



# Academies at Pope High School



## The Mission of the Academies at Pope:

To cultivate future leaders in high demand fields including STEM and Global Markets. The Academies offer specialized curriculum and experiential opportunities to explore their areas of keen interest and develop 21st century skills.

## What are the Academies at Pope?

The Academies at Pope are career pathways that offer a unique and rigorous curricula which combine academic and occupation-related course requirements to students of exceptional merit. The goal of the Academies at Pope is to prepare students for college and expose them to high-tech, high-need career options in STEM and Global fields.

## Learn More about the Academies at Pope

[www.cobbk12.org/pope](http://www.cobbk12.org/pope) → Curricular → Academic Programs → Academies @ Pope

### GLOBALIZATION ACADEMY

Pope High School Globalization Academy, under the leadership of Assistant Principal, Lindsay Barnette, coordinates the academic opportunities for the students.

### Globalization Academy Foundation (PGAF)

[popeglobalizationacademy.org](http://popeglobalizationacademy.org)

The PGAF coordinates the experiential opportunities for the students, including team building activities, regular international theme breakfasts and dinners and field trips. As well as Globez teacher grants and financial assistance scholarship for Globez students.

### WHAT'S NEXT

November 4<sup>th</sup> – Applications Open (found on Pope website - see website path above)

November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Application deadline

December 4<sup>th</sup> – In-Person Interviews

January 6<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Recommendation Deadline

Approx. January 29<sup>th</sup> – Admissions Decisions sent to applicants via email

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Globalization Meet and Greet for all admitted applicants (deeper dive into specific topics specific to Globez Academy)

February 13<sup>th</sup> – STEM Meet and Greet for all admitted applicants (deeper dive into specific topics to STEM Academy)

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Commitment Deadline for all Academies

### STEM ACADEMY

Pope High School STEM Academy, under the leadership of Assistant Principal Thomas Moran, coordinates the academic opportunities for the students.

### STEM Academy Foundation (PSAF)

[popestemacademy.com](http://popestemacademy.com)

The PSAF lends volunteer and financial support to all phases of the STEM Academy, coordinating team building and experiential learning activities and funding mini grants to STEM classrooms.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Are Academy cohorts together all day and segregated from the rest of the school?**

Academy students take classes with their “cohorts” for the required Academy courses (e.g., Math & Science for AMS; Language Arts & Social Studies for Globalization). Cohorts benefit from smaller class sizes, like-minded interests in academic rigor, unique experiential learning opportunities, and development of lasting friendships.

### **2. How does the academic rigor of Pope’s Academy compare to other magnet schools?**

Pope offers 29 AP and college level courses, which is equal to or more than the number of AP courses at other CCSD schools. Students in the Academies take honors and AP level courses as a required part of the program. Students may elect to take additional honors and AP classes in areas unrelated to their Academy.

### **3. How do Academy classes differ from non-Academy classes of the same subject?**

Academy teachers design cross-curricular lessons with a yearly thematic approach that links all 4 years together. The theme culminates in public presentations of long-term projects that focus on collaborative learning, technology, critical thinking, and public speaking. Guest speakers, field trips, and other activities support academic enrichment goals.

### **4. What are the benefits of being in the Academy?**

Students hone their skills along with like-minded classmates. Teachers observe increased student growth of “coming into one’s own” more so than traditional classes due to the unique family-like experience of cohorts, specifically in-class participation and public speaking. Thematic projects, guest speakers, team building and social events, field trips, and travel give students a unique experience and meaningful discussion points for college interviews and admissions essays.

### **5. Why choose Pope’s Academy over another CCSD magnet program?**

Students and teachers, alike, repeatedly say that being able to build comradery within a rigorous academic program while still being a part of the spirited “Pope Culture” gives students the best of two worlds. Students can engage in intellectual debates in Academy classes and attend pep rallies, plays, and athletic games with friends they have made in both Academy and non-Academy classes.

### **6. Can I be in Pope’s fine arts program and the Academy?**

Yes. Many Academy students participate in Pope’s Fine Arts program; however, scheduling conflicts do occur where students must make a choice between classes. The administration and the Fine Arts teachers attempt to reduce the greatest number of scheduling conflicts. Some students choose to attend summer school to open a spot on their schedule and to reduce the chances of schedule conflicts.

### **7. Can I play sports and be in the Academy?**

Yes. Many students successfully juggle the rigor of the Academy and athletics with good time management. Academy students have diverse interests, and some can be found involved in virtually every extracurricular at Pope.

### **8. Must Globalization students take a foreign language every year?**

Globalization Academy students are expected to take an AP level language. Students often take a foreign language in middle school and/or summer school. This may allow an open period during the senior year.

### **9. Must STEM students take a STEM elective every year?**

STEM students on the traditional pathway (Comp Science 3-4, Engineering 4, Life Science 3-4) are expected to complete a series of 3 to 4 STEM Electives. The final course is a Capstone course in their field of study. Students often take health & PE in summer school to allow for additional electives during the school year.

### **10. What is a Capstone project?**

A Capstone project is a unique piece of individualized work, like an invention or master’s thesis. All Academy students MUST complete a Capstone project, typically during their senior year. Most projects are completed through coursework (AP Capstone, Engineering Design and Development, Computer Science - Programming, Gaming and App Design, Life Science - Scientific Research); however, some students get approval for an internship as their Capstone project.

### **11. Is travel required?**

No. Overnight national and international trips are not required; however, the opportunity to travel to unique destinations on a teacher-led trip has deep educational and cultural implications.

### **12. Do I have to do community service?**

STEM and Globalization Academy students are expected to complete a small number of service hours during their four years in the Academy, typically a couple times per year. In addition, Globalization Academy students are expected to complete 20 culturally related community service. Finally, many students at Pope complete an additional 120 hours of service during their time in high school.

### **13. Do I have to participate in particular clubs?**

Yes. Globalization Academy students are expected to participate in a global-related club or activity; and STEM Academy students are expected to participate in at least one of many STEM related clubs.