the first month of the term. Fees for a full school year are payable in advance, unless special arrangements are made with the school business office for monthly or other deferred payment.

Families establish an “incidentals” account with the school for personal spending. These deposits, normally \$2000 in advance, may be drawn by students with permission from the school for spending money, school supplies and books, movies, laundry, social/weekend activities, and so forth. Student accident insurance is required, and is arranged by the business office.

Itemized accounts are sent monthly to parents, and any credit balance is refunded to parents a month after final enrollment. Students should not have any other money of their own. The deposit is an estimate for a school year, but varies with students; some use considerably more if transportation, clothing, or medical expenses are taken from the incidentals account. Additional deposits if needed will be requested in advance by the business office.

Each school year Southwestern grants considerable financial assistance to U.S. citizens and permanent residents on the basis of family need and the student's strengths. Most funds are distributed in the spring for the following term. Information and the School Scholarship Service's parent financial statement are available through the admissions office.

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT

We are proud that every graduate receiving Southwestern's college-recommending diploma enters a college or university worthy of their interests and abilities. Our college counseling pays close attention to the needs of each high school student. Every effort is made to help motivate students to identify and research a variety of colleges/universities that would be good matches for them. Representatives from selected colleges visit both campuses. We prepare a college-planning book and many computer links for guidance. Please see the college planning materials on the school's website.

Southwestern awards diplomas to approximately 35 students annually. All are admitted to an American or international college or university. College admissions information for each graduating class may be found at the school's website.

On completing the secondary program, some of our graduates choose to attend two-year community colleges before transferring to a four-year college or university. This is helpful for families with limited finances and for international students perfecting English language abilities. Pasadena Community College cooperates with Southwestern on dual enrollment when needed.

## TYPICAL SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

7:30 a.m.

Breakfast buffet

8:00

Commuters Arrive

8:10

Morning Assembly/program for all student body

8:30 – 2:50

Six academic class periods

Noon

Two lunch periods with full, hot meals for everyone

2:50 – 3:30

“Seventh Period” – study hall and time for clubs,  
tutoring, meetings

3:30 – 5:30

Sports – P.E., varsities, junior varsities

6:00

Dinner

6:45 – 8:30

Study Hall

8:30 – 10:30

Dorm activities and study

## SOUTHWESTERN ACADEMY

### ACADEMIC INFORMATION

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Southwestern Academy is a college preparatory school for middle and high school students. A postgraduate year is also available. While high school classes are offered at both campuses, some specialized courses may be offered at only one campus from time to time. Some classes listed may only be offered in alternate terms.

#### SOUTHWESTERN'S SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING OBJECTIVES RESULTS

Upon graduation with a college-recommending diploma from Southwestern's 12th grade, every student will;

- be qualified to enter and have the potential to succeed at an appropriate college, university, or community college;
- be capable of reading, writing, and understanding English and have sufficient English proficiency to enter an American college or university;
- have learned self-disciplined, demonstrated by his/her willingness to abide by the rules set by the school community;
- have taken part in co- and extra-curricular activities of his/her choice in the arts, athletics, clubs, leadership, music, and/or publications, thus helping to nurture well-rounded young people;
- have demonstrated a familiarity with volunteerism and community service in our global society;
- have demonstrated not only acceptance of, but appreciation for, diverse ethnic, national, and cultural groups.

## THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

(GRADES 6th THROUGH 8th)

The 6th and 7th grade classes are taught together with a biannual curriculum. The 8th grade classes are focused on high school preparation. Each class is limited to about twelve students.

Each student's program may include:

Reading and Language Arts - daily work in grammar, spelling, reading, speech, and writing. Specialized reading programs are used as appropriate.

History and Geography - surveys the history of the United States, alternating with world geography. Extensive written and other project activities help strengthen concepts.

Mathematics - individualized work in modern math principles. Advanced students take Algebra I.

Science – a two-year cycle alternating Life and Earth sciences for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, and Physical science for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, using texts to introduce topics and lab work to strengthen facts and concepts.

Computer Use – hands-on computer learning, word-processing, and Internet research is part of all classes.

Physical Education - daily classes build individual and team skills and physical fitness. Junior high teams are available for student athletes.

Art and Music - various creative experiences in multi-media projects and instruction in choral and instrumental music.

Health – a year-long class for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

## THE UPPER SCHOOL PROGRAM

### (GRADES 9th THROUGH 12th)

High school classes are arranged according to each student's academic profile but generally follow the outline below. Most classes are offered each year with a few only in alternate terms. Other classes are developed as needed.

### FRESHMAN CLASS (9th GRADE)

English I - begins Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) preparation in language, composition, and literature. Language structure is studied in depth emphasizing spelling and vocabulary. Popular fiction and frequent written papers are assigned. The course includes non-fiction, poetry, mythology introductory drama, and exposition.

Algebra I - studies of basic math structure with emphasis on the real number system and application of algebraic concepts and skills. Unity and structure are explored through self-discovery.

Physics – a hands-on study of the interactions of matter and energy, waves, electricity and magnetism.

Western Civilization - surveys the rise of Western culture, including Rome, Renaissance, and Reformation.

Spanish I or ASL I – traditional approach that stresses reading, writing, conversation, and speech.

Physical Education - required daily with team sports and development of individual lifelong fitness, sports and teamwork skills. Intramural and/or interscholastic teams in baseball, basketball, cross-country, soccer, golf, tennis, and volleyball are offered.

Electives - art, animation, art history, computer graphics, current events, creative writing, photography, music, music appreciation, drama, speech, choir. Other electives and independent study courses may be arranged through a student's advisor as needed and/or requested.

### SOPHOMORE CLASS (10th GRADE)

English II- combines language, composition, and literature. All grammar and spelling principles are reviewed before extensive composition work. Drama, non-fiction, exposition, speech, fiction, and poetry units included with weekly reading assignments and critical reports. Independent thinking is stressed.

Geometry - develops an understanding of deductive and indirect proofs in mathematics. The course includes spatial conceptualization and is proof-oriented.

Biology - an ecological approach. Students develop generalizations about interactions of physiological processes within individuals and the study of interrelationships of biological populations, communities, and the world ecosystem.

World Cultures and Geography - surveys literature from other countries. Politics, economics, geography, and sociology are emphasized.

Spanish II or ASL II- continues speaking and writing skills and builds on level 1, with occasional conversational field trips.

Physical Education & Electives - see descriptions under 9th grade.

#### JUNIOR CLASS (11th GRADE)

American Literature - combines language, composition, and study of literature, refining language techniques and writing precision. The development of American writing is traced against the social background, building appreciation of tone, technique, and total effect. There is emphasis on vocabulary development.

Algebra II – reviews Algebra I, strengthens math skills, and introduces calculus in preparation for college entrance tests.

Chemistry - the study of the nature of matter, including atomic theory and continues through modern applications of syntheses as used for the betterment of humanity. This is a laboratory-based class with much hands-on experience through experiments.

United States History - a detailed study of the European encounters with the New World through settlement and more than two hundred thirty years of our Constitution and country. The development of private enterprise economics, social trends, immigration, and evolving foreign interests are traced, showing our heritage as an outgrowth of practical solutions to challenges. Lectures, readings, and problem-solving discussions are used to build critical thinking and clear writing skills.

Upper level electives - electives are offered at varying times and may include psychology, journalism and publications, languages, modern history, European history, geography, as well as additional options in math, science, and English. These are normally open to juniors and seniors as schedules permit and if prerequisites are met.

Physical Education & Electives - see descriptions under 9th grade.



## SENIOR CLASS (12th GRADE)

British Literature - increases writing abilities, deepens literary insights, and broadens vocabulary. Readings include examples of Old English through contemporary writings. Field studies are included when appropriate for plays and library exhibits. Regular writing exercises build ability and skill in clear expression for college work. Reviews for advanced placement tests are available as needed.

Advanced Mathematics (optional)- builds upon abilities and skills of especially capable mathematics students through trigonometry, functions, and calculus. Accelerated students may take two years of advanced mathematics in preparation for the Advanced Placement Calculus Examination.

United States Government - examines our US Constitution and governments at its various levels, and follows current events. Students investigate and discuss comparative government processes and develop an understanding of contemporary issues in domestic and international relations.

Economics - introduces economic theories, world trade, and the free- market system. Consumer units provide practical applications, including family budgeting, borrowing, purchasing, insurance, investing, tax-form preparations, and banking. Students explore the concepts of the stock market and do simulation activities.

Upper level electives - see 11th grade.

Physical Education & Electives - see descriptions under 9th grade.

## POST GRADUATE (PG) PLUS

Our PG year offers high school graduates an extra year to prepare for college. Students may use the opportunity to repeat classes to raise grades, take higher-level or previously unavailable classes, or to study ESL. The emphasis is on independent study, directed reading, critical thinking and writing.

## GRADUATION AND GRADING INFORMATION

Credits are earned based on five credits per course, per semester. One year (two semesters) of English, for example, has a value of 10 credits. 240 credits are required for graduation, including 40 credits in physical education. Other credits must be earned as noted below. Southwestern accepts transfer credits earned at other secondary schools subject to evaluation of the transferred courses by our staff.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A DIPLOMA

History and Social Studies 30 credits with 10 credits required in US History, 10 in World Cultures/ Geography, 5 in US Government, 5 in Economics

English 40 credits, including at least a year of literature. Our students must take an English class each semester, even if 40 credits in English have been earned already. All English classes will include frequent writing and the reading of literature.

Mathematics 30 credits required, 40 preferred, including elementary and advanced algebra, geometry, and advanced math

Laboratory Sciences 20 credits, 30 urged, in lab science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these areas: biology, chemistry, and physics. Earth/space science courses are acceptable if they require or include basic knowledge in biology, chemistry, or physics.

A Language other than English 20 credits of the same language; 30 credits preferred.

Visual & Performing Arts 10 credits in music, visual art, drama/theater, photography.

Electives 50 credits minimum, of which at least 10 must be college preparatory courses

Physical Education 40 credits (sports, varsity teams, and/or physical education.)

Community Service 100 hours minimum, completed during high school years.

## GRADUATION NOTES

1. Graduation requires earning 240 credits, demonstrating English and math proficiency, and completing 100 hours of community service.
2. A college preparatory diploma is given on completion of the University of California's "a-g" requirements with grades of C or better in each class.
3. A general secondary certificate is granted as evidence of secondary school graduation, used for admission to community college programs or to vocational schools.
4. No credit is given for repeated classes.
5. Generally, ESL classes do not fulfill English credit requirements. ESL 3 Reading and Writing may qualify for English 1.
6. Transition classes earn full academic credit.
7. The headmaster may waive any requirement when clearly warranted.

## GRADING AT SOUTHWESTERN

All instructors give academic grades every quarter and semester. Grades do not follow a curve and are usually evenly spread. An average grade of "C" is required for a college-recommending diploma. Daily work, papers, projects, and examinations are normally considered equally. Academic grading is as follows:

A or AB – excellent work

B or BC – very good work

C – good, average work; minimum college recommending

CD or D – below average, poor

DF - very poor but passing

F - failing

I – incomplete; one month to finish

An "N" or not graded may be given for a continuous course; full credit is given at the conclusion of the course.

P/F or +/- passing with non-college preparatory credit (a pass-fail option for some tutorial classes).

Department (behavior) grades are given by each teacher in each class as follows: "E" for excellent leadership; "S" for satisfactory behavior, "M" (marginal) for some classroom disturbance, and "U" for unsatisfactory behavior and disturbing the educational process.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Academic recognitions are given at the end of each school year. The Gold Award is given for straight "A" grades in all academic subjects. The Silver Award recognizes students who receive all grades of "B" or above. Other recognition is given by departments and various community groups for outstanding performance.

## ADVISEMENT AND COUNSELING

Each student is assigned to an advisee group of about 12 per faculty member. This teacher helps students plan their schedules, maintains a record of progress towards graduation requirements, and generally oversees the academic performance of his/her students through frequent meetings.

Other life counseling, testing, and crisis intervention services are provided by the school's psychologist when needed.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS and THE ESL PROGRAM

International students are tested shortly after arrival at Southwestern to determine their English proficiency in each aspect of the language. Each student is enrolled in classes needed to improve proficiency.

Classes may include selected topics from any/all of the following three levels:

Beginning English level - listening and speaking, grammar, phonics, reading, writing, and vocabulary.

Intermediate English level – Continues listening, reading, speaking, vocabulary, grammar, and writing.

Advanced English level - continues grammar, listening, reading, writing, conversation, and note taking.

At each proficiency level, students are assigned to classes suited to their abilities. These include mathematics, art, music, science, and others.

There are transition classes including expository writing, introduction to literature, and general science that stress vocabulary, writing, and reading within familiar contexts. Other transition classes, such as United States history, introduce the international student to American culture, history, and traditions.

The goal of the ESL program is to mainstream each student into a regular high school program as quickly as the student's English proficiency allows. This normally takes from twelve to twenty-four months for a beginning student.

International students are included in all school activities, sports, and trips. They share dormitory rooms with students from the United States and other countries.

International students are required to live on campus. No "guardian" or local families are needed or required.

Unless the school agrees to a shorter term in advance, it is expected that international students will be enrolled through high school graduation.

Fees must be paid in advance of each term. If the visa is denied, all payments except application fees are refunded. No payment is refunded if a student withdraws or otherwise fails to attend.

Admission and enrollment terms and payments are outlined on the contract included with the application for admission.

## SUMMER PROGRAMS

Summer school sessions are offered at both Southwestern campuses for domestic and international students.

An intensive summer program is offered for international students to improve their knowledge and use of English, and to earn credits towards high school graduation. Remedial and enrichment classes are also offered. Scheduled field trips are offered for experiential learning, recreation, and cultural exposure.

Students can choose one or two semester sessions, or a four week session at either campus.

Summer programs are an excellent opportunity for students to catch up in certain subjects, if needed and to progress academically in order to take more advanced courses before graduation. For non-English speaking international students, summer provides an entire semester with credit of the appropriate ESL level needed to complete the college preparatory curriculum successfully.

It is also possible for students to attend just the summer session for an introduction to English language and American culture. Many special activities are included, from baseball games to concerts, beaches, theme parks, and other significant area attractions.

## ENROLLMENT AND DISTRIBUTION

Southwestern is committed to keeping our class sizes small, with usually no more than 12 students per class, from various ethnic groups, economic backgrounds, and diverse nationalities. Our enrollment is limited to around 144 students on our California campus and about 36 at our Arizona campus. We can accommodate the same numbers during our summer school programs.

Southwestern's Board of Trustees has determined that our student body should be fully integrated with enrollment from various American ethnic groups and be balanced between domestic and international students, with a goal of no more than 10 percent from any foreign nation. Humanitarian exceptions may be made in the event of national emergencies.

## ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The application is on our website at [www.SouthwesternAcademy.edu](http://www.SouthwesternAcademy.edu). This form specifies what is needed to apply for admission. A personal interview is required. An in-person interview is strongly encouraged whenever possible.

Applications are accepted throughout the year. Qualified students are admitted when space is available. A signed contract and tuition deposit reserves space in the school. The contract notes terms of enrollment, that space is reserved for a school term, not for a period of attendance by the student.

Because of our size, teacher-student ratio, and mission, Southwestern Academy has a long history of providing opportunities for a variety of students. We are not a school designed to accommodate, nor are we an appropriate choice for, students with behavioral, emotional, or attitudinal problems; for those with significant learning disabilities or differences, or with alcohol or illegal drug involvement.

## CAMPUS VISITS AND TOURS

The Admissions Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The office is closed on U.S. holidays, the day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas and New Year's holidays. Please phone for tours and visits in advance.