Sequoyah School is an independent, all gender K-12 day school in Pasadena, California. Founded in 1958, Sequoyah opened its high school campus in 2016 and graduated its inaugural Senior class in 2019.

**A Sequoyah School education challenges the mind, nurtures the heart and celebrates human dignity.**

Sequoyah’s modular schedule (Mods) supports a rich, more focused learning experience. Designed for student engagement, students take three 80-minute classes per day, which allows for more active experiences like seminars, debates, simulations, labs, and projects. Mods allow for more individualized attention, detailed and frequent feedback, and increased options electives.

There are seven (7) modules per school year, approximately five weeks each. Mod 7 is an experiential module dedicated to camping trips, international expeditions, social innovation projects, and internships. The year also includes mid-year and year-end Exhibition Weeks. The following represent typical course loads in a Mod, with three required courses per day plus one elective.

### 9TH GRADE
#### 6 CURRICULAR COURSES
- Foundations Mathematics (1, 2, or 3)
- Conceptual Physics
- Humanities 1 (English & History)
- Spanish (1, 2, or 3)
- Visual or Performing Arts electives
- Advisory
- Social Innovation Program (SIP)
- Sport or PE Option

### 10TH GRADE
#### 5-6 CURRICULAR COURSES
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Humanities 2
- Spanish (2, 3, or 4)
- Elective
- Advisory
- SIP
- Sport or PE option

### 11TH GRADE
#### 5-6 CURRICULAR COURSES
- Mathematics
- Biology or SAS Biology
- English elective
- U.S. History or SAS U.S. History
- Spanish (unless level 3 completed)
- Elective
- Advisory
- SIP Impact Project
- Sport or PE option

### 12TH GRADE
#### 4-6 CURRICULAR COURSES
- English elective or SAS English 4
- Electives
- Advisory
- SIP Internship
- Sport or PE option

### Evaluation and Grading

Sequoyah’s high school program uses a competency-based assessment system to help students develop competency with a set of eight Learning Outcomes (LOs). Throughout each course, students receive feedback and a grade for each LO and receive an overall grade at the end of the course. Information about this approach to assessment is available in our [Curriculum Guide](#).
Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 24 course credits is required to graduate, with 6 credits in elective courses, plus credits in SIP, Field Studies and Talking Leaves:

- **English**: 4 credits
- **History**: 3 credits
- **Mathematics**: 3 credits
- **Laboratory Science**: 3 credits
- **World Language**: 3 credits
- **Art**: 1 credit
- **Physical Education**: 4 seasons (2 credits)
- **Electives**: 6 credits
- **Field Studies**: 7 trips
- **Social Innovation Program**: 4 credits
- **Talking Leaves**: 6 successful presentations, including June of 12th Grade

Test Scores

In light of the increasing shift toward test blind admission review, we support student choice in the matter of score submissions.

As such, the test scores for the Class of 2024 are not shared on our college profile.

Signature Sequoyah Programs

Talking Leaves

A Cherokee expression identifying words on paper, Talking Leaves honors our namesake, Sequoyah, who developed the Cherokee system of written language. Twice a year, every student presents a culminating essay and oral presentation modeled after a thesis defense to their peers, a faculty committee, parents, and other invited guests. Students explore and analyze a chosen topic based on a meaningful intellectual experience and reflect on its role in their growth as scholars. A mark of Exemplary distinction is given to students who display sophistication, persuasion, depth of analysis, mastery, and conviction of ideas in their Talking Leaves.

STEM Institute

Sequoyah’s STEM Institute involves students as members of a larger scientific community through participation in research experiences and field work with experts at world-renowned institutions including Caltech, JPL, and USC. Institute members recently developed an affinity group for girls in STEM, which extends beyond the Institute and engages other members of the scientific and research community.

Social Innovation Program (SIP)

This four-year sequence focuses on addressing complex social and environmental challenges aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and is designed to cultivate foundational skills of social innovation. Ninth and 10th graders develop skills in systems thinking, creative problem solving, and ethnographic and statistical research, preparing them for a two-year capstone project in 11th and 12th grade. Throughout their SIP experience, students establish professional relationships with stakeholders while reflecting on their unique positions to effect change.

Sequoyah Advanced Studies

Sequoyah Advanced Studies (SAS) courses comprise our honors curriculum available to students in grades 11 and 12. Students require faculty recommendations in order to pursue these more rigorous, sophisticated, and challenging courses.

- **Art of the Novel**: Literary Genre and Theory
- **The Bible as Literature**: Biology
- **Coloring the Canon**: Ancient Greece, Africa, and the Black Diaspora
- **Ethics and Existentialism**: Chemistry
- **Feminist Literature and Theory**: Ecology
- **Monsters and Madness**: Human Physiology and Disease
- **Technology, Human Creativity and the Literary Imagination**: Physics
- **India: Faith, Freedom, and Future**: Calculus
- **Indigenous Histories**: Calculus 2 and Higher Math
- **Biology**: Multivariable Calculus
- **Music Production**: Spanish 4 & 5
- **Theater**: Music Production
- **Visual Arts Seminar**: Theater
- **Computer Science: Game Design in Unity**: Visual Arts Seminar
Class of 2024

The Class of 2024 is comprised of 40 students.

Highest weighted GPA 4.4
Median weighted GPA 3.8
Average weighted GPA 3.6
Median unweighted GPA 3.5
Average unweighted GPA 3.4
Sequoyah School does not rank our students.

Global Online Academy

As a member school, Sequoyah joins more than 85 independent schools from around the world in preparing students for a global future by providing new, modern ways for students to learn and teachers to teach. Through meaningful and rigorous online courses, students at Sequoyah connect in real time with students from different geographic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds and perspectives. All GOA courses are taken for credit and taught by faculty at member schools.

Field Studies

Through a distinctive, four-year Field Studies program that bridges academic curriculum with outdoor education, students experience the natural world in deeply meaningful ways. Each year, students take two multi-day trips which emphasize real-world understanding of preparedness, strengthening confidence and self-reliance, practicing teamwork and collaboration, and ingraining in students a profound environmental consciousness. Students travel to a variety of remote locations, including a backpacking trip in 9th and 10th grades, a 10-day homestay in a Costa Rican village, and a culminating 15-day backpacking trip for Seniors.

Design and Fabrication (dFab) Hub

The dFab Hub gives students, faculty and staff, the skills necessary to turn their ideas into realities. Through a variety of after-school, Z Block, and lunchtime offerings, students learn how to use a range of hi-fi and lo-fi tools and materials, such as laser cutters, 3D printers, sensors, and microcontrollers, X-Acto knives, hot glue guns, and more. The dFab Hub supplements all areas of students’ academic, personal, and Social Innovation Program interests, and is directed by a student advisory council.

Sequoyah by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Students</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Students</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2024 students</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average class size</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student-Teacher Ratio</td>
<td>8:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty holding advanced degrees</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty holding doctoral degrees</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students of Color</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families paying less than top tuition</td>
<td>37%</td>
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</tbody>
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College Acceptances, Classes of 2019-2023

Adelphi University
Alfred University
AMDA College of the Performing Arts (Los Angeles)
The American University of Paris
Amherst College
Arizona State University (Main Campus)
Art Center College of Design
Bard College
Beloit College
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Boston University
Bradley University
Brandeis University
Brown University
California College of the Arts
California Lutheran University
California State Polytechnic University
Humboldt, Pomona, San Luis Obispo
California State University
Channel Islands, Chico, Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Maritime Academy, Monterey Bay, Northridge
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Champlain College
Chapman University
Cinema Makeup School
Claremont McKenna College
Clark Atlanta University
Clark University
Colgate University
College of Charleston
The College of Wooster
Colorado College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado State University
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)
Colorado College (Chicago)
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Comish College of the Arts
Creighton University
Curry College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Eastern Oregon University
Eckerd College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory & Henry College
Fordham University
Fort Lewis College
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gonzaga University
Goucher College
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Hampshire College
Harvey Mudd College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Indiana University (Bloomington)
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lancaster University
Lawrence University
Lees-McRae College
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Los Angeles City College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Macalester College
Manhattan College
Manhattan College
Marist College
Marymount California University
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Menlo College
Miami University (Oxford)
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Mills College
Montana State University
Montclair State University
Moore College of Art and Design
Mount Holyoke College
Musicians Institute
New York University
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University
Parsons Paris at The New School
Parsons School of Design at The New School
Pasadena City College
Penn State University
Beherend, University Park
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quest University, Canada
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rider University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Ryerson University
St. Lawrence University
St. Olaf College
Saint Mary's College of California
Salve Regina University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Scripps College
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Sewanee: The University of the South
Skidmore College
Smith College
Sonoma State University
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
Stanford University
Stony Brook University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
The New School
Toronto Metropolitan University
Trinity College, Dublin
Trinity University
Tulane University of Louisiana
Union College
University of British Columbia
University of California
Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver
University of Denver
University of East Anglia
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of La Verne
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Montana
University of Nebraska
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of Utah - Honors College
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Ursinus College
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Washington State University
Washington University, St. Louis
Wesleyan University
Western Washington University
Whitman College
Whittier College
Widener University
William and Mary
Williams College
Xavier University Louisiana
Yale University

Bold indicates matriculation.