Riverfield Country Day School is committed to developing lifelong learners. This is evident in the quality of the curriculum and expertise of the faculty. The goals of the Upper School are to encourage sound scholarship, independent learning, and critical thinking. The Upper School is the only non-sectarian independent high school in the Tulsa area and is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS).

Riverfield continues to grow, with over 100 Upper School students. Small classes, with an average of 15 students per class, provide a rigorous and personalized academic program that emphasizes effective communication, fosters self-confidence, and gives a sense of purpose. A trusting and respectful environment leads to genuine dialogue among faculty and students.

Riverfield was the first school in Oklahoma to offer a Tablet PC program, a unique tool that, when paired with our wireless campus, enhances student communication, presentation, and research capabilities.

Riverfield Upper School provides challenge and support to all students so that they will graduate ready to meet the demands of college, a competitive workforce, and a complex life. Small classes emphasize effective communication with peers and faculty, foster self-confidence and give a sense of purpose in academic and personal goals.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Riverfield Country Day School is to provide an excellent education in a family-oriented atmosphere. Students are motivated and encouraged to learn, develop, and mature in a respectful, secure, and diverse environment. A caring, creative faculty and a challenging, integrated, and personalized curriculum promote the development of the whole student as a confident and responsible learner prepared for real world success.
**General Information**

Established in 1984, Riverfield has been enriching students through innovation, small class sizes, and positive collaborative relationships. Serving children from 6 weeks through Upper School, Riverfield helps students reach their full potential in a family-oriented atmosphere. The 120-acre campus with its barnyard animals, hiking trails, woods, ponds, and outdoor classrooms, is an inviting introduction to the array of learning opportunities the school offers its students. The challenging, personalized curriculum is presented as an integrated process, blending many subjects and activities.

**Faculty**

With an average of 20 years of teaching, our experienced faculty encourages students to achieve their potential in all aspects of development: intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and moral. They promote the development of mutual goals and responsibilities. A trusting, respectful, positive school environment leads to genuine dialogue between faculty and students.

**Graduation Requirements**

The primary purpose of our academic program is to challenge and support students so they will graduate from RCDS ready to meet the demands of a competitive college and of life.

Most students take five core courses (English, Math, Science, History, and World Languages) in addition to the non-core offerings. A student must take at least four core courses, and one non-core course each semester. Riverfield’s graduation requirements meet those required by Oklahoma’s state colleges and universities. Some colleges and universities have more stringent requirements that may also be met at Riverfield.

**ENGLISH**

**9th Grade**

Focuses on developing writing and critical reading skills. Literary techniques are studied through different genres with most selections coming from American Literature. Composition instruction includes academic, creative, and personal writing. Vocabulary study includes working with English words derived from Greek and Latin. Independent and summer readings are required.

**10th Grade**

Focuses on reading and analyzing literature as well as developing composition and vocabulary skills. Literature study is organized around the universal search for identity, including reading and discussing value systems, loss of innocence, conflicts between the individual and society, and the search for fulfillment. Genres studies include fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama with readings from American, British, and world literature. Composition work includes expository, narrative-descriptive, persuasive, and creative writing. Individual, independent reading, and/or projects plus summer readings are required.

**11th Grade**

A survey course of American history from the end of World War II to the present. Focus is on the Cold War, expansion of Civil Rights, unfolding of social movements in the U.S., the Vietnam War, political and economic changes as a result of national/international issues, and some discussion of current events.

**12th Grade**

Seniors have their choice of two of the following three semester courses: History of Rock Music, Survey of Supreme Court Decisions, or Art History. Students may also consider history options offered at Tulsa Community College.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Algebra I**

Concepts include solving equations with one-variable, working with polynomials and fractions, factoring, solving equations with two variables, graphing, working with inequalities, rational and irrational numbers, and quadratic equations. Word problems related to real life applications are emphasized throughout the course.

**Geometry**

(Algebra I is a prerequisite.)

Teaches students to draw, visualize, and follow algorithms; understand properties, mathematical relationships, and proofs; use geometric ideas in real situations; and represent geometric concepts with coordinates, networks, or other diagrams.

**Algebra II**

(Algebra I is a prerequisite.)

Focuses on functions, graphs, and matrices; systems of equations using graphing, substitution, and addition; quadratic functions and relations; and an introduction to trigonometry, analytical geometry, and calculus.

**Algebra III**

(Algebra II is a prerequisite.)

Focuses on comprehensive review of concepts from Algebra II, followed by an introduction to topics from college courses such as College Algebra, Statistics, and Finite Math.

**Pre-Calculus**

(Algebra II is a prerequisite.)

Includes a review of algebra and geometry concepts, as well as an introduction to exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions, vectors, complex numbers, conic sections, and analytic geometry.

**Calculus**

(Pre-Calculus is a prerequisite.)

Courses for college credit through TCC Concurrent Enrollment Program include Calculus I, Calculus II, College Algebra, Finite Math, and Statistics.
SCIENCE

Biology
A comprehensive overview of the central concepts of biology: cell structure and functions, genetics, human physiology, ecology, and the diversity of life. Presentation of new concepts accomplished through student investigation of real world problems within the discipline. Evaluation of concept understanding and mastery occurs through presentation of student-driven projects. Laboratory safety and skills are assessed through periodic practical exams.

Chemistry
A study of the composition, structure and properties of matter and the changes it undergoes. Topics include atomic structure, scientific measurement, periodicity, mass-mole relations, chemical reactions, gas laws, acid-base reactions, and fundamentals of organic chemistry. A minimum of one research or practical application project is assigned per semester.

Physics
Covers conceptual physics and an introduction to theoretical physics. Topics include vectors, laws of rectilinear and curvilinear motion, waves, thermodynamics, optics, DC electricity, radioactivity, and electronics. Practical labs and projects are assigned.

Anatomy and Physiology
Provides an overview of the central concepts of human anatomy and physiology: cells, tissues, skin, skeletal system, muscular system, nervous system, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system.

ELECTIVE NON-CORE COURSES

ALEKS
Students in 3rd - 12th have a subscription to ALEKS. ALEKS.com is a web-based supplement aligned with student textbooks that gives an individualized snapshot of all relative concepts. At any time students may access ALEKS via the internet at home or school and is monitored and assessed by math teachers.

Awareness
Students meet once a week in a grade level class with the school counselor to create a sense of community. Topics include team building, relevant teen issues, and career interests. Students set academic goals, plan course selections, and investigate their post-secondary options.

SAT/ACT Prep
Students take the PLAN test in 10th grade and the PSAT in 10th and 11th grades. 11 grade students take an SAT/ACT prep course to prepare for the SAT and ACT tests that are taken in the 11th and/or 12th grade.

Service
Students have one period each week for service to the Riverfield and Tulsa communities. Possible choices for volunteering include assisting in a Pre-School or Primary School class, being an aide to a teacher or staff member, or caring for the school’s many animals.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Students may select German or Spanish for their world languages requirement. Reading, writing, and speaking are emphasized. The Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS) method is used, which encourages language acquisition, not just language learning.

REQUIRED NON-CORE COURSES

Additional Core Options
- Acting I
- Music Theory
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Survey of English History

“‘All I can say is WOW! I was not just pleased with his grades but with your report card format as well. To see the thought that each teacher put into their comments and recommendations astounded my husband and me. It made us realize just how much your staff pays attention to our child’s strengths and weaknesses. They were spot on! Your program and staff have far exceeded our expectations!’

Upper School Parent

ECONOMICS

Advanced Home Economics
is available as continued coursework for those who have completed basic Home Economics.

Values Debate
students learn the art of persuasion, communication, and research; examine how several philosophers contributed to Western thought, and discover how to affirm or negate propositions of value. The Debate Team competes in tournaments all over Oklahoma.

Study Hall

Filmmaking
students create individual and group film projects while learning about storyboard, video production, and video editing.

Introductory Computing
students will be introduced to the fundamentals of programming including data types, control statements (conditional statements and loops), modularization, input/output, arrays, classes and objects and exception handling.

Webpage Design
students will focus on webpage design using HTML.

Visual Arts

course opportunities include studio art, street art, and life drawing, and vary each semester.
Riverfield utilizes TCC’s Concurrent Enrollment Program to offer advanced and diversified courses. As an alternative to AP classes, RCDS students can earn college credits and have the experience of advanced and diversified courses. As an alternative to AP classes, Riverfield utilizes TCC’s Concurrent Enrollment Program to offer college credits to all students, families, faculty, and staff.

Social Opportunities
Each year the Upper School Student Government organizes many social activities for their peers. These include, but are not limited to, music performances, game nights, lock-ins, sporting events, and dances.

Athletics
Students are strongly encouraged, though not required, to participate in current sports that include:
- **Fall**: football, girls volleyball, cheerleading, and cross country
- **Winter**: basketball and cheerleading
- **Spring**: golf, tennis, and soccer.

Clubs and Activities
Time is allotted weekly for clubs and activities including Academic Bowl, Chess Club, Drumline, Frisbee Golf, Jazz Band, Ping Pong/Jungle Pong, Spanish Club, Speech and Debate Competitions, and Student Government. Student interests may lead to the development of other clubs.

Campout
Each fall, the Upper School students and faculty go on a three-day campout that combines teamwork, leadership training, and some time to relax and have fun. Campout activities include floating the Illinois River, playing instrument, fishing, hiking, animal observations, sports games, and dramatic presentations.

RIVERFIELD ADMISSIONS

Admissions Criteria
Admission is based on a combination of criteria including the student’s educational history, personal interview, visit during a school day, and our intuition that the individual is genuinely motivated to succeed and will benefit from the Riverfield experience. No one factor is more important than another. Our main concern is success for the student. After an initial tour and interview, students spend a day visiting Riverfield in the regular classroom environment. The parents sign a Transcript Release Form to request transcripts and records from the candidate’s current school. Once students are accepted, Riverfield may ask that a placement test be taken for certain courses.

Financial Aid
Admission decisions are made prior to and separate from decisions about financial aid. A student must be accepted before the financial aid decision can be made. No family should refrain from making application for admission because of limited finances. Parents obtain the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) packet from the Riverfield Admissions or Business Office and submit completed forms to SSS by March 1 of each year. Financial aid will not be awarded until information is received from SSS and the Riverfield Financial Aid Committee makes its recommendation.

CONTACTS

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COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

Riverfield creates an environment where students grow on many different levels. One of our fundamental responsibilities is to assist students in the selection of colleges that best match their abilities, interests, and overall personal and school achievements. A college counselor works with students beginning in their sophomore year to determine where to apply to college and to provide assistance with applications. During this time, Riverfield will establish relationships with colleges to which students are interested in applying.

Riverfield students have been admitted to the following colleges and universities:

Austin College
Brigham Young University
Colorado School of Mines
Cornell University
Drury College
Hampshire College
Hendrix College
Houston Baptist University
Johnson and Wales University
Kansas State University
Lynchburg College
Missouri Southern State University
Missouri University of Science & Technology
Northeastern State University
Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma State University
Rhodes College
Rogers State University
Salve Regina College
Southern Methodist University
Southwestern University
Texas Christian University
Tulsa Community College
University of Arkansas
University of Missouri
University of Oklahoma
University of Texas
University of Tulsa
University of West Virginia
Westminster College

Non-Discriminatory Statement
Riverfield Country Day School is a non-profit, independent school with no religious affiliation. Riverfield is a welcoming community that strives to treat everyone fairly. All decisions regarding admissions, employment, administration, and student and faculty life are made without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or any other criteria prohibited by law. All rights, privileges, educational, athletic, school-administered programs, and activities made available by the school are extended to all students, families, faculty, and staff.