



PROFILE: THE CLASS of 2021

CEEB CODE: 310845

Within a culture of support and collaboration, Morristown-Beard School students discover and develop their individual pathways to academic success and personal fulfillment while becoming enlightened, morally responsible citizens of the world.

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Morristown-Beard is an independent, coeducational day school serving students from over 85 communities and nine counties in northern New Jersey. There are 575 students in grades 6-12, with an Upper School enrollment of 435. There are 92 faculty members, of whom 72% hold advanced degrees, of which 19% are doctoral. The School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools and is approved by the New Jersey State Department of Education.

CURRICULAR PHILOSOPHY

MBS has fully embraced the “new” or “21st Century” paradigm for secondary education, as articulated by such thinkers and researchers as the late Grant Wiggins, Sir Ken Robinson, Tony Wagner, and many others. Despite the challenges this new model poses to many traditional secondary school assumptions and practices, its focus on skills over content, on critical and creative thinking over mere absorption of information, on critical reading and writing in all disciplines, and above all its foundation in a “growth” as opposed to “fixed” mindset, is supported by a wave of cognitive research and emerging best practices. Our academic program has been steadily evolving for the past decade along these lines, and we are justly proud of the progress we have made in preparing our graduates to succeed in higher education and in the social landscape of the future, both of which are themselves in the midst of complex, rapidly evolving change. Our students, therefore, need to be understood and assessed in the light of these principles, as outlined in our Statement of Curricular Philosophy:

The Morristown-Beard curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, problem solving, independent thought, and intellectual risk taking. It supports cross-disciplinary connections and a holistic view of knowledge. It encourages integration of habits of intentional speaking and writing so that students may develop and articulate their ideas. The curriculum is process-oriented, and teachers' assessment of student work reflects the means by which a student creates and learns in addition to final product. The curriculum at Morristown-Beard esteems the qualitative as well as quantitative dimensions of learning and supports students' making connections to other areas of intellectual thought and the larger world.

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

MBS shifted to online instruction beginning in March of the 2020 spring semester. During distance learning, we remained committed to providing an education focusing on student growth through a combination of synchronous class time and asynchronous instruction. Students were asked to think, collaborate and communicate in a variety of modes, using synchronous sessions to provide structure, foster common purpose, and motivate students to remain engaged. Maintaining our tradition of holistic assessment, MBS provided a modified grading policy intended to give students the space to demonstrate their academic progress with an understanding that meeting expectations would mean different things for different students during this unprecedented time. Full-time, on-campus instruction resumed in September, taking into consideration local and federal health and safety guidelines. In addition to numerous adjustments to our facilities, classroom technology has been updated such that any student not attending school, but nonetheless able to complete academic work, can attend classes via Zoom.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Advanced Seminar/Advanced Studies Program

To provide students with an alternative to the standardized AP curriculum, MBS offers an array of year-long Advanced Studies courses in each of our core academic departments. Like our AP offerings, our Advanced Studies courses are open to our most ambitious and high-performing juniors and seniors. Advanced Studies courses differ from the AP not only in the substance of their curricula, but, more profoundly, in aiming at the disciplinary mastery that is necessary to deep learning essential to the 21st Century. In these courses, students are encouraged to apply themselves to complex texts, problems and concepts in order to gain mastery in modes of inquiry and thought essential to genuine intellectual work.

The Advanced Seminar program complements both the AP and Advanced Studies courses by offering our most curious and motivated students the opportunity to explore topics that fall beyond or between our core academic disciplines. Proposals for Advanced Seminars undergo a thorough peer-review process, ensuring a level of rigor commensurate with AP and Advanced Studies classes; they also reflect our faculty's broad range of interests and expertise. Advanced Seminars engage students in the high-level, dynamic, discussion-driven learning experiences that they can expect to find in college seminars. **Both Advanced Seminar and Advanced Studies courses are designated with the prefix “AS,” indicating a level of rigor comparable to or exceeding AP courses.**

Earned Honors Model

In “Earned Honors” courses, students are not pre-sorted into “Honors” and “Regular” students, but are instead given the opportunity to decide for themselves whether they would like to be assessed under Honors Learners criteria. Choosing whether to pursue Honors in a class means our students can choose what sort of learner they would like to be in a particular subject, rather than being told what sort of learning they are capable of. Honors and non-Honors students support, push, and learn from one another, even as those who have elected to earn Honors commit themselves to greater independence of thought, patience with process, and sophistication of skill. Ideally, all MBS students find at least one subject in which they view themselves as Honors learners.

World Language Mastery Curriculum

The World Language Department is in the midst of transitioning from a traditional curriculum that offers numbered courses to a Mastery Curriculum. The Mastery Curriculum in French, Latin and Spanish is designed to allow students to move forward through language at a pace that provides them opportunities for success. The courses are defined by performance objectives rather than time spent learning the language. These performance objectives provide information for students about what they must consistently demonstrate to reach a particular level, putting them in control of their own progress. Students can move through the sequence at a pace that fits their language development, advancing past levels if they demonstrate competence in the relevant benchmarks. Students who demonstrate extraordinary achievement in their language studies advance to the Experienced level and either AP or Advanced Studies courses.

CURRICULUM NOTES

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Students must fulfill required prerequisites and have departmental approval in order to enroll in any of the 12 AP courses offered. With the exception of those taking Chemistry and United States History, the majority enrolled in AP classes are seniors. In addition to courses offered, recommended juniors may also sit for the English Language and Composition exam.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Our Independent Study program encourages students to explore areas of interest that fall outside the traditional course catalog. Under the guidance of selected faculty members with a special expertise or interest in the field, students work side by side to develop a scope and sequence curriculum, create authentic class specific content and create original assessments. Independent Studies are ideal for motivated, high-achieving students. Recent topics include: Abnormal Psychology, American Consumerism, CO2 Sequestration, Food Insecurity,

Investment Analysis, Pre-1960s World Cinema, Science and the Glass Ceiling, Sustainable Architecture, Technical Theater, The Spectrum of Trauma

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The academic year is divided into two semesters during which a minimum academic load is six courses. While a total of 24 credits is required for graduation, we encourage students to pursue their academic interests by going beyond the minimum requirements of:

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years
History	3 years
Science	3 years
World Language	3 years
Performing/Visual & Digital Arts	2 years
	(as of Fall 2020)

TEST SCORES (CLASS OF 2020)

SAT

	Middle 50%	Mean
Evidence Based Reading and Writing	590-650	614
Math	540-640	589

ACT

Composite	24-30	27
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GRADING SYSTEM AND CLASS RANK

Grade point averages are unweighted and calculated based on the system below. Passing grade is 60. A cumulative GPA is not calculated, nor do we rank our students.

Letter Grade	Points
A+	4.00
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
D-	0.67
F	0.00

Class of 2021: JUNIOR YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

GRADES	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+
Humanities English 11 Fall *		2	8	18	11	4	1			
Humanities English 11 Fall (H) *		9	19	23	16					
Humanities English 11 Spring *		4	19	10	8	1	1			
Humanities English 11 Spring (H) *	6	11	21	24	7					
English Electives *	1	1	4	6	3					
English Electives (H) *	3	31	5	4	2					
Humanities History 11		15	10	9	6	4				
Humanities History 11 (H)	2	9	10	13	5					
US History (AP)	1	8	8	7	6					
History Electives *		2	9	2	3		1			
History Electives (H) *	1	13	9	4	1		1			
Integrated Math 3		3	6	8	7	5	5	2	2	
Integrated Math 3 (H)		3	2	1	1					
Functions Analysis and Trigonometry		18	8	3	3	5				
Mathematical Analysis (H)		9	3	4	3	1	1			
Calculus AB (AP)		10	4	8			2			
Math and Art *		1	1							
Probability Theory *		2	1			1				
Statistics and Data Analysis *		7	9	3	4	1				
Biology		2	3	11	7	2	1	1		
Biology (H)		10	12	8		1				
Experimental Biology		1		3	6					
Experimental Biology (H)	1	17	8	7	2					
Biology (AP)			1			1				
Quantitative Chemistry (H)				1						
Chemistry (AP)		5								
Organic Chemistry (AS)		6	6							
Environmental Science					3					
Environmental Science (H)		1	1	2	1					
Anatomy and Physiology (H) *	3	1								
Forensic Science *		1								
Genetics and Biotechnology (H) *					3					
Nutrition *		2	6							
Sports Medicine *		2		2	1					
French 3				2	1	2				
French 3 (H)		6								
French 4		1	2	5						1
French 4 (H)		1	5	2			1			
French 5			1							
French Cinema (H)		4		1						
French (AP)		4								
Foundational Latin		1								
Building Latin		1	2	1			1			
Intermediate Latin			1	3						
Experienced Latin		3	3	2			1			
Foundational Spanish			6	4	4			2		2
Latin Literature of the Golden Age (AS)				1						
Building Spanish				4	2					
Spanish 3		1	2	2	1					
Spanish 3 (H)			1	1						
Spanish 4		4	15	7	2					
Spanish 4 (H)			2	2	3					
Spanish Through Music and Film							1			
Spanish (AP)				1	1					
Italian Language and Culture (AS)			1							
60s Science and Culture (AS)*			1							
Entrepreneurship (AS)*		6								
Environmental Economics (AS)*			2							
Political Philosophy (AS) *		1		1						
Stigma and Identity in Greece (AS)*				1						
Technology, Society, Values (AS)*		1	2							
Computer Arts and Sciences 1		1	2		1					
Computer Arts and Sciences 2		1		1						
Computer Arts and Sciences 3		1	1		1					
Spaceflight Engineering (H)		1	2	3	1					

* Semester Courses

Upper School

ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS 2020-2021

ADVANCED SEMINARS

(11,12; AS)
Behavioral Economics
Bridging Cultures through Art History
Medicine: Analysis and Decisions
Sources of the Self
The Economics of Natural Resources
The Essentials of Entrepreneurship

ART AND DESIGN

Foundations: Studio (9)
Foundations: Digital (9)
Art 2 (10,11,12)
Art 3 (11,12)
Art 4 (12)
Studio Art (12, AP)
Architectural Design Studio (10,11,12)
Video Broadcast Journalism (10,11,12)

Semester Electives

(10,11,12 unless noted)
2D Design with Digital Fabrication, 3D Design with Digital Fabrication, Advanced Film Photography, Alternative Process Photography, Ceramics (9,10,11,12), Digital Illustration (9,10,11,12), Digital Video Storytelling, Film Photography (9,10,11,12), Glass Design, Glass Design Studio, Graphic Design, Graphic Design Studio, Hands-On Art History (9,10,11,12), Jewelry Design, Metal Design

COMPUTER INFORMATION SCIENCES

Application Programming (9,10,11,12)
Computer Arts and Sciences 1: Intro to Design and Problem Solving (10,11,12)
Computer Arts and Sciences 2: Object Oriented Design (10,11,12)
Computer Arts and Sciences 3: Scientific Programming (11,12)
Complex Systems Science (AS; 11,12)

ENGLISH

Humanities English 9 (standard & honors)
Humanities English 10 (standard & honors)
English 11: American Narratives (standard & honors)
English 12 (standard & honors – semester electives)
English 12 (AP)
Literature of the Modern Period (12, AS)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard & honors unless noted)
Advanced Creative Writing: Ancient Heroes, Modern Times; Caribbean Literature; Deconstructing Gender in Literature and Life; Introduction to Creative Writing; Journalism; Literature of Revolution; Logic and Literature; Love, Myth and Murder: Five Greek Plays; Monsters and Madness; Narratives of North Korea; Savage Satire; The Language of Leadership; The Power of Stories; They Say/I Say: Truth and Perspective; Writing our Lives; Writing Center Theory and Practice (11, honors)

HISTORY

Humanities History 9 (standard & honors)
Humanities History 10 (standard & honors)
United States History 11: The American Experience (standard & honors)
United States History (11, AP)
Perspectives on American History (11, AS)
European History (12, AP)
A History of Western Ideas (12, AS)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard & honors unless noted)
African History, American Culture Wars Since 1970, China Under Mao Zedong, Constitutional Law (honors), Criminology Studies, Diversity and Public Policy, Economics, Gender Studies, Literature of Revolution, Mass Migration, Microeconomics (honors), Narratives of North Korea, Social Psychology, The Living Constitution, The Psychology and Philosophy of Religion, The Rest is Noise: A History of Music in the 20th Century (10,11,12), The Sociology of Diversity, US Politics: The Road to 2020

MATHEMATICS

Integrated Math 1 (9, standard & honors)
Integrated Math 2 (9,10; standard & honors)
Integrated Math 3 (9,10,11; standard & honors)
Functions Analysis and Trigonometry (11,12)
Mathematical Analysis (10,11,12; honors)
Calculus (11,12; standard & honors)
Calculus AB (11,12; AP)
Calculus BC (12, AP)
Statistics (12, AP)
Statistics and Probability (12, honors)

Semester Electives

(10,11,12 unless noted; standard unless noted)
Math and Art (11,12), Probability Theory, Quantitative Business Analysis (12), Statistics and Data Analysis

PERFORMING ARTS

(9,10,11,12 unless noted)
Chorus 1-4
Jazz Ensemble 1-4
Percussion Ensemble 1-4
String Ensemble 1-4
Advanced Strings 1-4
Dance (9,10)
Intermediate Dance (11,12)
Advanced Dance
Morristown-Beard Dance Ensemble
Tap 1-4
Theater Dance 1-4

Semester Electives

(9,10,11,12 unless noted)
Acting, Chorus Mini Session, Elements of Music, Fundamentals of Studio Recording (10,11,12), Music Composition for Film and Visual Media (10,11,12), Music Theory and Composition, Synthesizer Programming and Sound Design (10,11,12), Soundscapes Music Composition (10,11,12), Tap Mini Session, Theater Dance Mini Session; The Rest is Noise: A History of Music in the 20th Century (10,11,12)

SCIENCE

Physics (9, standard)
Chemistry (10, standard & honors)
Quantitative Chemistry (10, honors)
Biology (11, standard & honors)
Experimental Biology (11, honors)
Environmental Science (11,12; standard & honors)

Full-Year Electives:

Biology (11,12; AP)
Chemistry (11,12; AP)
Organic Chemistry (11,12; AS)
Physics C Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism (12, AP)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard unless noted)
Advanced Physics 1-2 (honors), Anatomy and Physiology (honors), Astronomy, Forensic Science, Genetics and Biotechnology (honors), Oceanography and Meteorology using Science on a Sphere, Sports Medicine

WELLNESS

Wellness 9 (full year)
Wellness 10 (one semester)
Driver Education Theory (10, one semester)
Wellness 11 (one semester)

Semester Electives

(10,11,12 unless noted; Standard unless noted)
Introduction to Hatha Yoga, Nutrition, Peer Group (11,12), Sports Medicine (11,12)

WORLD LANGUAGES

(9,10,11,12 unless noted; standard unless noted)
Introductory French
Novice French
Foundational French
Building French
Intermediate French
Experienced French
French 5
French Language (AP)
Introductory Spanish
Novice Spanish
Foundational Spanish
Building Spanish
Intermediate Spanish
Experienced Spanish
Spanish 5
Spanish Language (AP)
Introductory Latin
Novice Latin
Foundational Latin
Building Latin
Intermediate Latin
Experienced Latin
Gender and Power in Latin Literature (11,12;AS)
Italian Language Conversation and Culture (11,12;AS)

OTHER

Community Service
Senior Project

2017-2020

MATRICULATION LIST

Class of 2020 college attendance is in bold

American Academy of Dramatic Arts

American University

Barnard College

Bates College

Belmont University

Bentley University

Berklee College of Music

Boston College

Boston University

Brown University

Bucknell University

Case Western Reserve University

Chapman University

Clemson University

Colgate University

College of Charleston

Columbia University

Connecticut College

County College of Morris

Curry College

Dickinson College

Drexel University

Duke University

Elon University

Emerson College

Emory University

Fairfield University

Fordham University

Franklin & Marshall College

Georgetown University

Gettysburg College

Hamilton College

Haverford College

High Point University

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Howard University

Indiana University

Ithaca College

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University

Kenyon College

Lafayette College

Lehigh University

Louisiana State University

Loyola University Maryland

Lynn University

Marist College

Marymount Manhattan College

Miami University

Michigan State University

Middlebury College

Montclair State University

Morgan State University

Mount Holyoke College

Muhlenberg College

New York Institute of Technology

New York University

Northeastern University

Occidental College

Pennsylvania State University

Point Park University

Princeton University

Providence College

Purdue University

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rhodes College

Rochester Institute of Technology

Roger Williams University

Rowan University

Rutgers University

Santa Clara University

Savannah College of Art and Design

Seton Hall University

Skidmore College

Smith College

Southern Methodist University

St. John's College

St. Lawrence University

Stevens Institute of Technology

Stonehill College

Syracuse University

Texas Christian University

The College of New Jersey

The College of Wooster

The George Washington University

The Ohio State University

The University of Alabama

The University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill

The University of Scranton

The University of Tennessee

Trinity College

Tufts University

Tulane University

Union College

United State Military Academy

United States Naval Academy

University of California - Berkeley

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Delaware

University of Denver

University of Florida

University of Kentucky

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts

University of Miami

University of Michigan

University of Mississippi

University of New England

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

University of Rhode Island

University of Richmond

University of Rochester

University of San Diego

University of South Carolina

University of Southern California

University of Southern Maine

University of Vermont

University of Wisconsin

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Villanova University

Virginia Tech

Wagner College

Wake Forest University

Washington & Jefferson College

Washington College

Washington University in St. Louis

Wesleyan University

William Paterson University