

# Vassar at a Glance 2009–2010

## Overview

- 2450 students
- 1000 acre campus
- 75 miles north of New York City

## Extensive Academic Program

- Flexible curriculum
- See list of majors printed on the back of the Facts brochure (in the green box).
- Over 50 choices for majors and minors. Five most popular majors are English, the Biological Sciences, Political Science, Psychology, and Economics.
- Ability to create your own Independent Major if your area of interest is not covered by an existing department.
- Strong support for students interested in pre-med, pre-law, and other graduate programs. Vassar graduates enjoy impressive admission rates to the top medical, law, business, and Masters and Ph.D. programs.
- Seminar style/discussion oriented classes:
  - Average class size is 17
  - Student-faculty ratio is 9:1
- Student/faculty collaborative research opportunities and independent study courses.
- Credit bearing internships (Field Work) offered by all academic departments. Over 50% choose Field Work in areas ranging from medicine, law, and the arts to journalism, advertising, the media, social service, and education.
- Extensive Study Away (Junior Year Abroad) program. About 40% of our students choose to study away.

## Information about Individual Departments and Majors

Encourage students to visit [www.vassar.edu](http://www.vassar.edu). Each department has a comprehensive website.

## Diverse Student Body

- About 25% are Students of Color.
- About 60% from public schools, 40% from private and parochial schools.
- Students from all 50 states and 58 foreign countries.
- 58% of students receive need-based financial aid.
- Student body is 41% male and 59% female.

## Strong Student Community

- Over 125 student-run organizations and clubs including political, volunteer, ethnic, and religious groups. Weekly newspaper and other student publications, drama and comedy clubs, FM radio station, a cappella groups, student bands, and debate team.
- 27 varsity athletic teams at the NCAA Division III level: Men's Baseball, M&W Basketball, M&W Cross Country, M&W Fencing, Women's Field Hockey, Women's Golf, M&W Lacrosse, M&W Rowing, M&W Soccer, M&W Squash, M&W Swimming and Diving, M&W Tennis, M&W Track, M&W Volleyball, M&W Rugby
- 11 club sports, including Ultimate Frisbee, Cycling, Skiing, Quidditch; many intramural teams.

## Excellent Location

- Students have access to the resources in Poughkeepsie and throughout the Hudson Valley.
- New York offers academic, internship, and recreational opportunities.

## Applying to Vassar

Vassar offered admission to 24.7% of the 7577 students who applied for admission to the Class of 2013.

- Vassar uses the Common Application (commonapp.org) and the required Vassar supplement.
- The 5 required parts of the application:
  - Transcript (the most important one)
  - Standardized testing
  - 2 Letters of recommendation
  - Extracurricular Activities
  - Essay
- Your Space is a optional, open section of the application where a student can include any supplementary material they would like.

## The Transcript In-Depth

- The most competitive applicants have about an A- average unweighted GPA and are in the top 10% of their class.
- Rigorous college preparatory high school program with honors and advanced placement courses.
- The high school program should include (to the maximum extent possible) four-years of English, foreign language, history, mathematics, and science or a course of studies that is comparable in breadth and rigor to this program.

## Standardized Testing In-Depth

- Vassar requires:
  - ACT with Writing
  - OR
  - SAT Reasoning Test and any two SAT Subject Tests.
- The Average test score (middle 50%) are:
  - SAT Reasoning Test (all 3 sections): 2000-2250
  - SAT Reasoning Test (Critical Reading + Math): 1320-1490
  - ACT Composite: 29-33

- Middle 50% means 25% of accepted students scored below the range and 25% scored about the range.

## Extracurricular and Leadership Expectations

- Significant extracurricular involvement
- Proven leadership ability and/ or evidence of leadership potential.
- Admirable personal qualities including integrity, compassion, tolerance, maturity, vision, passion.

## Financial Aid

- Admission decisions are need-blind.
- Vassar meets 100% of demonstrated financial need. Vassar does not offer merit scholarships based on special academic, artistic, or athletic talent. All of our financial aid is need-based.
- Applicants submit the CSS PROFILE, Federal Application for Free Student Aid (FAFSA), and tax returns
- Helpful web sites:
  - [www.admissions.vassar.edu](http://www.admissions.vassar.edu): click on "Finances"
  - [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org): informative web site with numerous links to other financial aid sites.

## Other Facts

- Vassar offers college credit for Advanced Placement exam results of 4 and 5.
- Vassar offers college credit for International Baccalaureate (IB) scores of 5, 6, and 7 on IB Higher Level exams.

## Application Deadlines

Early Decision I: November 15

Early Decision II: January 1

Regular Decision: January 1

- Applicants may request an alumni interview online when they submit the Vassar Supplement to the Common Application.