



A Classical Education for the Modern World

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HISTORY

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.

Washington Latin believes it has a moral obligation to offer its education to as many families who want it for their students, as we have had a waitlist each year that far exceeds our capacity to enroll. To that end, in 2020, Washington Latin applied and was approved for an "at-risk" preference in the lottery, giving the school the ability to set aside spots for students who are eligible for public benefits, who experience homelessness, are in the foster care system, or are overage by at least one year for their grade. Latin will also open a second campus in fall 2022. The campus will open to serve grades five and six and continue to grow until it is fully enrolled as a 5-12 school as the current campus is.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Our total enrollment in both the Middle School and Upper School is 747 students. In an Upper School of 367 students, 45% of our students identifies as African American; 34% White; 8% Hispanic; 11% multi-ethnic, 3% Asian American and 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 eleven years, the highest possible ranking by the D.C. Public Charter School Board.
- Eighty percent of Washington Latin graduates matriculate to four-year colleges or plan to after completing their gap year. Our ten graduating classes, with 648 students, were awarded over \$62 million in academic scholarships.
- Our ten graduating classes have produced 13 Posse Scholars, five George Washington Univ. Trachtenberg Scholars, a Morehead-Cain Scholar, a Milken Scholar, and a Herbert H. Denton, Jr. Scholar, nearly all full-tuition or "full-ride" scholarships. We have also graduated four National Merit Commended Scholars, three National Merit Semi-Finalists, and a National Hispanic Scholar.
- 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:

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/Varsity sports in high school.

CLASS 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.

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 and remains on the transcript.

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

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 AND SYSTEMIC RACISM PANDEMICS AT WASHINGTON LATIN

Washington Latin transitioned to remote learning in March 2020. Students continued to earn letter grades for the final marking period of the 2019-2020 school year, though it carried less weight in a student's overall grade in the course. Though we worked as best we could to support our (neediest of) families, the impact of both pandemics hit some of our families hardest.

We spent Q1-Q3 of the 2020-21 year virtually (including student clubs) with a transition to hybrid in Q4 for those students and faculty who wished to return to in-person learning. (Spring sports were permitted in D.C. as well.) Regardless, **the class of 2022 has had limited access to standardized testing beyond the SAT School Day we offer in-house and has been advised not to pursue additional testing opportunities so as not to risk their health or the health of their families.** It is well established that standardized test scores correlate more closely with family income than academic ability and are disproportionately lower for those from backgrounds historically excluded from higher education. Washington Latin asks that you look intently at our students' grades and course rigor, as they are a much stronger academic indicator of potential and success in higher education.

We also have encouraged our students to take advantage of virtual opportunities colleges have made available as it continues to remain unsafe or financially difficult for them to visit campuses in-person. Please consider this if you are still using demonstrated interest as a factor in your application review.

Though our policy is to require students to sit for the AP exam to earn the .5 weighting in their GPA for those courses and to keep the AP designation on their transcripts, Washington Latin forewent this requirement in spring 2020 because of the pandemics.

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, Forensic Science, Financial Literacy, History of Jerusalem, and Introduction to World Religions.

Students eligible to take Ancient Greek will have completed at least three years of Latin. Ancient 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 taking an AP course are required to sit for the exam to receive the additional .5 weight to their GPA in that course. In Spring 2021, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, 137 students took 254 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 are given a grade of P/F on the transcript and are also not factored into the GPA.

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 to seniors. 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 and Aristotle to Tolstoy and DuBois, form the backbone of the curriculum and force students to understand themselves as latecomers to a conversation about reality and purpose that stretches back across millennia.

Junior JumpStart and Senior Seminar are courses required for every junior and senior who has a study hall. The classes provide additional scaffolding in the post-secondary planning process, working to ensure the greatest possible success. The courses also aim to teach students about goal-setting, time management, and the eventual transition to their post-secondary life.

Conflict Resolution Conflict Resolution is an elective course for those students who are peer mediators in the school. Students who take this class are expected to be peer mediators. Students study the origins of conflict, interpersonal communication skills, and peer mediation theory and practice. In addition, students analyze domestic and international conflicts. This course is practice focused, emphasizing role plays and simulations of conflict resolution and mediation.

Washington Latin Curriculum Offerings

English	(Honors) Chemistry	Advanced Arabic Seminar	Comp. Programming (.25)
(Honors) English 9	(Honors) Biology	French I-V	Conflict Resolution (1)
(Honors) English 10	Environmental Science	Honors French II-IV	ELL Support I & II
English 11	AP Biology	AP French	*Financial Literacy (.25)
AP English Language	AP Chemistry	Adv. French Seminar (new in 21-22)	General Music
AP English Literature	AP Environmental Science	Chinese I-V	*Health
(Honors) English 12	AP Physics 1: Alg.-Based	AP Chinese	History of Jerusalem
Honors Humanities	AP Computer Science A	Adv. Chinese Seminar	Honors Choir (1)
	AP Computer Science Principles	Latin I, II, III, III/IV, V	Intensive Writing (1)
Mathematics	Astronomy (.5)	Honors Latin II, III, III/IV, V	Intro. to Psychology
Algebra IB or Algebra I	Forensic Science (.5)	AP Latin	Intro. to World Religions: The Abrahamic Faiths
(Honors) Geometry	Intro. to Robotics (.5)	Advanced Latin Seminar	Intro. to World Religions: Non-Western Religions
(Honors) Algebra II	Social Studies	Ancient Greek I-IV	Jazz Band (1)
Statistics	(Honors) World History I	Electives – all courses are one semester (.5) credits unless otherwise noted	Junior JumpStart (.25)
(Honors) Pre-Calculus	(Honors) World History II	(Adv.) Creative Writing	Latin Voices (1)
Calculus	(Honors) U.S. History	Advanced Music Theory	Library/Tech Internship
AP Calculus AB	AP Human Geography	9 th Grade Bridge Program	Math Lab (1)
AP Calculus BC	*D.C. History (.5)	College Writing (.5 or 1)	SAT Prep (.25)
AP Statistics	*US Government (.5)	Community Art	Senior Seminar
Linear Algebra (as needed)	Languages		Studio Art I, II, and III
Science	Arabic I, II, III, IV		Underwater Robotics
(Honors) Conceptual Physics			Writing Lab (1)

(Honors) indicates that an Honors and non-Honors option is available for that course

*Specific elective required for graduation

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

Boys: Cross Country, Flag Football, Soccer, Basketball, 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, Self-Defense, CrossFit, Spring Conditioning, Tennis, Volleyball Skills

Extracurricular Clubs 2021-2022: Animal Careers, Anime, Arabic Honors Society, Art, Black Lives Matter, Bluegrass Band, Board Games, Cheerleading, Chess, Chinese, Classic Film, Comic Book, Community Council, Competitive Gaming Community Club, Computer Programming, Debate, Dungeons and Dragons, Environmental, Gender Sexuality Alliance, Girls Leading Our World (GLOW), It's Academic Quiz Bowl, Juggling, Justice League, Knitting, Latinx Heritage, Linguistics, Listening to Music, Literary Magazine, Magic the Gathering, Model UN, Modern Survival Skills, Origami, Philosophy & Ethics Bowl, Photography, Poetry; Putting Literature, Art, Numbers towards Earth's Thriving (PLANET); Red Hearts (comm. service), Sports Club, Sumus Leones (newspaper), The Art of Tea, and Women in History

Post-Secondary Outcomes – Classes of 2018-2021

- Alabama A&M University
- Albright College, PA
- Allegheny College, PA
- American University, DC
- American Univ. of Rome
- Amherst College, MA
- Baldwin Wallace Univ., OH
- Bard College, NY
- Bard College Berlin
- Bates College, ME
- Beacon College, FL
- Bennett Career Institute, DC
- Blue Ridge CC, VA
- Boston University, MA
- Bowdoin College, ME
- Bowie State Univ., MD
- Brandeis University, MA
- Bucknell University, PA
- Carleton College, MN
- Catholic University, DC
- CUNY Brooklyn Coll., NY
- Clark Atlanta Univ., GA
- Coastal Carolina Univ., SC
- Colgate University, NY
- College of Charleston, SC
- Coll. of William & Mary, VA
- Colorado College
- Cornell University, NY
- Covenant College, GA
- Davidson College, NC
- Delaware State University
- DePaul University, IL
- Drexel University, PA
- Dudley Beauty College, DC
- Eckerd College, FL
- Elizabeth City State Univ., NC
- EMT Training Program
- Florida A&M University
- Florida Polytechnic Univ.
- Franklin & Marshall Coll., PA
- George Mason Univ., VA
- Georgetown Univ., DC
- Georgia Tech.
- Goucher College, MD
- Grinnell College, IA
- 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
- Illinois State University
- Itasca Comm. College, MN
- Ithaca College, NY
- James Madison Univ., VA
- Johnson & Wales Univ., RI & NC
- La Salle University, PA
- Lawrence University, WI
- Lehigh University, PA
- Longwood Univ., VA
- Loyola Univ. New Orleans
- Macalester College, MN
- Marshall University, WV
- Marymount University, VA
- McDaniel College, MD
- McGill University, CN
- Miami Dade College, FL
- Middlebury College, VT
- Miles College, AL
- Montgomery College, MD
- Morehouse College, GA
- Morgan State Univ., MD
- Mount Holyoke College, MA
- Mount Saint Mary's College, MD
- New York University
- NYU-Abu Dhabi
- NYU-Shanghai
- Norfolk State Univ., VA
- NC A&T State Univ.
- NC Central Univ.
- NC School of the Arts
- NC State Univ.
- Northeastern Univ., MA
- Northern VA Comm. Coll.
- Oberlin College, OH
- Oglethorpe University, GA
- Old Dominion Univ., VA
- Pace University, NY
- Pennsylvania State Univ.
- Pomona College, CA
- Prince George's CC, MD
- Purdue University, IN
- Rochester Institute of Technology, NY
- Saint Louis University, MO
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Shepherd University, WV
- Smith College, MA
- Spelman College, GA
- St. John's College, MD
- St. John's University, NY
- Stanford University, CA
- SUNY Albany, NY
- Swarthmore College, PA
- Sweet Briar College, VA
- Syracuse University, NY
- Temple University, PA
- Temple University Japan
- Texas A&M University
- The College of New Jersey
- The George Washington Univ., DC
- The Lincoln Univ. of PA
- Trinity Washington Univ., DC
- Tufts University, MA
- Union College, NY
- US Navy
- UC Berkeley
- UCLA
- University of Chicago, IL
- Univ. of the District of Columbia
- UDC Community College
- University of Findlay, OH
- Univ. of MD-Baltimore County
- Univ. of MD-College Park
- Univ. of MD-Eastern Shore
- UMass-Lowell
- Univ. of New Hampshire-Durham
- UNC-Greensboro
- University of North Texas
- University of Oregon
- Univ. of Pennsylvania
- Univ. of Pittsburgh, PA
- Univ. of Rochester, NY
- Univ. of San Francisco, CA
- Univ. of South Carolina
- University of Vermont
- Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison
- Univ. of Wisconsin-Stout
- Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
- Virginia Tech
- Wake Forest Univ., NC
- Washington College, MD
- Wesleyan University, CT
- Whittier College, CA
- Winston-Salem State Univ., NC
- Xavier Univ. of Louisiana
- Yale University, CT
- York College of PA