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# Discover Salem High School

## Our Community, Our School

Salem is known for its rich maritime history, as being the birthplace of the National Guard, and for the infamous Witchcraft Trials of 1692. Salem is also a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly city located on the coast north of Boston. Salem High School is an accredited four-year public high school, grades 9–12, that empowers all students with the knowledge and skills to access college and career opportunities that will allow them to excel and contribute to society.

We offer Advanced Placement, Honors and College Preparatory classes—as well as Chapter 74 and Career Technical Education that provide authentic learning experiences in Automotive Technology, Electrical, Building and Property Maintenance, Culinary Arts, Early Education and Care, Medical Assisting, and Woodworking Technology.

## Our Students

With approximately 900 enrolled students, the population of Salem High School represents a diverse array of ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.

46% Hispanic	12% English Language Learners
5% African American	23% Students with Disabilities
3% Asian	37% First Language not English
41% White	47% Economically Disadvantaged

## Response to COVID-19

SY19/20: The pandemic closed Salem High School on March 13, 2020 and virtual learning began for the remainder of the year. SHS adopted the following grading policies: Students earned numerical grades for Semester 1. Semester 2 and Full Year course grades were converted to Credit Earned or No Credit. All Semester and Full Year courses with earned numerical or letter grades were factored into the student’s final weighted GPA.

SY 20/21: School started on Sept. 14 with a full remote learning model. Quarter 1 scheduled to end Nov. 19 and S1/Q 2 on Feb 2. Transcripts with Standard based grades will follow.

## Salem Stats

**900**

Total Enrollment

**207**

Class of 2021

**15**

Average Class



**10:1**

Student-Teacher Ratio Per Class



**90%** of SHS faculty have a Master’s Degree or higher

**3 years**

Early College Partner with Salem State University



**34 CLUBS**

and activities for every kind of interest



**37%** of students take **Advanced Placement** exams while at Salem High

Nationally awarded

**BAND**

**Curriculum:**

Salem High School students participate in a demanding college preparatory curriculum. There is a broad selection of courses at varying instructional levels to meet the needs and abilities of all students. Students are fully scheduled and receive 1,100 hours of classroom instruction per year. Students typically enroll in 8 year-long courses that meet for nearly 90 minutes every other day. Additional supports and accommodations provided as necessary for English language learners and students with disabilities.

- **Honors (H)** courses are offered in the following disciplines: English, Math, Social Studies, French, Latin, Spanish, Sciences and Visual Arts
- **Advanced Placement (AP)** courses are offered in 17 different disciplines. In addition to school offerings students can take AP online courses. AP courses are open enrollment, and all students are required to take the exam.
- **Dual Enrollment** options are available to all grade levels through Salem State University (SSU) and North Shore Community College (NSCC). Students in certain CTE courses receive NSCC credit after completion
- **Early College** opportunities are available to students interested in Health Sciences or Business through Salem State University. Students take college level courses co-taught by SHS and SSU teachers during their Junior year and on SSU campus during their Senior year. They earn up to 12 college credits.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: 26 CREDITS TOTAL**

SUBJECT	OFFERINGS & TYPICAL YEAR	CREDITS
<b>English</b>	English I CP & H, English II CP & H, English III CP & H, English IV CP & H, AP English Literature & Comp, AP English Language & Comp., Early College Salem State ENL 110 Foundations of Writing and various semester electives	4.0
<b>Math</b>	Algebra I CP & H, Geometry CP & H, Algebra II CP & H, Math for Business, Contemporary Math, Statistics and Probability H & CP, Pre-Calculus CP & H, AP Calculus, AP Probability & Stats, Programming I & II	4.0
<b>Social Studies</b>	World History II CP & H, American & World I & II CP & H, Criminal Justice, Social Justice, Caribbean History, Media Literacy & World Affairs, AP European History, AP US History, AP US Gov't & Politics, AP Comp. Gov't, AP Psychology, AP Economics, Early College Salem State HST 205 US History & Const Gov II and various semester electives	3.0
<b>Science, Technology &amp; Engineering</b>	Biology CP, H, AP; Physics, Chemistry CP, H, AP; Anatomy/Physiology CP & H; Environmental CP, H, AP; AP Physics 1& 2; Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Principles of Biomedical Science, PLTW Intro to Engineering Design, PLTW Principles of Engineering, PLTW Environmental Sustainability, Forensic Science and various semester electives	3.0
<b>World Language</b>	French I, II, III, IV, V, AP; Spanish I, II, III, IV, V, AP; Intro to World Languages; Spanish For Hispanohablantes I, II, III	2.0
<b>Physical Education</b>	Fundamentals of Fitness, Project Adventure, Adv. Project Adventure, Lifetime Activities, Fitness Team & Sports, Physical Management	2.0
<b>Health</b>	Health I, Health II	0.5
<b>Vocational, Technical Education &amp; The Arts</b>	Automotive Technology, Electrical, Building and Property Maintenance, Culinary Arts, Early Education, Medical Assisting, Woodworking Technology	1.0
<b>The Arts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Visual Arts:</i> Graphic Design, Photography, Painting &amp; Drawing, Ceramics &amp; Sculpture, Mixed Media, Portfolio, AP Studio Art</li> <li>• <i>Performing Arts:</i> Wind Ensemble, Instrumental Strings, Band, Chamber Singers, Chorus, Piano Lab, Music Theory, Jazz, AP Music Theory</li> <li>• <i>Performing Arts Theatre:</i> Theater, Theater Production, Festival Drama</li> <li>• <i>Digital Media:</i> Digital Media, Journalism, Portfolio</li> </ul>	1.0
<b>Electives</b>	Please see student handbook for all elective offerings.	6.5
<b>Junior ROTC Program</b>	Introduction, to Marine Corps Leadership, Leadership 101, 201, 201, & 401	

**52%**  
Score 3.0 or more  
on AP Exams

**275**  
AP Exams  
taken in 2020

**23%**  
take 3 or more  
AP Classes

Prior to the Class of 2021 SHS used the following grade conversions and class rank weighting scales, which will appear on transcripts for Class of 2020.

GRADE CONVERSION		CLASS RANK WEIGHTING SCALES			
Letter	Numeric	Grade	CP	H	AP
A+	98-100	A+	4.3	4.8	5.3
A	93-97	A	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-92	A-	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	87-89	B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	83-86	B	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	80-82	B-	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	77-79	C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	73-76	C	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	70-72	C-	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	67-69	D+	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	63-66	D	1.0	1.5	2.0
D-	60-62	D-	0.7	1.2	1.7
F	59 or Below	F	0	0	0
CE	Credit Earned				
NC	No Credit				
W	Withdrawn				

### Standards Based Grading

For Class of 2021 SHS moved to Standards Based Grading for the majority of core course work and most entry-level elective courses. Every student at Salem High School is held to the same rigorous learning targets based on state/national standards. Grades reflect the level of proficiency (learning) students demonstrate over the duration of the course based on summative assessments. Unlike traditional grading, which is set on 0–100 scale, standards-based grading, 0-4 scale, reports a student's progress towards proficiency on the standards set for each course. *The grades reflected quarterly are only a snapshot of learning as they move toward mastery of the full-year standards. Typically, students will not be at grade level mastery in Q1 as all standards have not been taught.* At the end of the year, students' proficiency grades are converted to a standard letter-based grade.

MASTERY LEVEL (ML)		
Above Grade Level Work	4.0	Student work shows multiple skills beyond grade level
	3.5	Student work shows skill beyond grade level
Grade Level Expectation	3.0	Student work meets grade level requirements
Progressing Toward Proficiency	2.5	Student demonstrates most foundational skills consistently
	2.0	Student demonstrates some foundational skills
Limited Progress Towards Proficiency	1.5	Student shows some grade level skills independently
	1.0	Student shows some grade level skills with help
No Evidence of Mastery	0.0	Student shows no evidence of mastery

### What is New at SHS

US History I and II changed names to American and World Encounters I and II.

We are committing to several Project Lead the Way courses to expand our pathway options. These courses are honors level.

