



A Classical Education for the Modern World

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HISTORY

The Washington Latin Public Charter School opened in 2006 with 179 students in grades five through seven and graduated its first senior class in June 2012. Washington Latin provides a challenging, classical education that is accessible to students throughout the District of Columbia. For this reason, Latin is a school unlike any other you will find in Washington, D.C. because we combine the best features of both a public and private school setting.

Washington Latin has civic and moral obligations to use our public funds equitably and wisely, and to accept all students who come to us for an education. The curriculum is accessible for those who are willing to work with the school. As a public charter school, we enjoy the freedom to design our own approach to the curriculum and to hire the faculty needed to implement it. As a classical school, Latin aligns itself with the established wisdom of the ancients, most particularly of the intellectual backdrop of the cultures of Greece and Rome. We believe that many of the tenets of ancient educational theory still pertain to the issues of the modern world. At the very least, our students study the language, literature, and history of the ancients. At the most, we believe that education is a training of character, and character is the intersection of intellectual development and moral integrity.

Our program is not easy, and its difficulties take more than industry to surmount. We ask our students to read difficult works and to write extended essays, but the greatest challenge comes in our expectation that students will think before they act and do what is right rather than what is expedient.

Several highlights:

- Our total enrollment in both the Middle School and Upper School is 726 students. In an Upper School of 327 students, 42% of our students identifies as African American; 39% White; 9% Hispanic; 6% multi-ethnic, 4% Asian Pacific Islander. Our student body has always represented all eight wards in D.C. Twenty percent of the Upper School qualifies for free or reduced lunch.
- Washington Latin's Upper School has been designated a Tier I school for the past nine years, the highest possible ranking by the D.C. Public Charter School Board.
- We had the highest in-seat attendance of all charter schools in D.C. in 2016-17 with both Middle and Upper Schools at 94%.
- For the 2019-20 school year, Latin received more than 2,300 applications, our highest ever. To create a 5th-grade class of 90 and fill empty spaces in grades 6-9, we accepted 126 students. Our overall retention rate is over 97%.
- Eighty percent of Washington Latin graduates matriculated to four-year colleges or plan to after completing their gap year. Our eight graduating classes, with 503 students, were awarded \$44.6 million in academic scholarships.
- Our eight graduating classes have produced eleven Posse Scholars, four George Washington University Trachtenberg Scholars, a Morehead-Cain Scholar, a Milken Scholar, and a Herbert H. Denton, Jr. Scholar, nearly all full-tuition or "full-ride" scholarships.
- Washington Latin students are encouraged to participate in travel and service abroad and intensive language study opportunities. Through a variety of organizations and with full funding for many, students have travelled to countries and in programs, such as Australia, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Paraguay, Taiwan, as well as Middlebury's MMLA Arabic language program and Concordia Language Villages. Each year, Upper School students fundraise or apply for supporting funds from our Equal Access Fund to travel to school-sponsored trips as part of our upper-level language curricula for language and culture immersion experiences. Those countries include China, France, Italy, and Morocco.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Washington Latin requires its students to exceed the minimum requirements established by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. Our students must earn the following credits to be eligible for graduation:

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|---------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| English | 4 credits | Arabic, French, | Health | .5 credit |
| Mathematics | 4 credits | or Mandarin | Music | .5 credit |
| Science | 4 credits | Electives | Visual Art | .5 credit |
| History | 3 credits | U.S. Government | Financial Lit. | .25 credit |
| Latin | 3 credits | D.C. History | Phys. Ed.* | 1 credit |
| Comm. Service | 100 hours | | | |

*Students fulfill P.E. requirements by participating in four seasons of physical activity classes or JV or Varsity sports during high school.

RANK AND GRADING POLICY

Washington Latin does not rank its students. Washington Latin reports students' weighted GPA on the transcript for those who have taken and passed at least one Honors or AP course. An unweighted GPA is reported for those who have not.

3.3 GPA is Honors. 3.7 GPA is High Honors.

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|----|-----|---------|----|-----|--------|----|-----|--------|---|-----|-------|
| A | 4.0 | 93-100% | B | 3.0 | 83-86% | C | 2.0 | 73-76% | F | 0.0 | 0-63% |
| A- | 3.7 | 90-92% | B- | 2.7 | 80-82% | C- | 1.7 | 70-72% | | | |
| B+ | 3.3 | 87-89% | C+ | 2.3 | 77-79% | D | 1.0 | 64-69% | | | |

*Students who fail a credit required for graduation are required to retake that credit. When the credit is earned, the original "F" is still factored into the GPA.

*Honors and AP classes are weighted by an additional 0.5 point each.

POLICIES AND CURRICULAR INFORMATION

Washington Latin continues to expand its course offerings, honoring its classical mission while also paying attention to the intellectual interests and pursuits of its students and faculty. This has resulted in such courses as Astronomy, Science Research Methods, Financial Literacy, History of Jerusalem, Digital Humanities, and Introduction to World Religions.

Students eligible to take Greek will have completed at least three years of Latin. Greek cannot be taken in place of Latin nor can it be used to satisfy the second language requirement.

Students may take up to four AP courses per year starting in junior year. Students who take an AP course are required to sit for the exam to receive the additional .5 weight to their GPA in that course. In May 2019, 114 students took 231 AP exams.

Grades earned by students in classes *not* taken at Washington Latin, even if taken for credit toward graduation, are *not* factored into the student's GPA. Online courses will be designated as P/F on the transcript.

Notes about special curriculum offerings:

Honors Humanities is Latin's most rigorous course, exceeding the difficulty of the AP curriculum and taught at a college level, available to seniors only. What are truth, goodness, and beauty, and how do they relate to a fulfilling life for a human being? In Honors Humanities, students wrestle with these central questions, as they read a number of texts, which pose and respond to the big questions of human existence. Philosophical authors, from Plato to Aristotle to Tolstoy, form the backbone of the curriculum and force students to understand themselves as late-comers to a conversation about reality and purpose that stretches back across millennia. Students become clearer writers and thinkers through nightly reflections on the texts and daily seminar discussions. It is hoped that by the end of the year students are able to articulate their own developed opinions about these fundamental issues.

Junior JumpStart and Senior Seminar are courses required for every junior and senior who has a study hall. The classes provide more scaffolding and guidance for students in their post-secondary planning, hoping to increase the likelihood that each student stay on track to ensure the greatest success possible. The courses focus not just on the college application process, but also aim to teach students about goal-setting, time management, and the eventual transition to their post-secondary life. Seniors in Seminar are given the option to use a Passion Planner to assist in their management of senior year. Both courses take place once weekly.

Science Research Methods was new to the curriculum in 2018-19. The course was created because students asked for a course to mirror that of a real lab in preparation for college-level research. Students are graded on only a few major assignments and much of their success is dependent on their ability to plan and develop their research as well as to manage their time independently. Students give 10-minute journal talk presentations each quarter and are graded on the official UCSF rubric. They also read and dissect at least one peer-reviewed research article per week.

Washington Latin Curriculum Offerings

English

English 9
Honors English 9
English 10
Honors English 10
English 11
AP English Language
AP English Literature
English 12
Honors English 12
Honors Humanities

Math

Algebra IB
Algebra I
Geometry
Honors Geometry
Algebra II
Honors Algebra II
Statistics
Pre-Calculus
Honors Pre-Calculus
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Linear Algebra Differential Equations

Science

Conceptual Physics
Honors Conceptual Physics
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
Biology
Honors Biology
Advanced Physics
Environmental Science (non-AP)
Science Research Methods
AP Biology
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based
AP Computer Science
Principles
Astronomy (.5)
Intro. to Robotics (.5)

Social Studies

World History I
Honors World History I
World History II
Honors World History II
U.S. History
Honors U.S. History
AP Human Geography
*D.C. History (.5)
*US Government (.5)

Languages

Arabic I, II, III/IV, IV
Advanced Arabic
French I-V
Honors French II-IV
AP French Lang. & Culture
Mandarin I-V
AP Chinese
Latin I, II, III, III/IV, V
Honors Latin II, III, III/IV, V
AP Latin
Advanced Latin Seminar
Ancient Greek I, II, III, IV

Electives – all courses are one semester and .5 credits unless otherwise noted)

Advanced Creative Writing
Advanced Music Theory
Bridge Program
College Writing (.5 or 1)
Choir (1)
Computer Programming (.25)
Conflict Resolution
Creative Writing
Digital Humanities (1)
Digital Photography
ELL Support I

ELL Support II
*Financial Literacy (.25)
Finding Your Voice
General Music
*Health
History of Jerusalem
Honors Choir (1)
Intensive Writing (1)
Intro. to Dramatic Performance
Intro. to Psychology
Intro. to World Religions: The Abrahamic Faiths
Intro. to World Religions: Non-Western Religions
Jazz Band (1)
Junior JumpStart (.25)
Latin Voices (1)
Library/Tech Internship
Math Lab (1)
Research Methods
SAT Prep (.25)
Senior Seminar (.25)
Studio Art I
Studio Art II
Studio Art III
Underwater Robotics
Writing Lab (1)

*Specific elective required for graduation

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

Boys: Cross Country, Flag Football, Soccer, Basketball, Baseball, Indoor & Outdoor Track & Field

Girls: Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Softball, Indoor & Outdoor Track & Field, Lacrosse

Co-ed: Swimming, Winter Conditioning, Wrestling, Ultimate Frisbee, Dance, Yoga, Rugby, Self-Defense, CrossFit, Spring Conditioning, Volleyball Skills

Extracurricular Clubs 2019-2020: ACLU, Anime, Arabic, Black Facts, Board Games, Bridge (cards), Business, Calligraphy, Cheerleading, Classic Film, Comedians, Comic Book, Community Council, Computer Programming, Cooking, Crafting, Debate, Dungeons and Dragons, Environmental, Gender Sexuality Alliance, Girls Leading Our World (GLOW), Go Go Band, Homework, It's Academic Quiz Bowl, Jewelry Making, Juggling, Korean/Japanese/Chinese, Latina Heritage, Listening to Music, Literary Magazine, Living Latin at Latin, Model UN, Origami, Philosophy & Ethics Bowl, Poetry; Putting Literature, Art, Numbers towards Earth's Thriving (PLANET); Red Hearts, Scrabble, Sports Club, Students in STEM, Sumus Leones (newspaper), Sumus Thespians, Women in History, and Yearbook

CLASS OF 2020 BY THE NUMBERS

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|----------------------------|-----------|
| Middle 50% GPA (weighted): | 2.74-4.10 |
| Middle 50% SAT Total: | 990-1290 |
| Middle 50% SAT EBRW: | 530-680 |
| Middle 50% SAT Math: | 510-620 |
| Middle 50% ACT: | 24-30 |

College Enrollment – Classes of 2016-2019

(**Bold lettering** indicates more than one student enrolled.)

- Alabama A&M University
- Alfred University, NY
- Allegheny College, PA
- **Baldwin Wallace Univ., OH**
- Comm. Coll. of Baltimore County, MD
- Barry University, FL
- Bates College, ME
- Beacon College, FL
- Bennett Career Institute, DC
- Berklee Coll. of Music, MA
- Bowdoin College, ME
- **Bowie State Univ., MD**
- Brandeis University, MA
- CUNY Brooklyn Coll., NY
- **Bucknell University, PA**
- **Carleton College, MN**
- Charleston Southern Univ., SC
- Clark Atlanta Univ., GA
- **College of William & Mary, VA**
- **Colorado College**
- **Cornell University, NY**
- Covenant College, GA
- Dartmouth College, NH
- **Davidson College, NC**
- **Delaware State University**
- Drexel University, PA
- Eckerd College, FL
- **Fayetteville State Univ., NC**
- **Fisk University, TN**
- Florida A&M University
- **Franklin & Marshall College, PA**
- **George Mason Univ., VA**
- **Goucher College, MD**
- Grambling State Univ., LA
- Guilford College, NC
- Hamilton College, NY
- **Hampden-Sydney Coll., VA**
- **Hampton University, VA**
- Harcum College, PA
- Harrisburg Univ. of Science & Technology, PA
- Harvard College, MA
- **Haverford College, PA**
- Hood College, MD
- **Howard University, DC**
- Itasca Comm. College, MN
- **Ithaca College, NY**
- Johnson & Wales Univ., FL
- Johnson & Wales Univ., RI
- Johnson C. Smith Univ., NC
- Kean University, NJ
- La Salle University, PA
- Laboratory Institute of Merchandising, NY
- **Lawrence University, WI**
- Lehigh University, PA
- Lewis & Clark College, OR
- **Liberty University, VA**
- Louisiana State University
- Loyola Univ. New Orleans
- Macalester College, MN
- **Marshall University, WV**
- Marymount University, VA
- McDaniel College, MD
- McGill University, CN
- Messiah College, PA
- Miami Dade College, FL
- **Miami University, OH**
- Michigan State University
- **Middlebury College, VT**
- **Montgomery College, MD**
- **Morehouse College, GA**
- **Morgan State Univ., MD**
- NYU-Abu Dhabi
- NYU-Shanghai
- **Norfolk State Univ., VA**
- **NC A&T State Univ.**
- **NC Central Univ.**
- **NC State Univ.**
- Northeastern Univ., MA
- **Northern VA Comm. Coll.**
- Northwestern University, IL
- **Oberlin College, OH**
- Oglethorpe University, GA
- Old Dominion Univ., VA
- **Pace University, NY**
- **Pennsylvania State Univ.**
- **Pomona College, CA**
- **Prince George's CC, MD**
- Rochester Institute of Technology, NY
- Saint Louis University, MO
- Savannah College of Art & Design, GA
- Shepherd University, WV
- Southern IL. Univ.-Carbondale
- Southern New Hampshire Univ.
- **Spelman College, GA**
- **St. John's College, MD**
- St. John's University, NY
- Stanford University, CA
- SUNY Cortland, NY
- Swarthmore College, PA
- **Syracuse University, NY**
- **Temple University, PA**
- Temple University Japan
- The American Univ. of Rome
- The Catholic University of America, DC
- The College of New Jersey
- **The George Washington University, DC**
- **The Lincoln Univ. of PA**
- **Trinity University in Washington, D.C.**
- Tufts University, MA
- Union College, NY
- US Air Force Academy
- US Coast Guard
- US Navy
- University of Chicago, IL
- Univ. of Colorado-Boulder
- **Univ. of the District of Columbia**
- **Comm. College at UDC**
- University of Hartford, CT
- University of Kansas
- **Univ. of MD-College Park**
- University of New Hampshire-Durham
- UNC-Chapel Hill
- UNC-Greensboro
- **Univ. of Pittsburgh, PA**
- **Univ. of Rochester, NY**
- Univ. of San Francisco, CA
- Univ. of Texas at Austin
- **University of Vermont**
- University of Washington
- **Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison**
- **Virginia Tech**
- **Virginia State University**
- Virginia Wesleyan College
- Washington College, MD
- Wesleyan University, CT
- West Virginia University
- Western Governors Univ., UT
- Winston-Salem State Univ., NC
- Wittenberg University, OH
- Xavier Univ. of Louisiana
- **Yale University, CT**
- York College of Pennsylvania