

I. Academic

1. List the subjects you are currently taking in High School.

Algebra I	Geometry
Algebra II/Trig – Honors	Gym/Health
Art I	Integrated Science - Advanced
ATC Careers	JROTC
Band	Latin 1
Biology – Honors	Life Science
Civics & Economics	Physical/Earth Science
Choir	Religion
English 1	Spanish 1
English – Honors	Study Hall
French I	World History
Old Testament	

4. If you marked “Unprepared” in any row above, please explain. Please be specific as possible.

Unprepared: Writing Skills & Foreign Language

I only passed the English placement test by talking to an older student. The format for essays is much more advanced at Catholic Central. I chose to take French so I was unprepared for that language, it's not your fault.

Unprepared: Organization, Reading, Foreign Language, Music

St. Thomas simply did not spend enough time teaching me in these areas.

Unprepared: Homework, Organization, Tools/Tech. Writing Skills

No comments written.

Unprepared: Organization

I am just one to be unorganized in every thing.

Unprepared: Religion, Social Studies, Foreign Lang.

In religion, I hardly knew anything because my old religion teacher never focused on important things – only disgusting and unimportant things. Same with Social Studies, except a couple things weren't even true. I take Spanish, and some words were wrong such as gender of the word.

Unprepared: Science & Reading

Science – because I never learned some things that I am now. Reading – I was never a good reader.

Unprepared: Foreign Language

For Spanish, the teacher was being changed often, then we started from the beginning every time a change occurred.

Unprepared: Organization & Social Studies

I marked “unprepared” for organization because I've never been organized and I lose things regularly. I marked “unprepared” for social studies because our social studies teacher for 8th grade did not really teach us any accurate- up to date facts. I find regularly that most kids know a lot about World War II, Pearl Harbor, etc. while I am left clueless.

Organization- I'm unorganized by nature. I don't take Social Studies, music or Art. PE is impossible to prepare for.

5. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students academically for their Freshman year in high school?

- Update formats and books
- I believe that students could not be more prepared, save for the areas that I marked
- I think that the school can have the homework take more time because when they hit high school, it's a whole different time frame for homework.
- I was pretty prepared for high school, so I think St. Thomas is doing fine. If anything, they could improve more in the English area, but that's about it.
- Teach more about essays and give more homework.
- Exams – they need to know how to study.
- Especially religion, we need to focus on important things and not just small things that we hardly even know. This year, religion is one of my hardest classes because I had no real experience with it.
- More visuals – less (long) lectures.
- Be a little tougher on turning things in on time and improve study skills, especially for exams.
- St Thomas can do more in its science department. Watching videos did not fully prepare me for Honors Biology . Note: Mrs. Stegehuis is a really good science teacher & could teach more w/hands-on materials. Also, St. Thomas should focus on how to write the proper analytical essay, especially focusing on the content of the essay & other writing assignments.
- Update their social studies books. Teach them the truth about history. Besides that, St Thomas is fine. **I am very grateful towards how well my 8th grade math and English teachers prepared me.
- Talk about the serious issues
- Make them take notes. Notes like M. Keller where he gives them to you. Have a note test every once in a while where you can use your notes. It SHOULD be an easy "A" and will help note-taking skills.

II. SOCIAL

1. List your extra-curricular activities (sports, clubs, drama, Music etc.)

Tennis, Coaching St. Thomas Volleyball

4. List any experiences that helped you feel more comfortable?

- Going to dances and games. Playing sports and reaching out. Don't be intimidated by the IHM crowd.
- I made a lot of new friends Teachers are great.
- Being on dance team being in "Grease" and doing extra things w/the choir
- Fall sports help you meet people because they start before school, so by the time you do go to school, you already know some people.

- Getting help from peer ministers
- I didn't listen when the upper classmen made fun of freshmen. They were once freshmen.
- All my friends are very helpful and comforting. They are outgoing and make you laugh. You always need to add humor to actually be comfortable.
- Meeting old friends I already knew.
- I met new nice people and stayed close to my old friends.
- Having friends from St. Thomas
- Having supportive friends.
- Swim team.
- Going to social events, i.e. parties, football games, dances, etc. helped me quickly meet new people so I was able to fit in quickly. Going beyond your comfort zone, and doing outrageous things with friends helps you bond more with people because you can look back at all the good times.
- I know people through sports and I am an outgoing person.

7. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students socially for their Freshman year in high school?

You can't force sociality out of someone. It's either there or it's not.

III. SPIRITUAL

5. What can St. Thomas do to better prepare its students spiritually for their Freshman year in High School?

Freshman don't usually get into things like that, it's mainly aimed towards upper classmen.