Menlo School
PROFILE 2023-2024

THE SCHOOL

Established in 1915, Menlo School is a highly-selective independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school situated in the heart of Silicon Valley. The School inspires students to lead lives of meaning, impact, and joy. Through our relevant, responsive curriculum, students in grades 6-12 explore diverse points of view and are encouraged to think globally and act with compassion. Our talented educators lead with enthusiasm and curiosity, challenging students in their learning while ensuring the support each student needs to thrive. We believe that learning is a journey that should be enjoyed. Our students are encouraged to chart their own paths through a broad array of exceptional academic, artistic, and athletic programs that spark wonder and launch wider exploration.

MENLO BY THE NUMBERS

- **Student Population**: 584 Grades 9-12
- **Student-to-Teacher Ratio**: 10:1
- **Advanced Classes Offered**: 40
- **Varsity Sports Offered**: 22
- **National Merit Semifinalists**: 12
- **Mean GPA**: 3.82
- **High GPA**: 4.33
- **In Aid to 20% of the Student Body**: $7M

CLASS OF 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

- **Class Size**: 146
- **Mean GPA**: 3.82
- **High GPA**: 4.33

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 weighted and cumulative 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, as all three designations are considered equally rigorous. Students are not ranked.** Menlo is moving away from the AP curriculum and replacing those courses with more relevant, rigorous Honors and Advanced Topics offerings.

When requested by a college or university to which a student has applied, Menlo School will report incidents that occurred in grades 9 through 12 that resulted in the student being dismissed, suspended, or placed on citizenship probation. Menlo School will also report voluntary withdrawals when disciplinary action is possible or pending whenever such information is requested by a college or university.
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 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
BioTech Research is a capstone class. 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 IP provides an opportunity for students to examine root causes of societal problems, envision possible solutions to said challenges, and supports them in creating their own original work or producing original scholarly criticism.

Global Online Academy
Students may take online courses 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.

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 students out into our local and global communities while fostering awareness, empathy, and citizenship.

Menlo Abroad
Three-week international travel programs that feature facilitated curricula, service-learning, language immersion, and homestays. Students develop meaningful relationships with people in distant places, make friends, and use their skills to address common problems. Current offerings include Costa Rica, and past trips have included Tanzania, India, China, and Guatemala.

Borderlands
One-week domestic travel opportunities to the Southwestern United States to study Indigenous America, immigration, and a host of related topics.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASSES OF 2021-2023

American University (1)
Amherst College (2)
ArtCenter College of Design (1)
Babson College (2)
Bates College (3)
Baylors University (2)
Belmont College (1)
Boston College (12)
Boston University (5)
Bowdoin College (2)
Bryant Young University (2)
Brown University (6)
Bucknell University (1)
California Polytechnic Institute, Pomona (2)
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (3)
Canada College (1)
Carleton College (1)
Carnegie Mellon University (4)
Case Western Reserve (3)
Claremont McKenna College (4)
Colby College (2)
Colgate University (1)
College of San Mateo (2)
Colorado College (3)
Columbia University (4)
Cornell University (13)
Dartmouth College (7)
Denison University (3)
Duke University (7)
Emerson College (1)
Emory University (4)
Foothill College (2)
Fordham University (1)
Georgetown University (4)
Gonzaga University (3)
Harvard University (5)
Haverford College (1)
Johns Hopkins University (5)
Lehigh University (4)
Marquette University (2)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2)
Middlebury College (2)
New York University (3)
Northeastern University (1)
Northern Arizona University (1)
Northwestern University (6)
Occidental College (2)
Pace University (1)
Parsons School of Design (1)
Pomona College (2)
Princeton University (5)
Purdue University (5)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1)
Rhode Island School of Design (1)
Rice University (3)
Rose Hulman Institute of Technology (1)
Saint Mary’s College of California (2)
Santa Clara University (8)
Santa Monica College (2)
Sarah Lawrence College (2)
Scripps College (2)
Seattle University (1)
Skidmore College (3)
Southern Methodist University (5)
Stanford University (23)
Syracuse University (2)
Texas Christian University (2)
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2)
The University of Notre Dame (4)
Trinity College (2)
Tufts University (8)
Tulane University (13)
United States Air Force Academy (1)
United States Military Academy (1)
University of Arizona (2)
University of British Columbia (2)
University of California, Berkeley (18)
University of California, Davis (1)
University of California, Los Angeles (7)
University of California, Riverside (2)
University of California, San Diego (4)
University of California, Santa Barbara (3)
University of Cambridge (1)
University of Chicago (14)
University of Cincinnati (1)
University of Colorado at Boulder (6)
University of Denver (1)
University of Maryland (2)
University of Michigan (8)
University of Oregon (1)
University of Pennsylvania (7)
University of Redlands (1)
University of Richmond (2)
University of Rochester (1)
University of San Diego (1)
University of Southern California (2)
University of St. Andrews (1)
University of Tennessee (1)
University of Texas, Austin (2)
University of Toronto (1)
University of Utah (3)
University of Virginia (1)
University of Washington (4)
University of Wisconsin, Madison (12)
Utah Valley University (1)
Vanderbilt University (5)
Vassar College (2)
Villanova University (4)
Wake Forest University (7)
Washington and Lee University (1)
Washington University in St. Louis (11)
Wellesley College (3)
Whitman College (1)
Williams College (3)
Yale University (4)
ENGLISH (4 years required)
- English 1
- English 2
- English 3 (Rebels)
- AP English Language*
- AP English Literature*

(*Students may only take AP English Language or AP English Literature, not both.)

**English Seminar Topics:**
- The Art of the Essay
- Cafe Society
- Delight: Celebrating Small Wonders
- Dystopian Fiction & Film
- East Asian Pop Culture
- Global Mythologies
- Gothic South (H)
- Investigations
- Literature and Science
- Lyric & Lifeline
- Medicine and Narrative
- Modern Poetry Workshop (H)
- On Being
- Poetry Writing Workshop
- Science Fiction and the Classics
- Shakespeare Now (H)

All Seniors take English Seminars.

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

**Advanced History Seminars:**
- AP European History
- AP Government & Politics
- Current Affairs & Civil Discourse
- Contemporary American Issues
- Criminal Justice
- Economic Theory
- Environmental and Development Economics
- Ethnic Studies 1, 2
- From Caliphs to Coffee
- Gender and Queer Studies
- Global Issues for Global Citizens
- Humanities 1, 2
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Modern Political Rhetoric
- The Pursuit of Happiness
- Refugees, Forced Migration, and the Nation State
- The United States Since 2000
- U.S. Foreign Policy

MATHEMATICS (3 years required)
- Integrated Geometry & Algebra
- Analytic Geometry & Algebra
- Analytic Geometry & Algebra (H)
- Algebra 2
- Algebra 2 with Trigonometry
- Algebra 2 with Trigonometry (H)
- Pre-Calculus
- Introductory Calculus
- Introductory Calculus (H)
- Calculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- Statistics
- AP Statistics
- Adv. Topics in Math (H)

SCIENCE (3 years required)
- Conceptual Physics
- Physics 1
- Chemistry
- Chemistry (H)
- Adv. Topics in Chemistry
- Biology
- AP Physics 2
- Adv. Topics in Biology (H)
- Adv. Topics in Physics:
  - Quantum Mechanics (H)
- Adv. Topics in Physics:
  - Electromagnetism and Relativity (H)
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Environmental Science
- Applied Entrepreneurship
- Applied Science Research (H)
- Biotechnology Research (H)
- Mechanical and Electrical Engineering
- Neuroscience
- Design & Architecture
- Sustainable Earth Engineering
- Experimental Archaeology

WORLD LANGUAGE (2 or 3 years required, based on starting placement)
- French 1, 2, 3, 4, 4 (H)
- Adv. Topics in French
- Latin 1, 2, 3, 3(H), 4
- Adv. Topics in Latin (H)
- Mandarin 1, 2, 3, 4, 4(H) 5, 5 (H)
- Adv. Topics in Mandarin (H)
- Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4, 4 (H)
- Adv. Topics in Spanish

CREATIVE ARTS (2 years required)
- Freshman Art
- Animation 1: Fundamentals
- Animation 2: Advanced
- Art 1: Foundations
- Art 2: Advanced Art
- Art 3: Topics in Fine Arts
- Beyond Words: Public Speaking
- Chamber Orchestra
- Freshman Dance
- Dance 1: Just Dance
- Dance 2: Technique and Performance
- Dance 3: Choreography Workshop
- Drama
- Embody Voice
- How Music Works
- Jazz Band
- Knight Singers
- AP Music Theory
- Musical Theater
- Photo 1: Fundamentals
- Photo 2: Advanced
- Photo 3: Independent Portfolio
- Push Play - Making Electronic Music Stage Production
- Tap Dance
- Moviemaking 1: Fundamentals
- Moviemaking 2: Advanced
- AP Studio Art (2D & 3D)
- Vocal Exploration
- Yearbook: Publication Design 1, 2, & Leadership

FRESHMAN SEMINAR PROGRAM (required)

ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- M Term
- Life Beyond Menlo Senior Programming
- Community Engagement
- Physical Education

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 a student’s GPA.

(H) = Honors Course or Honors Option

Menlo is moving away from the AP curriculum and replacing those courses with more relevant, rigorous Honors and Advanced Topics offerings.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**
- Computer Science 1*
- AP Computer Science
- Adv. Topics in Computer Science (H)
- App Design and Development

(*CS1 is Pass/Fail only)

**JOURNALISM**
- Introduction to Journalism
- Advanced Journalism
- Journalism Leadership (H)

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

(*History seminar classes have an Honors option.)