



2024-2025 PROFILE

Steamboat Mountain School is a K-12, coeducational school with a high school boarding program. We blend rigorous academics, adventure, and community engagement. All students follow an 18-credit college preparatory curriculum while participating in extraordinary programs outside of the classroom which build students' knowledge, develop their confidence and independence, and prepare them for meaningful and fascinating lives. SMS provides diverse and challenging experiences while emphasizing the importance of community connection and maintaining high academic standards. **In 2024 we adopted an 8-term modular schedule.** A full course is completed through a series of 3 classes and students take 1-3 classes each mod.

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CEEB Code: 061312

Founded by Lowell Whiteman, 1957

UPPER SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

81 STUDENTS	13 STATES	5 COUNTRIES
6:1 TEACHER TO STUDENT RATIO	10 AVERAGE CLASS SIZE	150-ACRE CAMPUS
\$1M TOTAL TUITION ASSISTANCE/ SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED	40% OF STUDENTS ON TUITION ASSISTANCE/ SCHOLARSHIP	100% GRADUATES ACCEPTED TO 4-YEAR COLLEGES/ UNIVERSITIES

BY THE NUMBERS | CLASS OF 2025

Students | 19
 Average cumulative GPA for SMS coursework | 3.40
 Average SAT Score | 1200
 Average SAT Reading | 630
 Average SAT Math | 580

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ACADEMICS

Our rigorous, college-preparatory academic program works in tandem with our experiential education programs to cultivate a strong work ethic and resilient mindset that will last a lifetime. Our classroom is everywhere. In a complex world that demands agility, initiative, and courage, our students thrive.

- Typical course load: Fifteen to eighteen classes throughout the academic year.
- Advanced courses offer an exciting opportunity for students to dive into the rigor and depth of college-level academics. These courses ignite a passion for learning by allowing students to explore specific disciplines in depth, sharpening their critical thinking, research abilities, and advanced expertise in areas they are truly passionate about.
- Honors distinction on a class challenges students to extend their academic boundaries, offering an enriched curriculum that inspires deeper engagement pushing them to achieve new levels of academic excellence.
- Students engage in extensive global travel and international competitive ski and ride programs, which provide enriching and rewarding learning experiences. However, these commitments do not allow for simultaneous enrollment in college courses.
- While we do not offer designated AP courses, we administer AP exams for students who choose to pursue them independently.
- Our students are in school programming from 7:45 am - 4:30 p.m. in the fall/spring and 7:45 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. in the winter.
- Our GPAs are not weighted, nor do we rank our students.

MOD SCHEDULE (NEW FOR 24-25)

Mod block scheduling expands our ability to offer interdisciplinary classes and increases our ability to offer a wider array of subjects and electives. This innovative approach allows for deeper focus and flexibility which allows students to pursue extracurricular activities fully and year-round without sacrificing valuable classroom time.

- There are 8 mods during the academic year, each about 20 instructional days.
- Each class is the equivalent of a typical trimester of class time and material. Fifteen to eighteen classes per year is a standard academic load.
- Students take two to three classes per mod term, though this may vary each mod.
- Courses are offered as a series of classes. Students choose three-classes to create a year-long sequence that fulfills a course requirement. Any classes on top of the three class requirement are offered as electives worth .33 credits each.
- Students receive final grades at the end of each course, which will be calculated into to their cumulative GPA.
- Due to the 8 mod schedule and differences in each student's schedule, some students may not receive a grade in all classes before Mid-Year Reports are due to colleges. Please contact the College Counseling Office with any questions.

CORE PRINCIPLES

Our students are:

Courageous in Action

Vigorous in Learning

Purposeful in Exploring

Our students learn:

The Power of Connectedness

The Impact of Wholeness

Our School believes in:

Thriving through Contrast

Reported GPA only reflects final grades from courses taken at SMS or through our partnership with One Schoolhouse. Transcripts from previous schools and other programs are provided.

A, 93-100 = 4.0

A-, 90-92 = 3.7

B+, 87-89 = 3.3

B, 83-86 = 3.0

B-, 80-82 = 2.7

B, 80-82 = 2.7

C+, 77-79 = 2.3

C, 73 - 76 = 2.0

C-, 70 - 72 = 1.7

D+, 67 - 69 = 1.3

D, 63-66 = 1.0

D- Below 63 = 0.7

COURSES PROGRESSION AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Advanced classes are in **bold**,

* marks honors options. Electives beyond the three-class requirement are worth .33 credits each.

English Language Arts

4 credit requirement

Analytical Reading, Writing, & Thinking

The Nature of Human Nature
Identity: Self & Society
Human vs. Machine
Poetry: Finding Voice

Novels and Film

Conventions in Classical Noir and Intro to Film Analysis
Psychoanalysis and Romanticism within Noir
Racial and Gender Representation within Noir
Contemporary Adaptations of Noir

Bridging Divides Through Discourse
Intersectionality and Identity
Empathy, Listening, and Wonder
Justice

American Literature*

*Dystopias of the Past, Present, and Future**
*Literature of Place**
*American Horror Stories**
*Literature of Conflict**

Postmodernism*

*Intro to Postmodernism: Humanism and Now**
*Postmodern Satire and Social Commentary**
*Structuralism and Intro to Post-Structuralism**
*Postmodernism, Redux: Now, Again**

Science – 3 credit requirement (must include Biology, Chemistry with lab)

Biology

Chemistry

Advanced Env't Science with Lab
Advanced Anatomy & Physiology
Advanced Physics

Additional Science Electives:

Female Anatomy & Women's Studies
Wilderness First Aid
IT Explorations

Mathematics – 3 credit requirement (Integrated 2 or higher)

Integrated 1

Integrated 2

Integrated 3

Precalculus

Advanced Calculus 1

Advanced Calculus 2

Additional Math Electives:

Introduction to Engineering
Finances
Statistics
Introduction to Economics

Social Studies – 3 credit requirement

(must include World History, US History, Geography)

World History

Middle Eastern Studies

The World Wars

Colonization in the Modern World

Himalayan Studies

Geography

Modern Cartography and Geology of the Mountain West

Electoral Geography and Human Rights

Storytelling, Border Conflicts and Cultural Diversity

U.S. History

Indigenous History

Civics

Music and Revolution

The American West

Justice

American History, Themes and

Perspectives (This course is for seniors who wish to pursue their understanding of U.S. History and take additional classes - one, two, or three mod terms of this course.)

Female Anatomy & Women's Studies

Advanced Social Philosophy

Intro to Social Philosophy
Roots of Inequality
Civil Disobedience

Add'l Social Studies Electives:

Women's Studies

Art History

World Language – 3 credit requirement

Spanish 1

Spanish 2

Spanish 3

Advanced Spanish 4

Advanced Spanish 5

Art – 1 credit requirement

Studio Art

Painting

Drawing

Clay and Ceramics

Adornment: Fabric, Fashion and Wearable Art

Papercraft

Printmaking

Assemblage Sculpture

Craftism

Bookmaking

School Newspaper

Media Art

Photography

Newspaper and Creative Writing

Film

Graphics and Yearbook

Orchestra (in partnership with

Steamboat Springs High School)

Additional Electives

Courses offered through our partnership with One Schoolhouse

Past Electives

Backcountry Winter Skills

Race, Place, and Displacement

Student Leadership

Opportunities – not for credit

Dorm Leader

Prefect

Social Committee

Standards Committee (Discipline Committee)

Club Leader

OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Global Studies (GS): Global Studies students embark on extraordinary journeys, spending 16 weeks over the course of the program in four unique countries, with each four-week adventure centered around an essential question that challenges their perspectives and grows in complexity as they advance. From the vibrant streets of Ecuador and Spain to the majestic landscapes of Nepal, Tanzania, and Bhutan, students have recently traveled to over a dozen countries, including Morocco, India, China, Senegal, Vietnam, and more. Preparation for these immersive experiences includes weekly meetings focused on country-specific knowledge, risk management, and collaborative teamwork. During their travels, students dive deep into cultural exchanges through homestays, excursion adventures, and impactful service-learning projects. The program culminates with a powerful public presentation, where students share their transformative experiences with the wider community.



Athletics: SMS goes beyond traditional team sports. Students pursue mountain sports like hiking, on and off-piste skiing and riding, climbing, and mountain biking through Physical and Outdoor Pursuits (POPs). Students may also pursue organized sports programs through our partnership with the Steamboat Springs High School and Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club (SSWSC).

Senior Capstone Projects: Seniors embark on a comprehensive, year-long capstone project of their own design, following a structured framework centered around one of four pillars: do, make, serve, or solve. From initial concept to final execution, students conduct in-depth research, create a tangible deliverable, develop a corresponding website, and ultimately present their project in a formal presentation that showcases its scope and impact.



SSWSC Club Partnership:

SMS athletes train year-round with the #1 rated ski and snowboard club in the U.S., the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club—a powerhouse for developing past and future D1 athletes, Olympians, and world-class competitors. Our students dedicate over two hours a day, five to seven days a week, to their sport while balancing the demands of distance learning required at an elite level. This balance is achieved through a seamless partnership between the school and SSWSC, along with a personalized learning approach tailored to support our athletes. Steamboat Mountain School has a rich legacy in winter sports, with 32 alumni competing on U.S. ski or snowboard teams, including 16 Olympians who have proudly earned two Olympic medals.

Orientation Expedition: An annual, 3-day camping trip during which all students experience Colorado backcountry in small groups. Students learn Leave No Trace ethics, backcountry stewardship, and practice perseverance and collaboration. Leadership and camp craft skills are developed through intentional curriculum.

Desert Week: All students travel to deserts of Utah to develop skills on a 6-day outdoor trip, focusing on canyoneering, climbing, canoeing or mountain biking. Students understand connection and stewardship with the land, Leave No Trace backcountry ethics, group collaboration, and leadership development.

Campus Care and Community Service: Without a typical maintenance and janitorial staff, our students assist with on campus care. These morning chores and after school work includes trail maintenance, vehicle maintenance, landscaping, and shoveling. Around the Steamboat Springs community our students volunteer at Integrated Communities to assist with translations, stock shelves at LiftUp, and support needs at the Humane Society, to list a few.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES AND MATRICULATION (*matriculation in bold)

Alfred University
American University of Paris
American University of Rome
Appalachian State College
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Augustana College
Babson College
Bates College
Baylor University
Bennington College
Bentley University
Berkelee College of Music
Boston College
Brandeis College
Carleton College
Champlain College
Chapman University
Clark University
Clarkson College
Colby College
College of Charleston
Colorado College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University, Fort Collins
Cornell College
Culinary Institute of America
Dartmouth College
DePaul University
Drexel University
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Florida Institute of Technology
Fort Lewis College
Franklin University Switzerland
George Washington University
Gonzaga University
Hampshire College
Harvard College
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Illinois Wesleyan University
Keene State College

Kenyon College
Lewis and Clark College
Lipscomb University
Louisiana State University
Lynn University
Macalester College
Marymount Manhattan College
Merrimack College
Miami University - Oxford
Middlebury College
Montana State University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northeastern New School of Humanities, London
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Oregon State University
Pace University
Pepperdine University
Quinnipiac University
Regis University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
St. Michael's College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hall University
Southern New Hampshire University
Southwestern University
St. Lawrence University
St. John's College, Santa Fe
St. Olaf College
Stonehill College
Syracuse University
Swarthmore College
Texas Christian University
Union College
United States Coast Guard Academy
United States Military Academy at West Point
University of Alabama
University of Alaska, Anchorage
University of Arizona
University of British Columbia

University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Colorado
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Maine
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts, Boston
University of Montana
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina, Asheville
University of North Dakota
University of Oregon
University of Puget Sound
University of San Diego
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wyoming
Wake Forest University
Washington State University
Western Colorado University
Western Washington University
Westminster College
William Jewell College
Williams College
Woodbury University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute