



## *Academic*

## *Overview*

### **Accreditation**

University Prep is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools. The school is also a member of CEEB, NACAC, PNACAC, NASSP and ASCD.

### **Curriculum**

All classes are college preparatory. Because University Prep's curriculum is demanding, there are not designated honors, International Baccalaureate, or AP classes; students may choose to take AP exams but prepare for them on their own time. Each class meets for forty-five minutes twice a week and sixty-five minutes twice a week. The year is organized into two semesters (September-January and February-June). Students are expected to carry a minimum of five classes each semester. All students must participate in fine arts and physical education programs. Dual enrollment with nearby colleges is also an option. Occasional "Change of Pace Days" each semester allow students to explore subjects not covered in the regular curriculum and range from community service to fine arts to Chinese New Year to the outdoors.

### **Graduation Requirements**

One semester credit is awarded for each period in which a class meets during the week. Students need a total of 218 credits to graduate. English: forty credits, including satisfactory completion of a senior thesis; history: thirty-five credits; mathematics: thirty credits; science: thirty credits, all lab sciences; foreign language: thirty credits (three years of one language) or forty credits (two years of one and two years of another); fine arts; twelve distributed credits; Life Skills: two credits physical education: twenty credits; community service: sixty hours; electives: twenty-one credit.

### **Computing Grade Point Average and Class Rank**

Grading in academic course work is rigorous. University Prep does not weight grades, compute or report GPAs for individual students, or compute class rank (due to the small size of each graduating class).

### **Electives**

Electives include calculus I, II; economics; advanced language courses; play production; philosophy; music theory/composition; stagecraft, painting; jewelry design; statistics; architectural drafting; human geography; ecology; drawing Northwest seminar; government and politics; world religions, technology topics, astronomy; advanced topics in chemistry and world history; special relativity; student publications; Orton-Gillingham Language Training, chorus, photography; journalism, literary magazine, psychology; Faces if Islam, Woman in Modern Society, philosophy, digital video arts, creative writings, waves and optics, and dance.