



CARY ACADEMY

School Profile 2021-2022

CEEB Code: 340-601

Quick Facts

Founded: 1996

Enrollment: Grades 6-12

Upper School Size: 476

Senior Class Size: 114

Percent College Bound: 99%

Percent Students of Color: 52%

Dr. Michael Ehrhardt
Head of School

Robin N. Follet
Head of Upper School

Leya Tseng Jones
Co-Director of College Counseling
leya_jones@caryacademy.org

Laura T. Sellers
Co-Director of College Counseling
laura_sellers@caryacademy.org

David Sakyi
Associate Director of College Counseling
david_sakyi@caryacademy.org

Brandon Carter
Dean of Students and College Counselor
brandon_carter@caryacademy.org

Diana Stelmack
College Counseling Administrative Assistant
diana_stelmack@caryacademy.org

Accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) and AdvancED.

MISSION

We are a learning community dedicated to discovery, innovation, collaboration, and excellence. We are committed to creating personalized learning opportunities that are flexible and relevant in an environment that supports student wellbeing. We aim to cultivate self-directed and bold lifelong learners who make meaningful contributions to the world.

EXPERIENTIAL AND FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Center for Community Engagement (CCE): As part of our strategic plan, in 2019 we established the CCE, built on four pillars: Diversity & Inclusion, Entrepreneurship, Experiential Learning, and Service Learning.

Discovery Term: Our students participate in two-week Discovery Terms at the end of the year. They investigate areas outside the regular curriculum through seminars or, for juniors, a Work Experience program.

Leadership in Crisis Program (2020-2021): In response to the extraordinary circumstances of last year, we offered a cross-curricular Leadership in Crisis program through the CCE. The program included two half-credit courses (*Leadership in Practice* and *Arts & Crisis Leadership*), as well as two full-credit interdisciplinary courses that examined both the COVID pandemic and precedents through the lenses of U.S. History and Literature.

Summer School: We offer summer school courses in U.S. History and Creative Writing. The U.S. History course incorporates on- and off-campus instruction, including exploration of notable historic sites around our state as well as travel to Williamsburg, VA and Washington, D.C. The Creative Writing course takes the form of a writing studio while exploring various genres, elements, and techniques. Both courses fulfill graduation requirements.

Away Programs & Online Courses: Our students engage in programs such as High Mountain Institute, Maine Coast Semester, and the School for Ethics & Global Leadership. They also may pursue online coursework through approved vendors such as Virtual High School and Global Online Academy.

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

In keeping with our strategic plan to create time, space, and flexibility in support of individualized learning opportunities, we moved from a trimester to a semester calendar in August 2020, and we changed our daily schedule: classes meet twice a week for 80 minutes each. In addition, half of our Wednesdays are designated as X Days, which are wholly dedicated to experiential learning opportunities designed and led by students and faculty.

School Discipline Reporting Policy

The school reports suspensions and provides a written explanation; we expect students to do the same.

COVID Statement

In March 2020, students and faculty returned from Spring Break and transitioned directly to virtual distance learning for the entirety of Trimester 3. Students had complete term grades for all three trimesters; graduation requirements remained unchanged. The 2020-2021 school year began in full virtual mode and transitioned to a hybrid model at the end of September, with most students attending class half-time in person and half-time virtually; some students remained virtual all year. In 2021-2022, we began the year fully in person.

For further information on our COVID-related protocols, please refer to <https://united.cary.academy/>.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Graduation Requirements

Students must take a minimum of 5 full credits each year and a minimum of 21 total credits including 4 credits in English; 3 credits each in Mathematics (with a minimum of Algebra II), History, Science (biology, chemistry and physics), and World Language. In addition, students must take 2 credits in Fine Arts, as well as Health I and II.

No Rank/No GPA Policy

Because our graduating classes are small, our programs highly rigorous, and our range of grades narrow, **it is our policy to neither rank our students nor compute GPA.** Instead, we provide a junior year grade distribution.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Advanced (ADV) Course Information

We offer Advanced (ADV) courses in lieu of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. These courses, our highest level, are taught with the rigor and expectations of AP courses but allow teachers to emphasize areas of study not prescribed in the AP syllabus. Typically, ADV courses are open only to juniors and seniors.

In **2021-2022**, the school offers 22 year-long and 14 semester-long Advanced (ADV) courses. Juniors are limited to a maximum of FOUR (4) credits of ADV courses. Seniors may take a maximum of FOUR (4) credits of ADV courses if carrying a load of six academic courses; they may take a maximum of FIVE (5) credits of ADV courses if carrying a load of five.

Curriculum notes:

ENGLISH: All semester electives for juniors and seniors are offered at both the regular and ADV level.

MATH: ADV Calculus I & II is by invitation only. ADV Calculus III & Differential Equations is our highest level math course.

SCIENCE: ADV Biology, ADV Chemistry and ADV Physics-Mechanics meet additional periods each week with no additional credit awarded.

WORLD LANGUAGE: All semester electives are offered only at the ADV level. During the 2019-2020 school year, all trimester electives were offered only at the ADV level. ADV Studies-Spanish Literature is a year-long course.

Full course listings and descriptions are available at <https://bit.ly/CACourseCatalog>

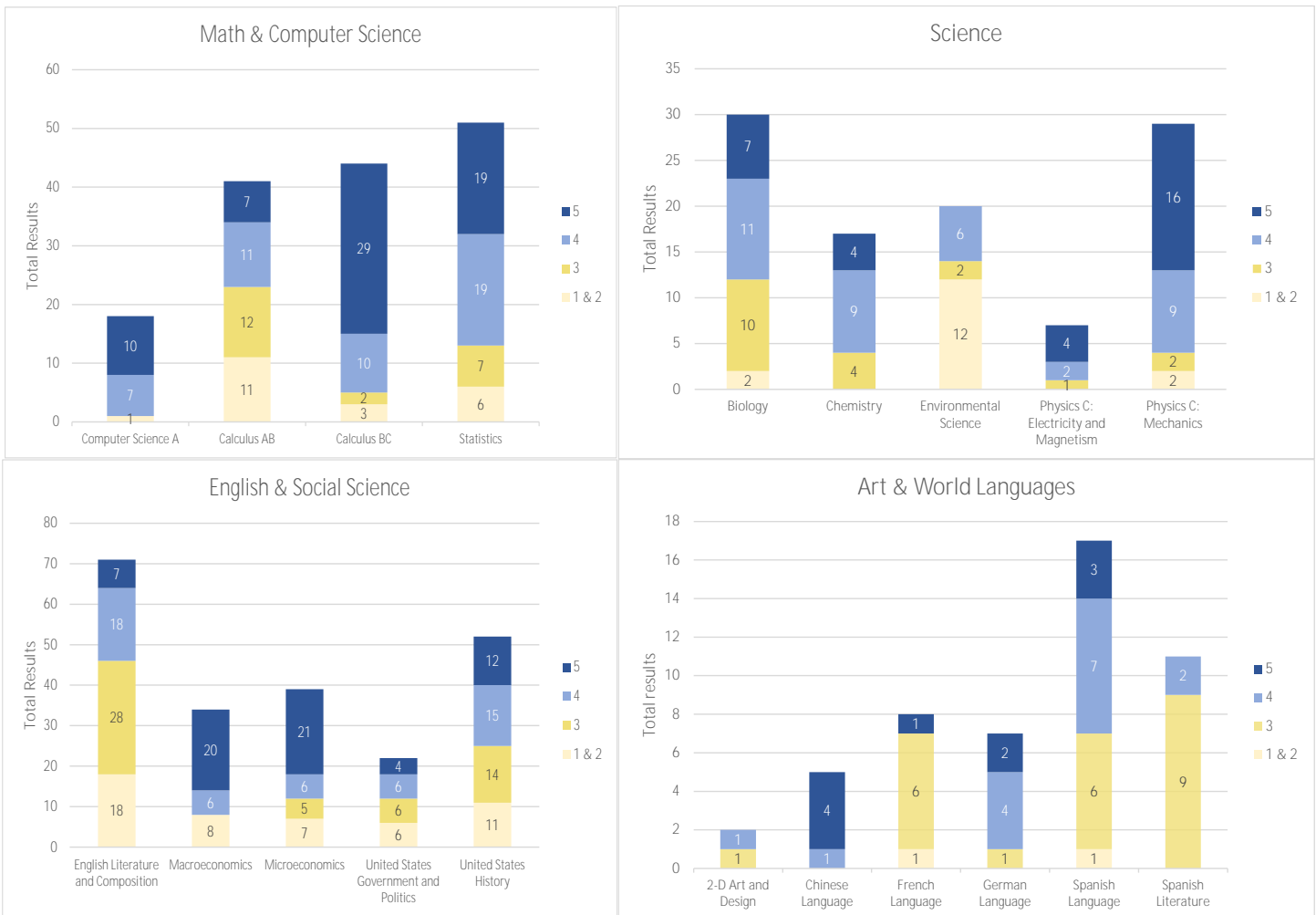
GRADE DISTRIBUTION

English	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-/D/F
English Electives (11s &12s)	13	72	55	34	25	4	1	3	2
English Electives (ADV)(11s & 12s)	47	116	68	13	8	0	0	0	0
Math & Computer Science	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-/D/F
Algebra II & Precalculus	17	24	18	8	12	3	5	3	0
Analytics & Statistics (ADV)	10	14	6	3	3	4	1	2	2
Calculus (ADV) (all levels)	29	45	11	6	4	0	0	0	0
Computer Science (ADV)	20	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Precalculus (H)	10	26	16	6	4	0	0	0	0
Social Sciences	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-/D/F
Social Sciences	1	27	15	1	3	0	0	0	0
Social Sciences (ADV)	26	93	45	13	6	2	1	1	0
Science	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-/D/F
Biology, Chemistry, Physics (ADV)	12	28	21	9	7	1	2	0	1
Other Science (ADV)	17	38	18	5	1	1	0	0	0
Science	47	56	34	21	18	7	2	6	9
Languages	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-/D/F
Chinese	0	5	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
French	0	8	9	2	0	0	0	0	0
French (ADV)	0	10	11	4	1	0	0	0	0
German	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
German (ADV)	4	15	8	3	2	0	0	0	0
Spanish	33	59	31	14	17	9	7	4	2
Spanish (ADV)	8	33	6	0	1	0	0	0	0

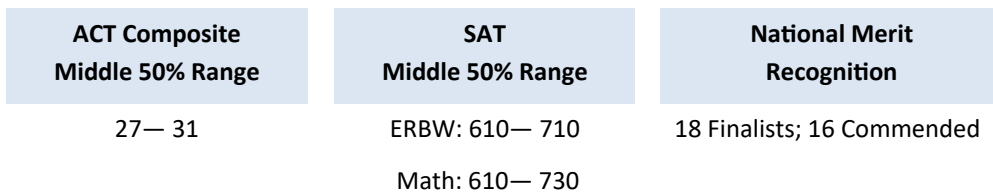
Grades for the 2020-2021 year for courses in which more than 1 member of the Class of 2022 was enrolled.

TESTING INFORMATION

In May 2021, 215 students took 528 AP Exams; 83% of the scores were a 3, 4, or 5. Following is a breakdown of those results:



Class of 2021 Testing Profile



COLLEGE MATRICULATION

In the spirit of Cary Academy's mission to create bold, self-directed, and lifelong learners who will make meaningful contributions to the world, we share our 3-year College Matriculation list (<https://www.caryacademy.org/app/uploads/2021-2022-3-Year-Matriculation-List-19-20-21.pdf>) to celebrate the excellence of every college our students chose to attend. Cary Academy recognizes that the decision of where to enroll is a personal one made for any number of reasons by each student and family, and that where a student enrolls is far less important than how they engage with their college experience.

The 111 members of the Class of 2021 chose to attend 49 different colleges in 18 states, Canada, China, and United Kingdom.*