



A Classical Education for the Modern World

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HISTORY

Washington Latin Public Charter School (WLPCS) 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. As a school that is diverse-by-design, we have been thoughtful about developing a curriculum that is inclusive of all voices.

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 has opened a second campus in fall 2022, serving grades five and six and continuing to grow until it is fully enrolled to 12th grade.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Our total enrollment in both the Middle School and Upper School is 762 students. In an Upper School of 379 students, 42% of our students identifies as African American; 37% White; 9% Hispanic; 9% multi-ethnic, 3% Asian American and Pacific Islander. Our student body has always represented all eight wards in D.C. In the Upper School, 24% qualifies for free or reduced lunch.
- Washington Latin's Upper School has been designated a Tier I school for the past twelve years, the highest possible ranking by the D.C. Public Charter School Board.
- Approximately eighty percent of Washington Latin graduates matriculate to four-year colleges or plan to after completing their gap year. Our eleven graduating classes, with 727 students, were awarded over \$73 million in academic scholarships.
- Our eleven graduating classes have produced 14 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 two National Hispanic Scholars.

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	U.S. Government	Visual Art	.5 credit
History	3 credits	D.C. History	Other Electives	3.5 credits
Latin	3 credits	Financial Lit.		
Athletics*	1 credit	Community Service	100 hours	

*Students fulfill athletic requirements by participating in four seasons of physical activity classes or JV/Varsity sports.

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 Honor Roll. 3.7 GPA is High Honor Roll.

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%*			

*Latin does not award the letter grade of D+.

*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 and outdoor sports. In 2021-22, Latin returned fully to in-person learning and athletics.

Because it is well established that standardized test scores are disproportionately lower for those from backgrounds historically excluded from higher education, a large portion of which are represented in our student population, Washington Latin has welcomed the movement to test-optional/free admissions. 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.

In addition, we are appreciative of the equity afforded through the virtual opportunities colleges have made available as it continues to remain unsafe or financially difficult for some students to visit campuses in-person. Please consider this if you are still using campus visits to demonstrate interest as a factor in your application review.

POLICIES AND CURRICULAR INFORMATION

Washington Latin 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, Financial Literacy, Intro. to World Religions, and Mindfulness and Meditation.

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 and the AP designation on their transcript.

High school credits earned in middle school will be reported with grades earned on the transcript, but the grades are not factored into the student's GPA. 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 through outside providers are given a grade of P/F.

Notes about special curriculum offerings and updates:

Honors Humanities is Latin's most rigorous course, exceeding the difficulty of the AP English curriculum and taught at a college level to seniors as a fourth year English course. 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.

Humanities I and Humanities II are replacing English 11 and English 12 (and their honors counterparts) respectively starting in 2022-23. **Humanities I** brings together the best of the classical and the modern worlds, the Humanities I curriculum presents students with works in which they will go "delving for Truth, searching out the hidden beauties of life, and learning the good of living" (DuBois). As students read authors from Plato and Aristotle to Morrison and Wilson, they will develop questions about the soul, emotions and reason, home, and the relationship between the individual and society. Homework and time in class focus on a variety of skills: annotating texts, listening to and summarizing classmates' ideas, contributing to a discussion, and writing analytically. **Humanities II** builds on the curriculum and ideas from Humanities I, although it can also be taken by students who have not completed Humanities I. This course again seeks to bring together works from the classical and modern worlds in order to help students become "thicker" readers who are fluent in authors and ideas from both the past and the present. As students encounter Plato, Aristotle, Tolstoy, and DuBois, they will ask questions about reality, virtue, meaning, and race and education in America. Homework and time in class focus on developing a variety of skills: reading carefully, listening, contributing to a discussion, writing analytically, and speaking in public.

Washington Latin Curriculum Offerings, 2022-23

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

(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, Spring Conditioning, Tennis, Volleyball Skills, Senior Step Challenge

Extracurricular Clubs 2022-2023: Anime, Arabic Honors Society, Asian American, Art Therapy, ASL, Beautification, Biking, Black Student Association, Black Lives Matter; Board Games, Certamen, Cheerleading, Climbing, Comic Book, Community Council, Environmental/ Putting Literature, Art, Numbers towards Earth's Thriving (PLANET), Film, Games, Garden, Gender Sexuality Alliance, Girls Leading Our World (GLOW), Gospel Choir, Homebrew Gaming, International Thespian Society, It's Academic Quiz Bowl, Juggling, Justice League, Knitting, Latinx, Listening to Music, Literary Magazine, Model UN, Music Playing, Muslim Youth, National Chinese

Honors Society, Origami, Party Games, Poetry; Ping Pong Club,; Red Hearts (comm. service); Rest, Relax, Release; Soccer Juggling Club, Spike Ball, Swag, Sports/NBA Club, Sumus Leones (newspaper), The Art of Tea, Underwater Robotics, Yearbook, Youth Empowerment

Post-Secondary Enrollments – Classes of 2019-2022

- Alabama A&M University
- Albright College, PA
- Allegheny College, PA
- American University, DC
- American Univ. of Paris
- Amherst College, MA
- Apprenticeship
- Arizona State Univ.
- Bard College, NY
- Bard College Berlin
- Bates College, ME
- Bennett Career Institute, DC
- Berklee Coll. of Music , MA
- Bloomsburg Univ. of PA
- Boston University, MA
- Bowdoin College, ME
- Bowie State Univ., MD
- Brandeis University, MA
- Brown Univ., RI
- Bryn Mawr College, PA
- Bucknell Univ., 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
- Connecticut College
- Cornell University, NY
- Cosmetology school
- Covenant College, GA
- Dartmouth College
- Delaware State University
- DePaul University, IL
- DC Metro PD Cadet Program
- Elizabeth City State U., NC
- EMT Training Program
- Emerson College, MA
- Florida Polytechnic Univ.
- Fordham Univ., NY
- Franklin & Marshall., PA
- Furman Univ., SC
- Gap year
- George Mason Univ., VA
- Georgetown Univ., DC
- Georgia Tech.
- Goucher College, MD
- Grinnell College, IA
- Guilford College, NC
- Hamilton College, NY
- Hampton University, VA
- Harcum College, PA
- Harrisburg Univ. of Science & Technology, PA
- Harvard College, MA
- Harvey Mudd College, CA
- Haverford College, PA
- High Point Univ., NC
- Howard Univ., DC
- Illinois Institute of Tech.
- Illinois State Univ.
- Itasca Comm. College, MN
- James Madison Univ., VA
- Johnson & Wales U., RI, NC
- La Salle University, PA
- Lafayette College, PA
- Lehigh University, PA
- Livingstone College, NC
- Longwood Univ., VA
- Loyola Univ. New Orleans
- Macalester College, MN
- Marymount University, VA
- McDaniel College, MD
- McGill University, CN
- Michigan State Univ.
- 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
- Norfolk State Univ., VA
- NC A&T State Univ.
- NC Central Univ.
- NC School of the Arts
- NC State Univ.
- Norfolk State Univ., VA
- Northeastern Univ., MA
- Northern VA Comm. Coll.
- Oberlin College, OH
- Old Dominion Univ., VA
- Pace University, NY
- Pennsylvania State Univ.
- Pomona College, CA
- Professional dance
- Purdue University, IN
- Rochester Institute of Technology, NY
- Rutgers Univ., NJ
- Saint Louis University, MO
- Salisbury Univ., MD
- Savannah College of Art & Design, GA
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Smith College, MA
- Spelman College, GA
- St. John's College, MD
- St. John's University, NY
- St. Mary's College of MD
- 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 George Washington Univ., DC
- The New School, NY
- Towson Univ., MD
- Trinity College Dublin, IR
- Trinity Washington U., DC
- Tufts University, MA
- Union College, NY
- US Navy
- Univ. of Alabama
- UC Berkeley
- UCLA
- University of Chicago, IL
- Univ. of Colorado-Boulder
- Univ. of Delaware
- 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 Michigan-Ann Arbor
- 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
- Univ. of Texas-Austin
- University of Vermont
- Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison
- Univ. of Wisconsin-Stout
- Virginia State Univ.
- Virginia Tech
- Wake Forest Univ., NC
- Wesleyan University, CT
- Whittier College, CA
- Xavier Univ. of Louisiana
- York College of PA