



STEUBENVILLE CATHOLIC  
**CENTRAL**  
HIGH SCHOOL



**CHESTERTON**  
**ACADEMY**

### **1. Is there information available that describes a Classical Curriculum track?**

Yes, we recommend the following resources as a good place to start. They are both available as free downloads. The Lost Tools of Learning by Dorothy Sayers [http://www.triviumeducation.com/texts/The\\_Lost\\_Tools\\_of\\_Learning.pdf](http://www.triviumeducation.com/texts/The_Lost_Tools_of_Learning.pdf)  
An Introduction to Classical Education: A Guide for Parents by Dr. Christopher Perrin <http://classicalsubjects.com/resources/ICE.pdf>

### **2. Why is it called the Chesterton Academy?**

The name comes from G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), a prolific Catholic writer who is considered one of the world's most outstanding men of letters and its most original thinker. As a recognized defender of the faith, a literary genius, and a stellar example of Christian charity, Chesterton is a perfect model on which to develop a classical education model.

### **3. Is the Chesterton Academy a separate school?**

No, it is a curriculum track within Catholic Central High School. Full-time students are matriculated Catholic Central students. Current students may also take courses offered in this curriculum track as electives. Part-time students can take Chesterton courses, but they will not graduate with a Chesterton Academy diploma. Part-time students must follow the Diocesan part-time student policy.

### **4. Is the tuition for the Chesterton Academy students different?**

No, the 2025-2026 school year tuition is \$8,408 for full-time Catholic Central students. There is a registration fee of \$50.00. See question #19 for scholarship information.

**5. Will students following the classical curriculum track have the opportunity to interact with students who are not in the program?** Yes, all students will mingle and mix at mass, lunch, band, chorus, clubs, drama, and sports. Chesterton Academy students will also be integrated into regular math, science, and elective courses.

### **6. Is this a pilot program?**

No, it is not a pilot program. Catholic Central is committed to a full four-year Chesterton Academy being implemented.

### **7. Is this the only program like this in the Diocese of Steubenville and the Tri-State area?**

Yes, Catholic Central is leading the way in providing a classical curriculum track for our high school students. We are the only school in the area with this offering.

### **8. Will graduates of the Chesterton Academy receive a different diploma?**

No, all graduates of Catholic Central will receive their official diploma from the Diocese of Steubenville. However, Chesterton Academy graduates will receive a seal on their diploma as an Academy graduate. It will be designated on the student's transcript.

### **9. Will all students take philosophy?**

Yes, all students in the classical track will have at least 4 and possibly more years of philosophy.

### **10. What is the primary method of instruction in the Chesterton Academy?**

The curriculum's governing principal is that of Socratic Dialogue whereby students prepare themselves each night to participate the following day in teacher-moderated discussions. The program will also have standard teacher lectures, note taking, presentations, writing, and written tests.

### **11. What will my child take in college after graduating from this rigorous academic program?**

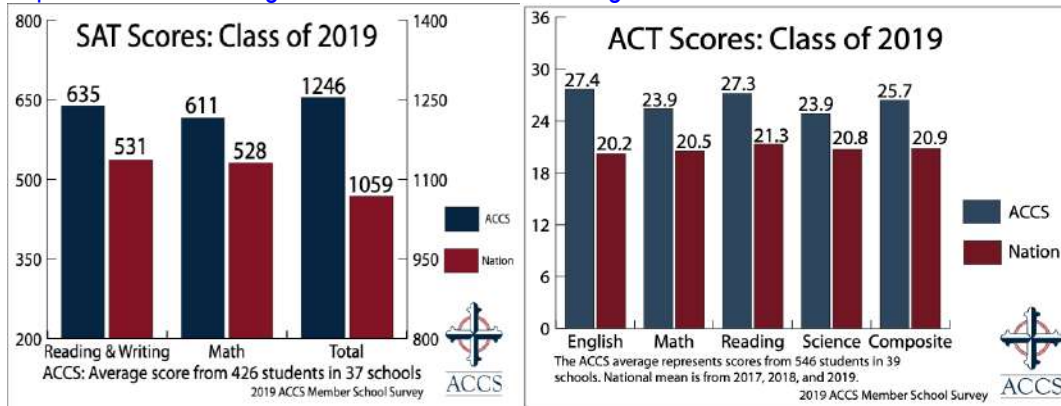
Though some of the coursework sounds like a college set of credits, the courses are appropriate for the high school level. The coursework will, however, prepare the student to succeed in higher education and give them a clear sense of courses and majors in college. Through our partnership with Franciscan University, college credit is offered in philosophy for juniors and seniors. Franciscan Advantage courses are also available for students who want to earn even more college credit.

**12. Is this curriculum track "authentically Catholic?"** Our faith is interwoven throughout the curriculum and it reflects the history and teaching tradition of our Church. The exploration of original works by the greatest philosophers, theologians and historians, coupled with meaningful discussion, ensures that students will enjoy a rich experience. Daily Mass is offered at 7:10 A.M., teachers

take the Oath of Fidelity to the Magisterium, and students are trained as cultural warriors – defending truth, the family, and the culture of life.

**13. How does the classical approach work for students who want to be scientists and engineers?**

The leaders of engineering firms and scientific discovery are those who can articulate their ideas the best through both writing and rhetorical skills. Graduates of classical schools perform well in standardized testing and have additional leadership and communication skills that colleges seek. Average test scores of graduates from a classical curriculum are significantly higher than the national average. For recent performance on standardized testing, visit this website: [http://www.accsedu.org/what-is-cce/statistics\\_at\\_a\\_glance](http://www.accsedu.org/what-is-cce/statistics_at_a_glance).



**14. Will there be a summer “bridge program” to help acclimate students to the curriculum & school?**

Yes, plans for the summer bridge program are currently being made. Details will be forthcoming.

**15. How will technology be integrated?**

Technology will be used selectively per the individual teacher’s plan. Chesterton Academy students generally use technology less in the actual classroom; however, it will certainly be used for research and writing assignments. Each student is issued a Chromebook that has been locked down and is monitored for inappropriate content.

**16. How will the students be graded?** Because the Chesterton Academy Track courses are challenging, they are designated as honors and these classes have the following grading scale.

**Grading System – Scale**

+ (plus) or - (minus) is used to better clarify student performance and achievement.

A	90-100	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	Below 60
C	73-76		

**17. Will anything change for other students at Catholic Central?**

No. Currents students may elect to take any courses appropriate for them.

**18. Who will be teaching the Chesterton Academy curriculum?**

Catholic Central hires teachers who are willing and able to teach in a classical curriculum style, especially Socratic Dialogue & rhetoric.

**19. Is there tuition assistance available?**

Yes. Catholic Central reviews all applications for tuition assistance. Eligibility is need-based. We offer the EdChoice scholarship, the Immaculate Heart Fund, and Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund which could pay up to 100% of school tuition.

**20. What are the core courses taught in the Chesterton Academy?**

The core courses are Literature, History, Philosophy, Theology, Debate, and Latin. Students will be taking math, science, and electives.

**21. This sounds like a tremendous opportunity for my child. How do I apply?**

Please call the school at 740-264-5538 and speak to Mrs. Jamie Ross, Guidance Counselor, [jross@steubenvillecatholiccentral.org](mailto:jross@steubenvillecatholiccentral.org) or Mrs. Martina Erste, CCHS Chesterton Academy Program Director, [merste@steubenvillecatholiccentral.org](mailto:merste@steubenvillecatholiccentral.org).