



# 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.

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ACT-CEEB Code: 051960

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Registrar  
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## MENLO BY THE NUMBERS

STUDENT  
POPULATION  
**584**  
GRADES 9-12



**10:1**  
STUDENT-TO-  
TEACHER RATIO



**\$7M**  
IN AID TO  
**20%**  
OF THE  
STUDENT  
BODY

**40** ADVANCED  
CLASSES OFFERED



**22**  
VARSITY SPORTS  
OFFERED



## CLASS OF 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

CLASS SIZE  
**146**

MEAN GPA  
**3.82**

HIGH GPA  
**4.33**

**12**  
NATIONAL  
MERIT  
SEMIFINALISTS

## 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.*

*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.*

# 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

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 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.

## 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)  
Baylor University (2)  
Belmont College (1)  
Boston College (12)  
Boston University (5)  
Bowdoin College (2)  
Brigham Young University (2)  
Brown University (6)  
Bucknell University (1)  
California Polytechnic Institute, Pomona (2)  
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (3)  
Cañada 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)



# UPPER SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

## 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)  
Odysseys  
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

(\*History seminar classes have an Honors option.)

## 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

## 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

## 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

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