Menlo School

PROFILES 2020-2021

THE SCHOOL

Menlo School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school situated in the heart of Silicon Valley. Established in 1915, Menlo School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and is a member of the National and California Associations of Independent Schools. Admission to Menlo is highly selective and the School seeks to attract and enroll a talented and diverse student body. Menlo is dedicated to providing a challenging academic curriculum complemented by outstanding creative arts and athletic programs. The School helps students develop positive values and nurtures character development in a supportive, inclusive environment that upholds the highest moral and ethical standards. Menlo’s program encourages students to reach their fullest potential and to develop the skills necessary to respond intelligently and humanely to the complexities of a diverse world.

MENLO BY THE NUMBERS

- STUDENT POPULATION: 580
- GRADES 9-12
- 10:1 STUDENT-TO-TEACHER RATIO
- 73% OF FACULTY HAVE ADVANCED DEGREES
- $6.5 MILLION IN AID TO 21% OF THE STUDENT BODY
- 333 AP EXAMS TAKEN LAST YEAR BY CLASS OF 2021
- 83% OF STUDENTS EARNED 4 AND 5 AP SCORES
- 19 HONORS AND POST AP CLASSES OFFERED
- 21 AP CLASSES OFFERED
- 21 VARSITY SPORTS OFFERED

CLASS OF 2021 BY THE NUMBERS

- CLASS SIZE: 139
- MEAN GPA: 3.72
- HIGH GPA: 4.34
- EBRW (three-year average): 706
- MATH (three-year average): 741
- ACT (three-year average): 33
- 14 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS
- 38 NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS

GRADING AND CLASS RANK

In the Upper School, GPA is cumulative from freshman year using all courses with the exception of Physical Education (PE). Menlo reports year long grades, with the exception a few electives where semester grades are reported on the transcript. Plus and minus grades are weighted (e.g. B+= 3.33, B-= 2.67). Upper School students receive an extra .5 of credit for each Honors (H), Advanced Placement (AP), or Advanced Topics course. Students are not ranked.

COVID-19 STATEMENT:

In March of 2020, Menlo switched to a distance learning model and will continue with this model through November 1, 2020, at the earliest. Our academic calendar has remained the same. As it pertains to the Class of 2021, Menlo made no changes to our grading scales and policies, nor did we adjust our graduation requirements. We kept our A-F grading scale and feel we were able to honor the integrity of our rigorous academic experience through the distance learning model. One extenuating circumstance related to COVID-19 is the lack of a standardized test score for many of our students in the Class of 2021. Menlo has opted to report the 3 year testing averages (in ACT, SAT Math, and SAT EBRW) in lieu of the standardized testing averages for the class of 2021.
DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS AND COURSES

**Applied Science Research (ASR)**
ASR is a capstone class. Students learn how to design and build something, do experiments, analyze and graph their data, and compute the errors on their experiments. Students work on campus and/or intern at a local university or company under a mentor. At the conclusion of the second semester, each student writes a science or engineering paper, gives a final presentation, and has the opportunity to publish their work in a science or engineering journal.

**BioTech Research**
In this course, students learn key lab techniques in molecular biology, protein biochemistry, immunolocalization, and cell culture. They then use these skills to design and carry out an authentic, independent research project, either in our lab or in a local industry or academic lab.

**Menlo Interdisciplinary and Personalized Scholars Program (Menlo IP)**
Menlo IP is designed to allow interested students to shape a deep and personalized approach to their studies, which we believe will help them to create more meaningful learning explorations and chart new paths of distinction. The program offers three “Fields of Study,” similar to a college concentration:

- **Arts & Letters** – teaches students to interpret creative works, ground them in the history, theory, and context of their chosen genre, and supports them in creating their own original work or producing original scholarly criticism

- **Citizenship & Leadership** – helps students become problem solvers of local public policy challenges

- **Community Engagement & Impact** – provides an opportunity for students to examine the root causes of a societal problem or inequity and become problem solvers who envision possible solutions to community challenges.

- **Global Scholars** – fosters global competency and dispositions of global engagement

**M Term**
M Term has two interrelated and primary purposes: to find new ways to foster joy in learning and engagement and to honor student interest and initiative by providing experiences and opportunities that may not routinely exist in the Menlo School curricula. During the last two weeks of the school year, regular classes are suspended, and students partake in immersive M Term experiential courses designed to get student out into our local and global communities while fostering awareness, empathy, and citizenship.

**Global Online Academy**
Students may take online classes through the Global Online Academy, a consortium of domestic and international independent schools. Students receive Menlo credit for the courses, and the course grade is calculated into the student’s GPA.

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**COLLEGE MATRICULATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASSES OF 2018-2020**

| Arizona State University (3) | Foothill College (1) | Pace University (1) |
| Balson College (1) | Fordham University (1) | Pitzer College (1) |
| Barnard College (1) | Franklin and Marshall College (1) | Pomona College (7) |
| Bates College (2) | Georgetown University (5) | Pratt Institute (1) |
| Baylor University (1) | Georgia Institute of Technology (1) | Princeton University (5) |
| Boston College (4) | Gonzaga University (1) | Purdue University (1) |
| Boston University (2) | Hamilton College (2) | Reed College (1) |
| Bowdoin College (1) | Harvard College (10) | Rice University (1) |
| Brandeis University (1) | Harvey Mudd College (2) | San Diego Christian College (1) |
| Brown University (7) | Haverford College (3) | Santa Barbara City College (1) |
| Bryn Mawr College (1) | Indiana University (2) | Santa Clara University (3) |
| Bucknell University (2) | Johns Hopkins University (5) | Santa Monica College (2) |
| California Institute of Technology (2) | Kenyon College (1) | Scripps College (2) |
| California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (4) | King’s College London (1) | Skidmore College (1) |
| Cañada College (1) | La Salle University (1) | Sonoma State University (1) |
| Carleton College (5) | Lafayette College (2) | Southern Methodist University (14) |
| Carnegie Mellon University (9) | Lehigh University (1) | St. John’s College (1) |
| Chapman University (1) | Loyola Marymount University (1) | St. Lawrence University (1) |
| Claremont McKenna College (2) | Luther College (1) | Stanford University (19) |
| Clemson University (1) | Macalester College (1) | The George Washington University (1) |
| Colby College (1) | Manhattan School of Music (1) | The Juilliard School (1) |
| Colorado College (3) | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (5) | The New School (1) |
| Columbia University (3) | Middlebury College (3) | The University of Alabama (1) |
| Connecticut College (1) | Montclair State University (1) | The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (6) |
| Cornell University (8) | New York University (12) | The University of Notre Dame (2) |
| Dartmouth College (11) | Northeastern University (2) | Trinity College (1) |
| Davidson College (2) | Northern Arizona University (1) | Tufts University (3) |
| De Anza College (1) | Northwestern University (11) | Tulane University (13) |
| Duke University (9) | Oberlin College (1) | United States Military Academy (1) |
| Emerson College (1) | Occidental College (1) | United States Naval Academy (1) |
| Emory University (2) | Ohlone College (1) | University of California, Berkeley (14) |
| University of California, Davis (4) | Otterbein University (1) | University of California, Los Angeles (10) |
| University of California, Irvine (2) | Pace University (1) | University of California, Riverside (3) |
| University of California, Santa Barbara (2) | Pitzer College (1) | University of California, Santa Cruz (2) |
| University of Chicago (8) | Pomona College (7) | University of Chicago (8) |
| University of Colorado at Boulder (8) | Pratt Institute (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (1) |
| University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2) | Princeton University (5) | University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (1) |
| University of Maryland (2) | Purdue University (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (2) |
| University of Miami (3) | Reed College (1) | University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (2) |
| University of Michigan (8) | Rice University (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (3) |
| University of Oregon (2) | San Diego Christian College (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (4) |
| University of Pennsylvania (4) | Santa Barbara City College (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (5) |
| University of Redlands (3) | Santa Clara University (3) | University of Colorado at Denver (6) |
| University of Richmond (2) | Santa Monica College (2) | University of Colorado at Denver (7) |
| University of San Diego (1) | Scripps College (2) | University of Colorado at Denver (8) |
| University of Southern California (13) | Skidmore College (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (9) |
| University of St Andrews (1) | Sonoma State University (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (10) |
| University of Texas, Austin (2) | Southern Methodist University (14) | University of Colorado at Denver (11) |
| University of Virginia (4) | St. John’s College (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (12) |
| University of Washington (4) | St. Lawrence University (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (13) |
| University of Wisconsin, Madison (5) | Stanford University (19) | University of Colorado at Denver (14) |
| Vanderbilt University (8) | The George Washington University (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (15) |
| Villanova University (5) | The Juilliard School (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (16) |
| Wake Forest University (5) | The New School (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (17) |
| Washington & Lee University (1) | The University of Alabama (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (18) |
| Washington University in St. Louis (13) | The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (6) | University of Colorado at Denver (19) |
| Whitman College (2) | The University of Notre Dame (2) | University of Colorado at Denver (20) |
| Williams College (1) | Trinity College (1) | University of Colorado at Denver (21) |
| Yale University (6) | Tufts University (3) | University of Colorado at Denver (22) |
UPPER SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

ENGLISH (4 years required)
- English 1
- English 2
- English 3 (Rebels)
- AP English Language
- AP English Literature

All seniors take Elective English Seminars.

ELECTIVES
- Contemporary Global Literature (H)
- Dangerous Ideas
- Freak Character in American Culture (H)
- Investigations
- Gothic South
- The Art of the Essay
- Cafe Society
- Global Mythologies
- Modernist Poetry Workshop
- Sizzling Scribes
- Lyric & Lifeline (Honors option)
- Fairy Tales
- Creative Writing
- Multicultural London
- Adolescence (Re)imagined
- Dystopian Fiction & Film
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (3 years required)
- Modern World History
- U.S. History
- AP U.S. History

ELECTIVES*
- AP Government & Politics
- Contemporary American Issues
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Macroeconomics
- Essential Macroeconomics
- Global Issues for Global Citizens
- Global Scholars Research
- Ethnic Studies
- Modern Political Rhetoric
- Swords & Ploughshares
- Humanities 1: Art and Culture
- Humanities 2: 20th Century Theories
- World Economy Since 1700
- US Foreign Policy
- War and Peace: Middle East
- Intro to Law
- U.S. Government & Political Science
- Leadership Case Studies
- The United States Since 2000
- U.S. Economic History
- Philosophy

*History electives have an Honors option.

MATHEMATICS (3 years required)
- Integrated Geometry & Algebra
- Analytic Geometry & Algebra
- Analytic Geometry & Algebra (H)
- Algebra 2
- Algebra 2 (H)
- Principles of Pre-Calculus
- Analytic Pre-Calculus
- Pre-Calculus (H)
- Calculus
- Adv. Economic Theory (H)
- Statistics
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- Advanced Topics in Math (H)

SCIENCE (3 years required)
- Conceptual Physics
- Physics 1
- Conceptual Chemistry
- Accelerated Chemistry (H)
- AP Chemistry
- Biology
- AP Physics 2
- AP Physics C: Mechanics
- AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
- Advanced Topics in Biology (H)
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Environmental Science
- Applied Science Research (H)
- Biotechnology Research (H)
- Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Neuroscience
- Design & Architecture
- Sustainable Engineering
- Experimental Archaeology
- Engineering Entrepreneurship

WORLD LANGUAGE (3 years required)
- French Foundations 1, 2
- Intermediate French
- Upper Intermediate French
- Advanced Topics in French
- AP French Language & Culture
- Japanese 4
- AP Japanese Language & Culture
- Latin 1, 2, 3, 3(H), 4
- AP Latin Vergil
- Post AP Latin (H)
- Foundations Mandarin 1, 2
- Intermediate Mandarin
- Upper Intermediate Mandarin
- AP Chinese Language & Culture
- Spanish Foundations 1, 2
- Intermediate Spanish
- Upper Intermediate Spanish
- AP Spanish Language & Culture
- Advanced Seminar Topics in Spanish
- AP Spanish Literature

CREATIVE ARTS (1½ years required)
- Freshman Seminar Arts Rotation
- Art
- Advanced Art
- AP Studio Art
- Topics in Fine Arts
- Select Mixed Chorus
- Women's Chorus
- Chamber Choir
- AP Music Theory
- Jazz Band
- Chamber Orchestra
- Jazz Dance
- Advanced Jazz Dance
- Drama
- Musical Theater
- Advanced Drama
- Moviemaking
- Advanced Moviemaking
- Photography
- Advanced Photography
- Yearbook: Publication Design I, II, & Leadership

COMPUTER SCIENCE
- Introduction to Computer Programming
- AP Computer Science
- Advanced Topics in Computer Science (H)
- Post AP CS W/ Data Structures & Algorithms (H)

JOURNALISM
- Introduction to Journalism
- Advanced Journalism
- Journalism Leadership

INTERDISCIPLINARY AND PERSONALIZED (IP) SCHOLARS
- Arts & Letters
- Citizenship Leadership
- Community Engagement & Impact
- Global Scholars