

# Bosque School Profile

2014-2015



scholarship + community + integrity

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## School Mission

*To prepare young men and women to become lifelong learners with the highest character values and academic goals in a natural New Mexico setting with strong family and community involvement.*

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## Bosque School

**Year Established:** 1994

**Upper School enrollment:** 290 students in grades 9—12 **Class of 2015:** 70 students

**Total enrollment:** 523 students in grades 6—12

36% are students of color, and 35% receive financial aid

**Teaching faculty:** 60 (75% with advanced degrees) **Student/Teacher ratio:** 9:1

### Admission

Admission to Bosque School is highly competitive. Bosque selects students who demonstrate an ability to succeed in a rigorous college preparatory environment and who will contribute to our vibrant community. Applicants must submit an academic transcript, math and English recommendations, and a writing sample; then they must take an entrance examination and participate in an on-campus interview.

### Curriculum

*The Bosque School curriculum is exclusively college preparatory and, because of the rigorous nature of the program and the selectivity of the admission policy, all courses are equivalent to honors-level courses as they are usually known.* Advanced courses are offered (but not weighted differently), and are listed in **bold** below. Bosque School is the only New Mexico school that requires two years of Latin. Each student takes a minimum of five core classes per semester. To graduate from the Upper School, a student must successfully complete the requirements (\*) set forth below. The average senior graduates with 25 or more credits.

**English** (4 years) \*English 9, \*English 10, \*English 11, \*English 12, Film, **Advanced English: Writing Seminar**

**History/Humanities** (4 years)

\*Ancient History, \*Medieval History, \*United States History, \*Modern History, History of the US: 1945—Present, International Relations & American Thought, Economics, **Advanced Studies in International Relations & American Thought**

**Math** (students must take a 4th year or either math or science)

Algebra 1, Year 1: Algebra 2/Geometry, Year 2: Algebra 2/Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Statistics & Applied Math, Advanced Year 1: Algebra 2/Geometry, Advanced Year 2: Algebra 2/Geometry, Advanced Pre-Calculus, **Calculus, Calculus 2**

**Science** (students must take a 4th year or either math or science) *All science courses offered are lab courses*

\*Conceptual Physics, \*Biology, \*Chemistry, Wildlife Biology & Conservation, Physics, **Advanced Physics for 9th Grade, Advanced Biology, Chemistry 2, Physics 2, Wildlife Research Seminar**

**Latin** (2 years) *Language requirements are sometimes modified for students who enter Bosque School after 9th grade*

\*Latin I, Latin Explorations, \*Latin II, Latin III, **Latin IV**

**Spanish** (2 years) *Language requirements are sometimes modified for students who enter Bosque School after 9th grade*

Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, Spanish 4, Spanish 5, **Spanish Seminar: Asuntos Latinoamericanos**

**The Arts** (2 years) Band, Treble Ensemble, Intermezzo, One Acts & Playwriting, American Theater & Directing, Drama Tech, Industrial Arts, Film, Painting & Drawing, Sculpture, Ceramics, Digital Art, Digital Media, **Advanced Painting & Drawing, Portfolio Development, Wind Ensemble, Cantate, Serenata**

**Physical Education** (2 years)

### Grade Weighting

Grades are not weighted. GPAs are computed only for courses taken at Bosque School and include both academic and fine and performing arts classes.

### Grading Scale

Bosque School uses the traditional A-F grading scale:

A+	4.33	A	4.0	A-	3.67
B+	3.33	B	3.0	B-	2.67
C+	2.33	C	2.0	C-	1.67
D+	1.33	D	1.0	D-	0.67

For athletics and certain elective courses the following symbols are used:

P=Pass F=Fail

### Advanced Courses

Bosque School has continually engaged in careful evaluation of how our most advanced courses should be taught, and as a result has deliberately decided not to offer Advanced Placement courses. Our advanced courses are the equivalent of AP courses in terms of rigor and are more demanding in terms of the depth of knowledge students gain over the course of a semester or year.

### Honors Recognition

The standard for honors recognition is GPA of 3.33 or above, and no grade below a B-.

### Class Rank

Typical class sizes number 70-80 college-bound students. Given the size of the class and the selective nature of admission to Bosque School, we do not rank our students.

### Honors and Distinctions 2014

- 1 Commended Scholar
- 1 National Hispanic Scholar

### 2013

- 4 National Hispanic Scholars,
- 1 Daniels Scholar

### 2012

- 2 Commended Scholars,
- 2 National Hispanic Scholars

### Block Calendar and Schedule

Bosque School follows a semester calendar with grades issued at the conclusion of each term (December and May). Classes in all divisions follow a ten-day, rotating schedule. Full block classes meet five times out of every ten days; half block classes meet eight times out of every ten days. Students take a minimum of five academic classes each semester. Final transcripts only include year-end grades.

### Environmental Science

Because of our location, Bosque School students conduct scientific research in conjunction with the University of New Mexico Biology Department and the National Science Foundation Long-Term Ecological Research Network. Bosque School coordinates the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP), which involves 5,000 students per year in gathering data and conducting research on the functioning and status of the Rio Grand and its riverside forest. In addition to conducting their own BEMP research, Bosque School students routinely train and mentor other BEMP students from all across New Mexico.

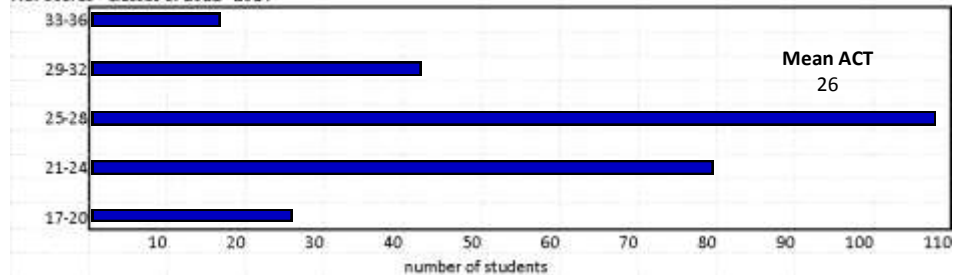
### Independent Study

Students have the opportunity to design and pursue faculty-guided independent study, developing deeper understanding in areas of interest.

### Junior and Senior Thesis

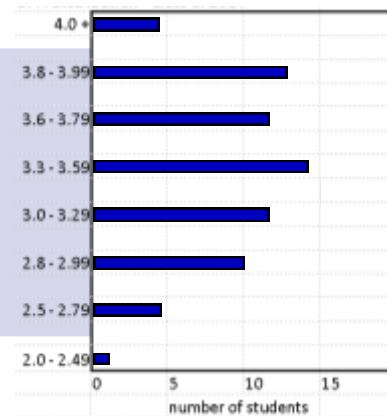
A great emphasis is placed on writing analysis, public speaking, and research at Bosque School. In a student's junior year, he or she is expected to research and support a thesis of choice in a 15–20 page paper. Perfecting a student's ability to think, defend and articulate his or her thoughts well, in written form, is continued and taken to the next level in a student's senior year at Bosque. Each senior is required to write a 20–25 page Senior Thesis paper. This year-long project is interdisciplinary, involving three faculty readers/advisors—one each from the History and English Departments, and a third of the student's choice. The student must defend his or her dissertation in front of a faculty committee and present the work to the public at Senior Colloquium in order to graduate. Some examples of these topics include: "America the Beautiful: Trying to Find Pluralistic Harmony in a Country Defined by Xenophobia and Nationalism;" "The Role of the Third Party: Pragmatism Versus Idealism in American Political Reform;" and "Regulatory T Cells and Cancer Research in a Time of Despair."

ACT Scores - Classes of 2011 - 2014



GPA Distribution Class of 2015

Low—High 2.4 4.0 Mean GPA 3.4



## Service Learning

Bosque School's Upper School Service Learning Program encourages student involvement in the community in a way that compliments individual interests, with the long-term hope that service becomes a permanent part of students' lives well beyond graduation. The program model allows students to join a group that addresses a community issue they care about. Throughout the year, they learn about that issue and take action through outreach projects, special events and awareness campaigns. Participation in Service Learning is a requirement of 9th through 11th grade, but the program gives students considerable independence by offering approximately one dozen groups from which to choose. Students who are motivated to pursue their own service project can initiate an independent study by submitting a proposal and learning goals for approval. All students are supported by faculty sponsors and exposed to up-to-date content through expert guests, articles, films, and other resources. In addition, 9th graders participate in two class-wide service projects during the school year, and 12th graders participate in the Senior Service Symposium, a three-day culminating immersive event prior to graduation.

## Experiential Education: Winterim

Each year, students participate in Winterim, a week-long experiential education program where learning takes place outside of the classroom. Students and teachers can, for example, immerse themselves in the language and culture of a small village in Mexico, explore the Sonoran desert, canoe through Big Bend, visit battlefields, or design and create the first sculptures to grace Bosque's sculpture garden. Recent Winterim programs include: "The Ancient Southwest," exploring ancient indigenous sites and cultures; "A Revolutionary Adventure," visiting historic Williamsburg and exploring the theme of citizens at war; and "Reefs, Rainforests and Mayan Ruins: Belize, Guatemala and Calabash Cave," learning hands-on about the rainforests, reefs, and mangrove ecosystems of South America. These are only a few of the many options students can choose from to expand their minds and discover themselves during Bosque's Winterim session.

## Athletics

Our goal is to provide students with the opportunity for growth through individual and team participation, emphasizing positive group involvement, fun, good sportsmanship, a strong commitment in effort and time, and respect for adults, fellow team members, and opponents. Competitive sports include soccer, volleyball, cross country, basketball, swimming, tennis, track

## College and Work Readiness Assessment

Bosque School students now take the College and Work Readiness Assessment (CWRA) in their ninth and twelfth grade years. The CWRA was developed by the Council for Aid to Education (CAE), a non-profit group based in New York. The test is based on extensive research and draws from the work of Benjamin Bloom, Grant Wiggins and other leading educational thinkers. The purpose of the CWRA is to measure students' abilities as problem solvers; it is designed to help a school understand how well students are learning to think critically, reason analytically, solve problems, and write well. In the 2012-13 CWRA test, Bosque School students scored as follows:

CWRA Mean Score: 1191

CWRA Decile Rank: 10

Number of high schools testing nationwide: 89

CWRA Mean Score (National): 1078

CLA Schools testing College Freshmen: 161

CLA Mean Score: 1050

In a high quality response a student:

- Communicates complex information effectively
- Supports major points with evidence
- Understands that different documents have different levels of quality and veracity
- Know the difference between correlation and causation
- Reads charts and graphs and other data presentations
- Synthesizes information from multiple sources
- Avoids bringing in own personal bias



# College Matriculations

2011—2014

Bosque School students apply to and are accepted by leading institutions throughout the country. 99% of our graduates will attend four-year colleges and universities. Nearly 75% will attend college out of the state of New Mexico. Here are the Institutions our students have chosen to attend in the last four years.

## Accreditation and Membership

*Bosque School is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS) as well as the New Mexico State Department of Education and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). It is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), New Mexico Association of Nonpublic Schools, New Mexico Activities Association, National Association for College Admission Counseling, Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling, and Secondary Schools Admission Testing Board.*

<p>University of Alaska Anchorage American University Anderson University-IN Arizona State University The University of Arizona Azusa Pacific University Bard College Beloit College Boston University Bowdoin College University of British Columbia Brown University University of California, Santa Cruz Carleton College Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Central New Mexico Community College Chapman University College of Charleston Coe College University of Colorado at Boulder Colorado College Colorado School of Mines Colorado State University Cornell College Cornell University Cornish College of the Arts Denison University University of Denver DePaul University Earlham College Eckerd College Elon University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Emory University Florida Gulf Coast University Fort Lewis College Georgetown University Georgia Institute of Technology The University of Georgia Guilford College Hardin-Simmons University Hawaii Pacific University Hendrix College High Point University Lake Forest College Lewis &amp; Clark College Loyola University New Orleans University of Miami University of Michigan Middlebury College</p>	<p>Minneapolis College of Art and Design New Mexico Institute of Mining &amp;Technology New Mexico State University University of New Mexico New York University Northwestern University Oberlin College Occidental College Ohio Northern University Oklahoma City University Pacific Northwest College of Art Pitzer College Point Loma Nazarene University Pomona College University of Portland Pratt Institute Prescott College University of Puget Sound Purdue University Reed College Rice University Rollins College Saint Mary's College University of San Francisco Sarah Lawrence College Seattle Pacific University Skidmore College South Dakota School of Mines &amp; Technology University of Southern California Southern Methodist University Southwestern University University of St. Andrews Stanford University Swarthmore College University of Tennessee, Knoxville Texas Christian University Texas Tech University The University of Texas, Austin Trinity College Tufts University Tulane University Wake Forest University University of Washington Western Washington University Whitman College Willamette University The College of Wooster</p>
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