Vassar at a Glance 2012–2013

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. Our five most popular majors are English, Psychology, the Biological Sciences, Political Science, 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:
  o Average class size is 17
  o Student-faculty ratio is 8:1
• Student/faculty collaborative research opportunities and independent study courses.
• Credit-bearing internships (Field Work) offered by all academic departments. About 60% 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 40-45% of our students choose to study away.

Diverse Student Body
• About 33% are students of color.
• 60% from public schools, 40% from private, parochial, independent and homeschooling programs.
• Students from all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, and 61 foreign countries.
• 65% of students receive need-based financial aid. 60% receive need-based Vassar scholarship.
• Student body is 43% male and 57% 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.
• 23 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 Soccer, M&W Squash, M&W Swimming and Diving, M&W Tennis, M&W Track, M&W Volleyball.
• Student-run club sports include M&W Rowing, M&W Rugby, Equestrian, Polo, Sailing, 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 City offers academic, internship, and recreational opportunities.

Information about Individual Departments and Majors
Encourage students to visit www.vassar.edu. Each department has a comprehensive website.
Applying to Vassar
Vassar offered admission to 22.5% of the 7908 students who applied for admission to the Class of 2016.

- Vassar uses the Common Application (commonapp.org) and the required Vassar Supplement.
- The 5 required parts of the application:
  o Transcript (most important)
  o Standardized testing
  o 2 letters of recommendation
  o Extracurricular activities
  o Essay
- Your Space is an optional, open section of the application where students can include any supplementary material they would like.

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

Standardized Testing In-Depth
- Vassar requires:
  o ACT with Writing
  OR
  o SAT Reasoning Test and any two SAT Subject Tests.
- The average test score (middle 50%) are:
  o SAT Reasoning Test (all 3 sections): 2050-2250
  o SAT Reasoning Test (Critical Reading + Math): 1360-1500
  o ACT Composite: 30-33
- Middle 50% means 25% of admitted 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 for American citizens and permanent residents.
- Vassar meets 100% of demonstrated financial need. Vassar does not offer merit, artistic or athletic scholarships. All of our financial aid is need-based.
- Applicants submit the CSS PROFILE, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and tax returns
- Helpful web sites:
  o www.admissions.vassar.edu: click on “Finances”
  o www.finaid.org: informative website 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 alumnae/i interview online when they submit the Common Application.