

8th grade Academic Night @ Cooper

October 29, 2026

Welcome!

Agenda

- Our Mission
- Through Students' Eyes:

  Our Academic Experience
- Graduation Requirements
- Core Courses
- Electives
- Modern Languages
- Summer School opportunities
- Community Service
- Post-secondary support



Our Principles

Seek the Conversation

- with families and students

Trust Courageously

- students need to begin to become autonomous

Fall in Love with Enduring Ideas

- through appropriate academic challenges

Serve the Common Good

- through increased leadership

Our Mission & Vision

Our Mission

Washington Latin Public Charter Schools provide a ***challenging***, ***classical*** education that is ***accessible*** to students throughout the District of Columbia. We seek to develop students who will become thoughtful citizens and leaders, contributing to the public good in their lifelong quest towards a fuller humanity. At our schools, words matter, ideas matter and people matter.



These keywords define our mission:

Challenging

Classical

Accessible

Academic Overview

We believe in the uplifting and liberating power of our classical education for all learners.

A core tenet of our mission is to develop ***all*** of our learners in the skills we believe will allow them to fully embrace the humanity of others as well as their own, and to recognize and experience all that is good, true, and beautiful in the world around them.

Our commitment to a diverse by design community at all levels, is essential to our progress towards the idea of creating a ***pathway to success for every student***.



Our Vision for US

Our Vision for the Upper School (US)

High school is different. We recognize that ninth graders are striving for independence and we are working to create a school and a program that honors this reality. We believe in a high school that is:

- Highly Individualized (academic, athletic, club offerings)
- Highly Relational (composition of classes, hiring of adults)
- Classical (character, texts)
- Integrated
- Risk-Taking

Our Students' Experience

Life at Washington Latin

Culture

Advisory

- As you know, our advisory system is central to a student's experience at Washington Latin. ***This is the home base for each student and, by extension, an important connection for our families.*** Our intention is that advisors foster a sense of mutual caring, community, and fun.
- Once students enter the Upper School, advisory continues to play an important role in our students' academic lives.
- Advisors provide ongoing ***academic guidance by reviewing course options and supporting their students' paths towards graduation***.

Graduation Requirements

Credit Requirements, Community Service

- 4 credits – English
- 4 credits – Math
  (one year past Algebra II)
- 4 credits – Science
- 4 credits – History
  (including D.C. History and Government)
- 3 credits – Latin
  (through Latin III)
- 2 credits – Modern Language (through the second level)
- 3.5 credits – Electives
  (credits that are above and beyond the minimum and specifically named graduation requirements and are of the student's choosing)
- 0.5 credit – Art
- 0.5 credit – Health
- 0.5 credit – Music
- 0.25 credit – Financial Literacy
- 1 credit – Athletics
  (four seasons)
- 100 hours – Community Service

Students need at least 27.25 credits to graduate!

Math Courses

Math

REQUIRED Math Courses

- Algebra I
- Geometry or Honors Geometry
- Algebra II or Honors Algebra II
- Options to complete the 4th credit:
  - Statistics or AP Statistics
  - Precalculus or Honors Precalculus

And also…

- Calculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- Linear Algebra
- Algebra Concepts
- Geometry Concepts
- Algebra II Concepts

Latin Courses

Latin

REQUIRED Latin Courses

- Latin I
- Latin II
- Latin III or Honors III



And beyond…

- Latin IV and Honors Latin IV
- AP Latin and Advanced Latin Seminar
- Ancient Greek!

English Courses

English

Four Required Credits of English

- ***GRADE 9:*** English 9
- ***GRADE 10:*** English 10
- ***GRADE 11:*** Humanities 1
- ***GRADE 12:*** Humanities 2

Also…

- AP English Language & Composition
- AP English Literature & Composition
- Honors Humanities
- English electives
- English Fundamentals

History Courses

History

- ***GRADE 9:*** World History I
- ***GRADE 10:*** World History II
- ***GRADE 11:*** U.S. History
- ***At some point:*** D.C. History (.5) and U.S. Government (.5)
- ***And Also:*** AP Human Geography, AP US Government, AP US History, AP African-American Studies, AP European History

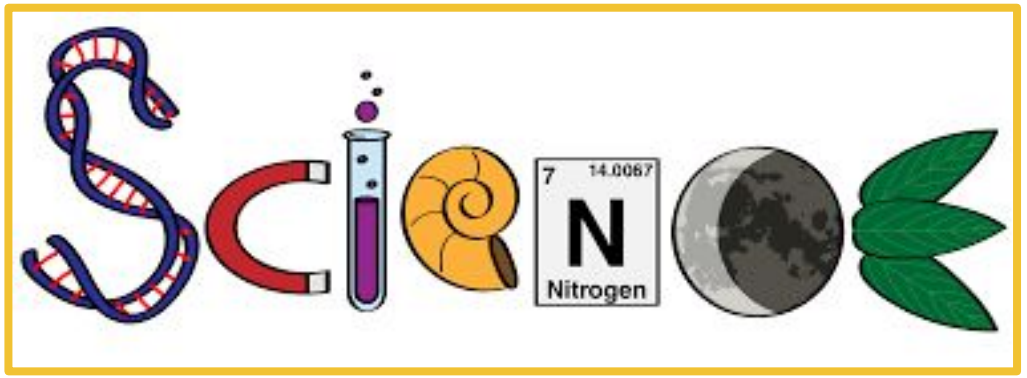


Science Courses

Science

REQUIRED Science Courses

- ***GRADE 9:*** Conceptual Physics
- ***GRADE 10:*** Chemistry OR Honors Chemistry
- ***GRADE 11:*** Biology OR Honors Biology



Options for 4th science credit

- Environmental Science or AP Environmental Science
- Science Research Methods
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Computer Science Principles
- other electives, according to teacher choice

Language Courses

World Languages

- ***Choices:*** Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese
- ***Requirements:*** 2 consecutive years (For example, Arabic I and Arabic II)
- ***Beyond:*** All languages have 5 levels, including a chance for AP or NEWL

- ***Communicative Method***: we speak the language students are learning
- ***Seal of Biliteracy***: any student who can demonstrate Intermediate High proficiency in Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening
- ***Spring break trips:*** students are eligible after 3 years





Arts Courses

Music Credits

- General Music
- Choir
- Band
- Orchestra

Arts Credits

- Theater Practicum
- Theater Tech
- Fine Art



Summer School & Opportunities

Summer School

- Any courses taken after 8th grade that are not remedial in nature can count towards high school credit.
- We plan to offer summer school at Cooper this year in some capacity (greater than previous years)
- We hope to include at least one elective course for credit

Athletics

Athletics

Anima Sana in Corpore Sano
(A healthy mind in a healthy body)

Washington Latin boasts a competitive athletic program. Our teams have won multiple championships across local, state, and national divisions.

Many of our student-athletes have continued their athletic career into college as D1 Athletes. We participate in the DC Public Charter School Athletics Association and in some cases also play DCPS or independent schools

Sport	Season	Middle School (6-8)	High School (9-12)	Boys, Girls, Co-Ed	Junior Varsity	Varsity
Baseball	Spring	X	X	Co-Ed		X
Basketball	Winter	X	X	Boys/Girls	X	X
Cheerleading	Winter	X	X	Co-Ed		X
Cross Country*	Fall	X	X	Co-Ed		X
Flag Football	Fall	X		Co-Ed		
Indoor Track	Winter		X	Co-Ed		X
Lacrosse	Spring	X	X	Girls		X
Soccer	Fall	X	X	Boys/Girls	X	X
Softball	Spring		X	Girls		X
Track & Field	Spring	X	X	Co-Ed		X
Ultimate Frisbee	Spring	X	X	Co-Ed		X
Volleyball	Fall	X	X	Girls		X
Wrestling	Winter		X	Co-Ed		X

Community Service

100 Hours Required by Graduation!

- 25 hours per year is a good goal.
- CS Forms can be found on the website.
- All service immediately following 8th grade year counts.

Post-Secondary Programming (PCS)

Post-Secondary Counseling

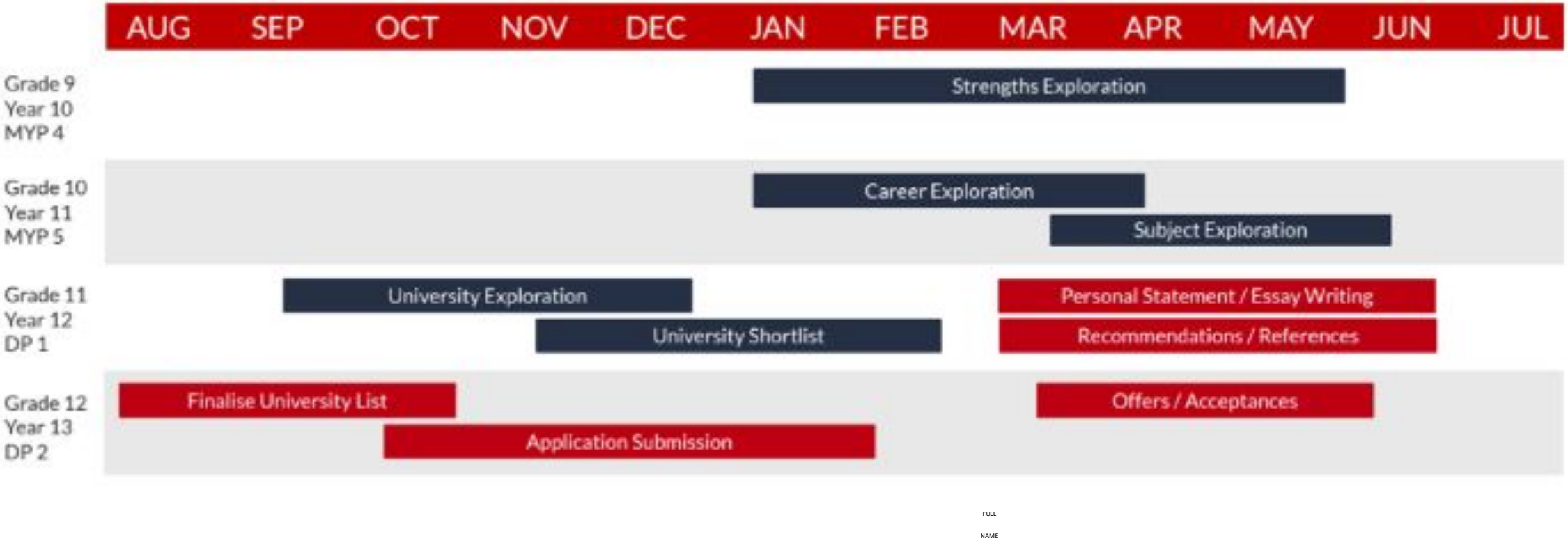
PSC Philosophy @ Washington Latin

We seek to provide guidance that is relational and tailored to the specific needs of each student.

We believe that ***each student has their own path to create after high school***. Because Washington Latin is a college-preparatory school, the majority of our graduates will continue on to four-year post-secondary institutions. As we advise them in this process, our focus is on **finding the right fit** for each young person, in academic rigor, social environment, geographical location, and affordability.



PSC Curriculum starts in 9th Grade



FULL

NAME

Events for G9s & G10s this year

For Students:

Fall Semester

- University Fair (virtual)
- PSC Fall Series: Grade 10
- Individual Student meetings: Grade 10 students

Spring Semester

- College visits
- University fair (in-person)
- PSC Spring Series: Grade 9
- Individual Student meetings: Grade 9 students
- Career Talks

For Parents:

Fall Semester

- Grade 10 Parent Session (in person)

Spring Semester

- Grade 9 (online)
- G10 Financial Aid (online)

PSC Weekly Newsletter: to students and parents through Dean's List

Questions



9th Grade Course Offerings

9th Grade Course Offerings

English: English 9, English elective

Latin: Latin I: Mythology, Latin II: History, Latin III, Honors Latin III; Honors Latin IV

World Language: Spanish I, II, III, IV; Arabic I, II; Chinese I, II, III

9th Grade Course Offerings

Math: Geometry, Honors Geometry, Algebra II, Honors Algebra II, Geometry Concepts, Algebra II Concepts

History: World History I

Science: Conceptual Physics

9th Grade Course Offerings

Arts: Theater Practicum (0.5), Theater Tech (0.5), Fine Art (0.5)

Health: Health (0.5)

Music: Band, Choir, Orchestra