

Introduction to Girls' Schools 2019 Course Overview & Past Participant Schools

Course Overview:

Introduction to Girls' Schools, offered by the National Coalition of Girls' School (NCGS) and One Schoolhouse, is designed as an orientation to girls' schools for newly hired teachers (be they seasoned educators or new to the profession). There are two primary purposes for this course. First, participants learn research on girls' education and are introduced to experts in our field. Second, they apply this new knowledge to classroom and school settings and receive feedback on their thoughts from expert mentors. By the end of the three-week experience, teachers gain a clear sense of what it means to work in an all-girls school; understand research related to girls' education and demonstrate they can apply it to their own practice; and connect to a national cohort of faculty members and learn they are a part of a worldwide community of educators.

Course Format:

During this program, participants spend approximately four hours on coursework for each unit and can set their own pace each week. Coursework and assignments for each unit open on Monday morning and are completed by the following Sunday evening. Participants connect and collaborate with each other through several forms of interactive media, including short videos and discussion boards.

Each week of the course is divided into two sections: content and engagement. Participants are expected to spend approximately two hours reading, watching, and understanding content. They then spend approximately two additional hours engaging with their fellow participants and the course facilitator(s) to apply the knowledge learned through case studies and discussion boards. **Participants and facilitators report the primary power of this course is the engagement happening between participants and with facilitators.**

What Participants Say:

99% of participants said the course content met objectives set for the course

96% of participants said they would recommend this course to colleagues

98% of participants said they received helpful feedback and support from facilitators

"If you want to learn about the environment of an all-girls' school, you should take this course. It provides research, suggestions, offers case studies and is a perfect blend of academic discourse and practical teaching strategies." -*Molly McAleer, Richmond, Virginia*

"It can be intimidating teaching at an all girls' school, especially as a male. Because of this

course I am more prepared and confident about my ability to teach." -*Andy Blair, Denver, Colorado*

"I so appreciated that this course was created and available to me in my first year in a girls' school. The content is focused and presented in a manner that helped me work through my first semester in my new environment." -*Dr. Barbara Bell, Nashville, Tennessee*

Unit 0

All participants start with an online learning orientation. Participants learn how to navigate the learning platform and meet their classmates.

Unit 1

The objective of the first week is to introduce course participants to girls' schools today. The unit begins with the biggest of pictures: becoming familiar with the history, values, culture, and mission of girls' schools. Participants then learn about the global community of girls' schools and the ties that bind us together. Participants then discuss findings and engage in case studies.

Unit 2

In Unit 2, participants focus on how to support and encourage girls' academic success and emotional wellbeing. They begin by exploring primary research on girls' education, in particular focusing on two NCGS studies: *Fostering Academic and Social Engagement* and *Steeped in Learning*. They also learn about concepts that are paramount when teaching girls, such as "growth mindset" and "mindfulness." Participants then hear from several current faculty about their strategies to set their students up for success. At the end of the unit, participants discuss findings and engage in case studies.

Unit 3

The final unit of the course is designed to help participants explore a particular area of interest, synthesize the experience they had in the course, and reflect on how they will apply what they have learned in their new roles. They explore the NCGS Research Database and hear directly from heads of girls' schools about what makes this community so special. At the end of the unit, participants choose a specific piece of research that resonates with them and describe how it has helped them think in a new way. Also, they are asked to take a moment for introspection and write a letter to themselves setting goals for the coming year.

Past Participant Schools (2014-present)

Ashley Hall	Colegio Gimnasio Femenino	Sacred Heart
Atlanta Girls' School	Columbus School for Girls	Foxcroft School
Bayside Academy	Connelly School of the Holy	Garrison Forest School
Branksome Hall	Child	Girls Athletic Leadership
Brighter Choice Middle School	Convent of the Sacred Heart Elementary School	School (GALS)
Carondelet High School	Crofton House School	Girls Preparatory School
Castilleja School	Emma Willard School	Holton-Arms School
Chatham Hall	Forest Ridge School of the	Holy Names High School
		Hutchison School

Joan of Arc Academy
Julia Morgan School for Girls
Katherine Delmar Burke
School
Kent Place School
Lacordaire Academy
Lauralton Hall
Laurel School
Loreto College
Louise S. McGehee School
Louisville School
Malden Catholic School for
Girls
Marlborough School
Miss Hall's School
National Cathedral School
Oldfields School
Purnell School
Rosary High School

Sacred Hearts Academy
Saint Joseph Academy
Saint Mary's School
Seattle Girls School
Solar Preparatory School for
Girls
Springside Chestnut Hill
Academy
SOLA – School of Leadership,
Afghanistan
St. Agnes Academy
St. Catherine's School
St. Clement's School
St. Margaret's School
St. Mary's Episcopal School
St. Paul's School for Girls
Stone Ridge School of the
Sacred Heart
Stuart Country Day School of

the Sacred Heart
Tara Anglican School for Girls
The Archer School for Girls
The Agnes Irwin School
The Ellis School
The Ethel Walker School
The Harpeth Hall School
The Hewitt School
The Hockaday School
The Webb Schools
Trafalgar Castle School
Trinity Hall
Ursuline Academy of Dallas
Wenona School
Westover School
Westridge School
York House School
YULA Girls School