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## ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

### Community Description:

Durango, CO, is a rural community of 18,588 residents in the Four Corners region of the southwestern United States. The nearest major cities are Albuquerque (215 miles), Denver (340 miles), and Salt Lake City (390 miles). Key professional sectors in the Durango community are business, agriculture, tourism, and the service industry. Fort Lewis College provides numerous educational and cultural advantages to the region.

### School Description:

Animas High School is a 4-year free, public charter school enrolling 196 students in grades 9-12. The school's project-based, interdisciplinary curriculum prepares students for the 21st century by ensuring mastery of critical skills and content and prepares students for college, career, and lifelong learning. Our rigorous academic program prioritizes authentic engagement, thoughtful inquiry, and in-depth analysis over rote memorization and broad coverage. Our faculty-designed projects have real-world applications; students are asked to transform and apply knowledge that is relevant to their community and their lives. Students exhibit their work to authentic audiences, thereby refining presentation and communication skills. Exhibitions, Student-Led Conferences, and Presentations of Learning provide students the opportunity to reflect on and take ownership of their growth and learning. Students work both individually and in small groups to design and complete projects that solve real-world problems.

**198**

STUDENTS

**22%** FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE

**23%** FREE & REDUCED LUNCH

**16**

FACULTY

Class of 2021 Post Graduate Plans

**74%**

**2%**

4-Year College

2-Year College

**48%**

**20%**

Public College

Private College

**12**

AVERAGE  
CLASS SIZE

### GRADING SCALE

**Rank:** Animas does not report rank

**Grading Scale:** AHS uses a 4-point grading scale to evaluate academic work. The minimum passing grade is "C-." No credit is assigned below a C-, but points are still calculated into the GPA. The highest attainable grade is an "A." We do not award "A+" grades. Grades and grade point averages are not weighted.

**Marking System:** A grade of "A" represents academic achievement of 94% or higher. A = 4.00, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, B = 3.00, B- = 2.67, C+ = 2.33, C = 2.00, C- = 1.67, D+ = 1.33, D = 1.00, D- = 0.67, F = 0.00

### DEMOGRAPHICS

**81%** White **10%** Hispanic **.5%** American Indian

**1%** Asian **0%** Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

**6%** Multiple Races **.5%** Black/Not Hispanic

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**English** 4 years

**Social Studies** 4 years

**Art** 1 year

**Math** 4 years

**Lab Science** 3 years

**Physical Ed** 3 years

**World Language** 2 years

**Academic Electives** 3 years

**Senior Project** 1 year

**LINK Internship** 1 year

# ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

AHS offers a rigorous, project-based curriculum that prepares students for their college and career goals. Classes are offered on a semester and yearlong basis. Honors options are available to juniors and seniors in Humanities (English and Social Studies) and Math (Pre calc and Statistics). Students are able to elect Honors each semester and may drop yearlong classes at semester. Students must take grade-level math each year; these classes integrate math concepts from Algebra I & II, Geometry, Statistics, and Trigonometry. Project Application is a non credit-bearing study hall. We require 3 years of Physical Education. Some AHS classes provide the opportunity for dual credit through Pueblo Community College (denoted with +). Students may also pursue concurrent enrollment options through local colleges, including Fort Lewis College, at their own expense.

## REQUIRED CORE COURSES

**9th:** Humanities Eng 9, Humanities Social Studies 9, Math 1, Physics, Digital Art Foundations

**10th:** Humanities Eng 10, Humanities Modern World History, Math 2, Biology

**11th:** Humanities Eng 11, Humanities US History, Pre-Calculus, Chemistry

**12th:** Humanities Eng 12, Humanities Civics 12, Statistics

## ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS, CONT.

Discipline	Course Title	Years Offered				Discipline	Course Title	Years Offered				
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22			2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
Art	Advanced Digital Art and Design	x	x			World Language	French 1	x		x		
	Advanced Digital Arts	x	x	x	x		French 2		x		x	
	Advanced Digital Photography			x	x		French 3			x		
	Advanced Drawing	x	x	x	x		Online Foreign Language	x				
	Advanced Music Performance			x	x		Spanish 1	x	x	x	x	
	Advanced Music Production			x			Spanish 2	x	x	x	x	
	Advanced Painting	x	x	x	x		Spanish 3	x	x	x	x	
	Advanced Studio Art	x	x	x	x		Spanish 4	x	x	x	x	
	Advanced VAM Theater Class			x	x		Advanced Physics	x	x			
	Digital Photography		x	x	x		Advanced Chemistry	x	x			
	Digital Arts		x			Advanced Electronics	x	x				
	Drawing	x	x	x		Advanced Engineering	x	x				
	Music Performance			x	x	Advanced Geology				x		
	Music Performance CD & CP	x	x			Anatomy	x	x	x	x		
	Music Production			x		Astronomy: Stars and Galaxies+		x		x		
	Painting	x	x	x		Astronomy: Planetary Science+	x			x		
	Studio Art Mixed Media	x	x	x	x	Ecology			x	x		
	The Art of Cut and Paste		x			Geology			x	x		
	VAM Theater Class			x	x	Intro to Anthropology	x					
	Yearbook	x				Intro to Archaeology	x					
Math	Advanced Algebra	x	x			Intro to Computer Science		x	x	x		
	Advanced Calculus	x	x	x		Intro to Computer Science II			x			
	Advanced Consumer Math		x	x	x	Intro to Electronics	x	x				
	Advanced Engineering Mathematics			x	x	Intro to Engineering	x	x				
	Art of Mathematical Thinking			x		Intro to Quantum Computing				x		
	Calculus	x	x	x	x	Outdoor Education and Leadership				x		
	Calculus 1B				x	Scientific Research and Design	x					
	College Algebra			x	x	Wilderness Self Rescue				x		
	Consumer Math+	x	x	x	x	PCR-Access Skills		x		x		
	Economics of the Stock Market				x	Personal and Career Readiness			x	x		
	Engineering Mathematics			x	x	Personal Career Readiness-Career Suc	x	x		x		
	Precalculus	x	x			Personal Career Readiness-College Suc	x			x		
	SAT Prep		x	x	x	Project Application	x	x	x	x		
	Humanities	Addiction Psychology				x	Science	Post-Secondary Preparation				
		Adolescent Development	x					Advanced Physics	x	x		
Advanced Adolescent Development		x				Advanced Chemistry		x	x			
Advanced Imperialism and Foreign Aid		x		x		Advanced Electronics		x	x			
Advanced Journalism Media				x	x	Advanced Engineering		x	x			
Class and Inequality in the US			x			Advanced Geology					x	
Creative Writing				x	x	Anatomy		x	x	x	x	
Creative Writing and Mixed Media			x			Astronomy: Stars and Galaxies+			x		x	
Cultivating Cultural Capital		x				Astronomy: Planetary Science+		x			x	
Design Thinking					x	Ecology				x	x	
Differential Psychology					x	Geology				x	x	
Film Studies		x	x	x		Intro to Anthropology		x				
Gender and Identity in US Lit					x	Intro to Archaeology		x				
Journalism/Quill Media			x	x	x	Intro to Computer Science			x	x	x	
On Course: Paths to Learning				x	x	Intro to Computer Science II				x		
Podcasting			x		Intro to Electronics	x	x					
Positive Psychology			x		Intro to Engineering	x	x					
Psychology	x	x			Intro to Quantum Computing				x			
Race and Identity in US Lit			x	x	Outdoor Education and Leadership				x			
SAT Prep		x	x	x	Scientific Research and Design	x						
SciFi and the Human Condition			x	x	Wilderness Self Rescue				x			
World Literature				x	PCR-Access Skills		x		x			
World Religions	x				Personal and Career Readiness			x	x			
					Personal Career Readiness-Career Suc	x	x		x			
					Personal Career Readiness-College Suc	x			x			
					Project Application	x	x	x	x			

## CLASS OF 2021 PROFILE

**50** Seniors

### SAT AVERAGES

**1050** Composite

**544** Reading/Writing

**505** Math

**3.24** GPA Average

**4.00** Highest GPA

## AWARDS

- Colorado Charter School Institute Distinction School
- College Success Award for Great Schools
- CO Department of Education ICAP Awards for Career Exploration Program and Senior Project Capstone

## UNIQUE TO OUR SCHOOL

### LINK Internships: *Leading Internships for New Knowledge*

As a graduation requirement, all juniors participate in a 3-week, 90-hour fulltime internship in the field of their choosing. In preparation, students learn “real world” skills as they refine their resumes, write cover letters, engage in mock interviews, and explore various career paths.

**Senior Project:** Senior Project is a semester-long, in-depth study of a self-selected research topic. Students craft a college-level research paper, complete an action project that connects their research topic to the larger community, and deliver a professional TED-style talk and thesis defense in front of a live audience. As the capstone project of their time at AHS, Senior Project allows students to synthesize their learning and pursue their individual passions, all with the support of senior faculty and a Faculty Advisor.



## Recent College Acceptances List

Academy of Art University  
Adams State University  
American University  
The American University of Rome  
Arizona State University  
Barnard College  
Bates College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brevard College  
Bryant University  
Cabrillo College  
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo  
Champlain College  
Clarkson University  
College of the Atlantic  
Colorado College  
Colorado Mesa University  
Colorado Mountain College  
Colorado School of Mines  
Colorado State University  
Community College of Aurora  
Dickinson College  
Dillard University  
Dixie State University  
Drake University  
Drexel University  
Elon University  
Eckerd College  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Emerson College  
Emory & Henry College  
Endicott College  
The Evergreen State College  
Fairfield University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Fort Lewis College  
The George Washington University  
Goshen College  
Goucher College  
Gonzaga University  
Grand Canyon University  
Hawaii Pacific University  
Humboldt State University  
Idaho State University  
Indiana University Bloomington  
Ithaca College  
John Cabot University  
Kalamazoo College  
Lees-McRae College  
Lewis & Clark College  
Lindenwood University  
Loyola University Chicago  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Macalester College  
Marist College  
Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College  
Minerva Schools at KGI  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Montana State University  
Montreat College  
Northeastern University  
Northern Arizona University  
Northwestern University  
Oklahoma City University  
Oregon Institute of Technology  
Oregon State University  
Oregon State University  
Pacific University  
Palm Beach Atlantic University  
Portland State University  
Pratt Institute  
Pitzer College  
Quest University Canada  
Reed College  
Regis University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rice University  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design  
Roger Williams University  
Rollins College  
San Francisco State University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Seattle University  
Seattle Pacific University  
Skidmore College  
Southeastern University  
St. Olaf College  
Stetson University  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
The University of Arizona  
The University of British Columbia  
The University of New Mexico  
The University of Tampa  
The University of Utah  
The University of Texas at Dallas  
Tulane University  
Unity College  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
University of Colorado Colorado Springs  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Colorado Denver  
University of Delaware  
University of Denver  
University of Lynchburg  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Miami  
University of Montana  
University of Nevada  
University of New Hampshire  
University of North Carolina Asheville  
University of Northern Colorado  
University of Nottingham  
University of Oregon  
University of Portland  
University of Puget Sound  
University of Redlands  
University of Richmond  
University of San Francisco  
University of Rochester  
University of Vermont  
University of Victoria  
University of Virginia  
Utah Valley University  
Vanderbilt University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Villanova University  
Washburn University  
Weber State University  
Western Colorado University  
Western Michigan University  
Western Washington University  
Westminster College  
Whitman College  
Willamette University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



## AHS CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19 IMPACTING THE CLASS OF 2022

The Fall of 2021 began the 3rd school year of COVID-19 for the Class of 2022. Like students across the nation, AHS students continue to be impacted on many fronts (mental health, financial security, food and housing insecurity, etc.) as a result of the ongoing pandemic.

We have fully returned to our rigorous project-based, college prep curriculum with minimal interruptions because of our 80%+ vaccination rate. Students have returned to in-person learning with a mask mandate indoors with 5 days/week of instruction in core classes and 4 days/week in elective classes.

### 2020-2021

Animas High School used a hybrid learning model for the full 2020-2021 school year. Students attended in-person core academic classes 2 days/week and had 3 days of synchronous online instruction. Elective courses met solely online 1 day/week. While we did not provide an alternative fully online curriculum, we worked to support students who needed to stay home full time. In accordance with public health guidance, AHS was fully online from Nov. 12, 2020—Feb 8, 2021. Additionally, in person learning was interrupted for some students at other times due to quarantining of cohorts. We continued to work to ensure that students had all resources needed to engage in both in-person and online learning successfully.

We used our regular letter grading system for the 2020/21 school year.

### 2019-2020

#### **Curriculum**

Animas High School began remote instruction March 30, 2019 and remained fully online for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year. Online learning was fully asynchronous using teacher digital portfolios to deliver curriculum.

#### **Grading**

Due to the quick transition to online asynchronous learning, we moved to a Pass/Fail grading system for spring semester of 2020. Students did not have an option to receive letter grades for that semester. Students received a Pass if they earned a 70% or higher for each course. All students at AHS were provided a loaner computer if families were unable to purchase their own. However, due to our rural location, some students were unable to access the internet effectively, causing students to require paper copies of course work.