



*A Roman Catholic College-Preparatory School · Grades 7-12
Conducted by the Marist Brothers of the Schools*

101 St. Joseph Drive • Brownsville, Texas 78520 • www.sja.us • (956) 542-3581 • Guidance Fax (956) 698-7098
ACT/CEEB Code: 440915

School Profile 2016-2017

COMMUNITY

Brownsville is the southernmost city in Texas, located directly across the Texas – Mexico border from its sister city of Matamoros, Tamaulipas, and about 25 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. Brownsville's location has made it an important international seaport and one of the fastest growing areas in the United States. The population of Brownsville is approaching 200,000, but its proximity to Matamoros creates a much larger bilingual and bicultural community. This cosmopolitan atmosphere is evident at Saint Joseph Academy, where many of the students are fully bilingual in English and Spanish. Founded in 1865 by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate and then taken over by Marist Brothers of the Schools in 1906, Saint Joseph Academy has been an important part of the Brownsville community for 150 years, and its excellent educational programs and services reflect the devoted personal and financial support of its many alumni and friends.

SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

- A private, Roman Catholic, coeducational, college - preparatory school, grades 7 – 12
- Current enrollment: 517 student in grades 7 – 12
- Accredited by AdvanceED/SACS CASI and the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department
- Member of The College Board, National Association for College Admission Counseling, Texas Association for College Admission Counseling, National Catholic Educational Association, and National Association of Secondary School Principals

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Michael Motyl, *President*
Mrs. Melissa Valadez, *Principal*
Mr. Benjamin Sandoval, *Director of Student Affairs*

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Lindsay Irwin, *Director of Guidance/Student Advocate*
Mrs. Olga Cisneros, *Counselor*
Mrs. Stephanie Machinena, *Counselor*
Mrs. Vilma Wolfe, *Counselor*

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, CLASS OF 2017

Twenty-eight credits are required for graduation

Religious Studies 4.0 credits
English 4.0 credits
Mathematics 4.0 credits
Science 4.0 credits (including biology, chemistry, physics)
Social Studies 4.0 credits
Languages Other Than English 3.0 credits
Speech 0.5 credit

Health 0.5 credit
Computer Science 1.0 credit
Fine Arts 1.0 credit
Physical Education 1.0 credit
Fitness 0.5 credit
Elective 0.5 credit

*1865^{SJA}
The Spirit Lives On
Saint Joseph Academy*

CURRICULUM

All students participate in a college preparatory curriculum. Honors and Advanced Placement courses are offered in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Languages Other Than English. Enrollment in Honors and Advanced Placement courses is by application and is based upon grade averages and teacher recommendations. Dual Enrollment classes are offered in Mathematics through Texas Southmost College at Brownsville. A completed Writing Portfolio is a graduation requirement for all students.

In the spring of 2016, 101 SJA students in grades 10 – 12 took 178 AP exams in 12 subject areas, achieving qualifying scores of 3 or higher on 69% of the tests. Of those qualifying scores, 62% received scores of 4 or 5, the two highest score points.

GRADING SYSTEM AND CLASS RANK

Grades are computed on a 100-point scale. The minimum passing grade is 70. Grades are weighted by assigning a course multiplier based on the level of difficulty: Advanced Placement, 1.10; Honors/Dual Enrollment, 1.05; Standard College Prep, 1.00. Weighting is reflected in the cumulative average, but not in the course grade. The student's GPA is calculated at the conclusion of each semester, using semester grades in all courses.

Saint Joseph Academy does not report class rank. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 year, there were 111 students in the Class of 2017. The highest GPA in the class on a 100 point scale was 101.44, and the lowest GPA in the class was 70.93. The median GPA was 85.99. Course weighting as explained above is reflected in the GPA.

TRANSCRIPT NOTATIONS & GRADING SCALE

H indicates an Honors Course

D indicates a Dual Enrollment Course

AP indicates an Advanced Placement Course

The following will be used to assign value to grades earned in the Mexican school system:

10 – 7 = P [Passed] 6 – 1 = F [Failed]

AP COURSES 2016 -2017

Calculus AB	Comparative Government & Politics
English Language	US History
English Literature	French Language & Culture
Physics I	Spanish Language & Culture
Chemistry	Spanish Literature & Culture
Macroeconomics	

DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

Hon. Algebra II	Honors Calculus I
Hon. Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AB

Class of 2016 SAT Scores – 100% of class included

Section	SJA Middle 50%	SJA Mean	Texas Mean	Total Group Mean
Critical Reading	440 – 550	498	466	494
Mathematics	430 – 540	488	478	508
Writing	440 – 540	497	449	482

Class of 2016 ACT Composite Scores – 46 % of class included

ACT Composite Score	SJA Mean Composite	Texas Mean Composite	National Mean Composite
	21.2	20.6	20.8

UPPER DIVISION COURSE OFFERINGS CLASS OF 2017

DEPARTMENT	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English 9 Hon. English 9 Foundational English 9 Writing Lab Speech	English 10 Hon. Eng. 10 Journalism Speech	English 11 AP English Language Adv. Creative Writing Journalism Speech	English 12 AP Eng. Literature Adv. Creative Writing Journalism Speech
Mathematics	Algebra I Hon. Geometry Geometry	Geometry Hon. Algebra II Algebra II Hon. Alg. II-Dual	Algebra II Pre-Calculus Hon. Pre-Calculus Dual	Pre-Calculus AP Calculus AB Dual Calculus I Hon. Calculus I - Dual
Science	Biology Hon. Biology	Chemistry Hon. Chemistry	Physics Hon. Physics AP Chemistry	Anatomy/Physiology AP Physics 1 Engineering Hon. Astronomy AP Chemistry
Social Studies	World Geography	World History Hon. World History	US History AP US History American Cultures Modern History	American Government Economics Modern History AP Comparative Government & Politics AP Macroeconomics
Religious Studies	Religion 9: Scripture	Religion 10: Church and Worship	Social Justice	World Religions Christian Identity Call to Ministry Christian Service
Languages Other Than English	Honors Spanish Beginning Spanish Intermed. Spanish Advanced Spanish French I	Honors Spanish Intermed. Spanish Advanced Spanish AP Spanish Lang. French II French I	Honors Spanish Advanced Spanish AP Spanish Lang. & Culture AP Spanish Lit. & Culture French III French II	Honors Spanish AP Span Lang & Culture AP Span Lit & Culture French III AP French Language & Culture Advanced Spanish
Fine Arts	2-D Design 3-D Design Theatre Arts Stagecraft	2-D Design 3-D Design	2-D Design 3-D Design Art Portfolio	2-D Design 3-D Design Art Portfolio Girls' Choir
Other Offerings	Phys. Ed/Athletics Health Fitness	Computer Applications Phys. Ed/Athletics Yearbook Health Fitness	Computer Applications Business Law International Business Yearbook Phys. Ed/Athletics Health Fitness	Computer Applications International Business Business Management Yearbook Phys. Ed/Athletics Health Fitness

POST SECONDARY PLANS OF RECENT GRADUATES

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of graduates	139	110	129	118	94
2-year college	5.7%	2%	0%	0%	2%
4-year college	92.2%	98%	100%	100%	99%
Other	2.1% [gap year]	0%	0%	0%	0%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES OF RECENT SJA GRADUATES

Abilene Christian University	New York Film Academy	The George Washington University
American University	New York University	The King's College
Appalachian State University	North Carolina State University	The New School
Arizona State University	Northeastern University	The Ohio State University
Aston University	Nova Southeastern University	The University of Arizona
Austin College	Oklahoma City University	The University of Texas, Arlington
Ave Maria University	Oklahoma State University	The University of Texas, Austin
Barnard College	Our Lady of the Lake University	The University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley
Baylor University	Parsons The New School for Design	The University of Texas, San Antonio
Belmont University	Pennsylvania State University, Altoona	The University of Tulsa
Berklee College of Music	Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg	Trinity College
Boston Architectural College	Pennsylvania State University, University Park	Trinity University
Boston College	Pratt Institute	Universidad de Monterrey
Boston University	Princeton University	Universidad Iberoamericana
Brandeis University	Purdue University	University of British Columbia
California College of the Arts	Regis University	University of California, Berkeley
Carnegie Mellon University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of California, Los Angeles
Colorado State University	Rhode Island School of Design	University of California, San Diego
Columbia College	Rice University	University of California Santa Barbara
Columbia College of Art and Design	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	University of Chicago
Columbia University	Saint Louis University	University of Colorado at Boulder
Concordia University at Austin	Saint Mary's College	University of Dallas
Cornell College	Saint Mary's College of California	University of Denver
Creighton University	Sam Houston State University	University of Florida
Dartmouth College	Santa Clara University	University of Houston
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Santa Fe University of Art & Design	University of Illinois at Chicago
Eugene Lang College, the New School for Liberal Arts	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Kansas
Fashion Institute of Technology	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Kentucky
Florida International University	School of the Museum of Fine Arts	University of Louisville
Fordham University	School of Visual Arts	University of Maine
Franklin University Switzerland	Schreiner University	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Fundacion de las Americas Puebla	Seattle University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Georgetown University	Smith College	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Gonzaga University	Southern Illinois University, Carbondale	University of Mississippi
Hawaii Pacific University	Southern Methodist University	University of Missouri Columbia
Holy Cross College	Southwestern University	University of Montreal
Houston Baptist University	St. Edward's University	University of Nebraska at Lincoln
Instituto Culinario de Mexico, Monterrey	St. John's University - Manhattan	University of New England
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey	St. John's University - Queens	University of New Haven
Iona College	St. Mary's University of San Antonio	University of North Texas
Iowa State University	Stephen F. Austin State University	University of Notre Dame
John Hopkins University	Suffolk University	University of Oklahoma
Johnson & Wales University	Sweet Briar College	University of Oregon
King's College London	Texas A&M University	University of Pennsylvania
La Roche College	Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi	University of Rhode Island
Loyola University Chicago	Texas A&M University, Galveston	University of Rochester
Loyola University New Orleans	Texas A&M University, Kingsville	University of San Diego
Macalester College	Texas Christian University	University of San Francisco
Maine College of Art	Texas Lutheran University	University of St. Thomas
Marist College	Texas State University	University of Twente
Miami Dade College	Texas Tech University	University of the Incarnate Word
Michigan State University	Texas Woman's University	Washington University in St. Louis
Milwaukee School of Engineering	The American University of Paris	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Mount Holyoke College	The Art Institute of Austin	West Virginia University
Mount Saint Mary's University	The Art Institute of Dallas	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
New Mexico State University	The Art Institute of San Antonio	Yale University
New School of Architecture and Design	The School of the Art Institute of Chicago	