



# MERCERSBURG ACADEMY

## Profile 2020-2021

100 Academy Drive, Mercersburg, PA 17236 • CEEB #392570 • mercersburg.edu

### NEW TO MERCERSBURG ACADEMY

- » In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, students participated in virtual learning during the spring term of the 2019-2020 school year, and Mercersburg Academy continued to assign numerical grades. In 2020-2021, students have the option to participate in virtual learning by term.
- » In 2020-2021, courses are taught in a block schedule. Most students will earn six credits per term and one credit through our winter intensive, completed virtually between the fall and winter terms. Three-credit classes will receive two grades of record, in marking period one and marking period two; one-credit classes will receive a single grade of record.
- » Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, **Mercersburg Academy has moved beyond the Advanced Placement (AP) curriculum.** Transcripts may include AP courses taken prior to the 2020-2021 school year but will include newly designed courses in **Advanced Studies (AS)** thereafter.

### SCHOOL PROFILE

- » Founded in 1893; a coeducational boarding and day school enrolling students in grades 9-12 and offering a postgraduate year.
- » 446 students from 27 states and the District of Columbia and 39 nations; 33 percent of domestic students identify as students of color; 50 percent of students receive financial aid.
- » 4:1 student-to-faculty ratio; average class size of 10 students.
- » 100 percent of graduates attend a four-year college or university.
- » Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- » As of 2020-2021, students will earn 18-19 credits per year; most will earn six credits per term and one credit through our winter intensive. Prior to 2020-2021, students were limited to a 17-credit course load in grades 9 and 10, and a 15-credit course load in grades 11 and 12.
- » **Advanced Studies represents the highest level of rigor in all academic disciplines.** Some courses in Advanced Studies are designed to prepare students for an Advanced Placement test.
- » Successful completion of a capstone experience (MAPS or Springboard) is a graduation requirement for all seniors.
- » MAPS is a selective two-year program that requires a significant international travel experience, language study through level IV or beyond, advanced coursework in at least four core disciplines, and a commitment to community service. MAPS culminates in the completion and defense of a 25- to 30-page thesis and a 10- to 15-page actionable proposal based upon the thesis.
- » Springboard courses are designed using the Challenge-Based Learning model. Each course culminates in student-designed projects that are publishable, permanent, or viewed by the public.

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### COLLEGE COUNSELORS

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### SCHEDULE A VISIT

Mercersburg Academy is located in the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania, a few miles north of the Maryland state line. The Washington, D.C./Baltimore area is a 90-minute drive from campus. College admission representatives may schedule an in-person or virtual visit at [maialearning.com](http://maialearning.com).

## STATEMENT ON GPA AND RANK

Mercersburg Academy does not report grade point average or class rank. We strongly believe in multiple entry points for students and intentionally grow the class each year. Therefore, cumulative GPA would not accurately reflect the Mercersburg experience, as it would include grades from many different institutions. Official grades for all courses attempted are reported on the transcript.

## STATEMENT ON DISCIPLINE

While seeking to develop responsibility in every student, Mercersburg Academy recognizes the importance of clear boundaries and consequences for overstepping those boundaries. The school complies with NACAC's Code of Ethics and Professional Practices: students are expected to self-report final warnings, suspensions, and required withdrawals, and college counselors are expected to confirm the details of those actions.

## 2020-2021 COURSE OFFERINGS

### ADVANCED STUDIES

**English**  
Language, Rhetoric, and Composition\*  
Literature and Composition

**History**  
Art History  
Comparative Government\*  
History of Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.  
World History\*  
U.S. History

**Language**  
Francophone Literature  
French Language\*  
Hispanic Literature

Latin Literature  
Latin Vergil/Caesar\*  
Spanish\*

**Mathematics**  
Calculus I\*  
Calculus II\*  
Calculus III  
Computer Science\*  
Economics\*  
Statistics

**Science**  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Environmental Science  
Physics C Electricity and Magnetism\*  
Physics C Mechanics\*

### HONORS

**English**  
Power, Justice, Authority

**History**  
Quinn-Ferguson Honors Seminar

**Language**  
Second-Year French  
Second-Year German  
Second-Year Latin  
Second-Year Spanish  
Third-Year French  
Third-Year Latin  
Third-Year Spanish

**Mathematics**  
Algebra II  
Precalculus

### Science

Chemistry  
Physics

### ACCELERATED

**Language**  
First-Year Spanish

**Mathematics**  
Algebra II  
Geometry  
Precalculus

### SENIOR CAPSTONE

**MAPS**  
SEARCH: Global Studies Research Thesis  
Thought, Knowledge, and Belief

### Springboard

Activism  
Application Design  
Commarts: The Art and Business of Graphic Design  
Food for Thought  
Maker's Lab  
Mercersburg Online Radio Station  
Mercersburg's History Open Topic  
Positive Psychology Scriptorium:  
Recovering Ancient and Medieval Texts  
The Fight Against Disease  
Write Your Novel

\*courses aligned with the AP curriculum

A complete list of courses and descriptions can be found at [mercersburg.edu/courses](http://mercersburg.edu/courses).

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<b>English</b>	Four years
<b>History</b>	Three years, including a course in U.S. history
<b>Mathematics</b>	Through Algebra II
<b>Science</b>	Three years; includes biology and either chemistry or physics
<b>Religion</b>	One term
<b>Languages</b>	Through the third year of a language or until graduation
<b>Arts</b>	Four terms in two areas
<b>Interdisciplinary</b>	Completion of MAPS or Springboard

Graduation requirements vary depending on year of entry.

## SAT/ACT SUMMARY (CLASS OF 2020)

SAT: 51 Test Takers	Middle 50%	Mean
<b>EBRW</b>	620-740	676
<b>MATH</b>	610-780	692
ACT: 59 Test Takers	Middle 50%	Mean
	27-34	30

Each member of the graduating class is represented in SAT or ACT results, not both. These summaries do not include one-year seniors or postgraduate students.

For a complete list of college, university, and service academy acceptances for our senior class, visit [mercersburg.edu/acceptances](http://mercersburg.edu/acceptances).