# 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 School is an independent, coeducational day school serving students from over 85 communities and nine counties in northern New Jersey. 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

The MBS Curriculum recognizes both that every student is capable of a growth mindset and that no student grows at a consistent rate in every direction at once. The curriculum affords students the opportunity to discover their identities as learners and commit to deepening their mastery in whatever ignites their passion.

Whatever their particular interests, students at MBS experience a curriculum that gives special emphasis to several areas:

- Writing is incorporated across disciplines as a vehicle for inquiry and reasoning, in the belief that a world driven by divergent thinking depends on precise written communication to set and achieve convergent goals.
- Quantitative reasoning and numeracy anchor disciplines beyond Math and Science, driving student work in Design courses, History and the Social Sciences, Wellness, and Computational and Information Sciences.


#### Abstract

- The two-year requirement in the Arts supports crucial 21st-century skills in collaboration, creative problem solving, and design thinking, while offering students a foundation in the world's sustaining cultural traditions. The insights of design thinking inform classroom practices around the school. - Skills and content in all disciplines are framed by global perspectives, ethics, and their bearing on the wellbeing of individuals and societies.


## 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. Full-time, on-campus instruction resumed September 2020, taking into consideration local and federal health and safety guidelines. In addition to numerous adjustments to our facilities, classroom technology was updated such that any student not attending school, but nonetheless able to complete academic work, could attend classes via Zoom. MBS continued full-time, on-campus instruction for all students throughout the 21-22 academic year.

## 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 | 2 years |
| \& Digital Arts | (as of Fall 2020) |
| Wellness | 2 years |


| Test ScORES |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| (CLASS OF 2022) |  |
|  | Mean |
| SAT |  |
| Evidence Based |  |
| Reading and Writing | 623 |
| Math | 612 |
| Total | 1235 |
|  |  |
| ACT | 27 |
| English | 25 |
| Math | 27 |
| Reading | 26 |
| Science | 26 |
| Composite |  |

## Grading System

 and Class RankGrade 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 |

## Curriculum Notes

## Advanced Classes

MBS offers a range of "Advanced" classes, which fall
into several categories. All Advanced classes are college equivalent.

## Advanced Placement and Advanced Studies

In order to provide students with an alternative to the standardized Advanced Placement curriculum, MBS offers year-long Advanced Studies (AS) courses in most of our core academic departments. In rigor and placement, Advanced Studies courses are equivalent to our AP offerings: like the AP, they are open to our most ambitious and high-performing juniors and seniors. Advanced Studies courses differ from the AP in their curricular content and style of instruction, aiming at deep mastery of a discipline, and emphasizing open-ended inquiry, problem solving, and collaboration.

## Advanced Seminars

The Advanced Seminar program complements both the AP and Advanced Studies courses by offering our most ambitious and motivated students the opportunity to explore topics that fall between or beyond core academic disciplines. Advanced Seminars run for a single semester. Advanced Seminars change on a yearly basis, reflect faculty interest and expertise,
and are reviewed by a committee of faculty, many with college-level teaching experience, to ensure a depth and rigor commensurate with first-year college courses.

## Honors at MBS

Students receiving an Honors designation on an MBS transcript have demonstrated commitment to the following habits of mind:

- Enhanced investment in the learning situations of a particular discipline.
- Patience with struggle during a process (including readiness to encounter discomfort, ambiguity, and uncertainty).
- Independent initiative in applying sophisticated skills to novel, open-ended, and complex problems.

In addition to classes at the Honors level, MBS offers a wide range of "Earned Honors" in which students may elect to commit to Honors habits of mind. In making that commitment students hold themselves to an especially demanding experience of a discipline and class, reflected in the nature of all assignments, readings, and work they will undertake
for the year or semester, depending on the length of the course.

## World Language <br> Proficiency Curriculum

The World Language department has transitioned from a traditional curriculum that offers numbered courses to a Proficiency Curriculum. The Proficiency Curriculum in French, Latin and Spanish honors two key concepts: language is acquired through input and practice, not rules and explanations, and people acquire language at different rates. The curriculum 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.

## Class of 2023:

## Junior Year Grade Distribution



## Upper School

Academic Course Offerings 2022-2023

|  | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| English | Humanities English 9 (EH) | Humanities English 10 (EH) | English 11: American Narratives (EH) AS Literary Studies in American Voices | Semester Electives (EH) <br> AP English Literature <br> AS Modernist Literature |
| Mathematics | Integrated Math 1 (EH) |  |  |  |
|  | Integrated Math 2; Integrated Math 2 H |  |  |  |
|  | Integrated Math 3; Integrated Math 3 H |  |  |  |
|  |  | Functions Analysis and Trigonometry; Mathematical Analysis H Probability Theory $\mathrm{H}^{*}$; Statistics and Data Analysis* |  |  |
|  |  |  | Calculus; Calculus H; AP Calculus AB |  |
|  |  |  |  | AP Calculus BC AP Statistics Statistics and Probability H Quantitative Business Analysis* |
| History and Social Science | Humanities History 9 (EH) | Humanities History 10 (EH) | US History 11: The American Experience (EH) AP United State History AS Perspectives on American History | AP European History AS A History of Western Ideas AS 20th Century Global History |
|  |  |  | History Electives (EH)* <br> Social Science Electives* <br> Behavioral Economics $\mathrm{H}^{\star}$ Constitutional Law H* <br> Fundamentals of Psychology H History of Art in the Early Modern World* History of Non-Western Science H* Human Rights in Latin America $\mathrm{H}^{*}$ Microeconomics $\mathrm{H}^{*}$ |  |
| Science | Physics <br> Mathematical Physics H | Chemistry (EH) Quantitative Chemistry H | Biology (EH) <br> Experimental Biology H <br> AP Chemistry AS Organic Chemistry | Environmental Science (EH) <br> AP Biology <br> Advanced Physics 1 and $2 \mathrm{H}^{*}$ <br> Semester electives including: Anatomy and Physiology $\mathrm{H}^{*}$ Genetics and Biotechnology $\mathrm{H}^{*}$ |
| World Language (No Honors Option) | French, Latin, Spanish: Introductory, Novice, Foundational, Building Heritage Spanish Language |  | French, Latin, Spanish: Intermediate, Experienced <br> Contemporary Hispanic Narratives <br> AP French Language <br> AS Gender and Power in Latin Literature <br> AP Spanish Language |  |
| Advanced Seminars (Semester) |  |  | AS Aesthetic and Cultural Understanding: Early Arts of East Asia* AS Explorations in Russian Language and Culture* <br> AS Fashion: Global Imperatives, Materiality, Embodiment* <br> AS Human Reasoning and Logic* <br> AS Network Analysis: Connecting the Dots* <br> AS The Phonograph Effect: How Technology has Transformed Music* |  |
| Art and Design | Foundations: Digital Foundations: Studio | Foundations: Digital Foundations: Studio Art 2 | Art 2; Art 3 | Art 2; Art 3; Art 4 AP Studio Art |
|  | A wide range of semester electives are also offered across grade levels in Design, Digital and Studio Arts. |  |  |  |
| Performing Arts | Full year offerings in Chorus, Dance, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, String Ensemble and Advanced Strings |  |  |  |
|  | A wide range of full year and semester electives are also offered across grade levels in Dance, Theater and Music, including several through our Center for Innovation and Design. |  |  |  |
| Computational and Informational Sciences | Application Programming | Computer Arts and Sciences 1: Intro to Design and Problem Solving | Computer Arts and Sciences 2: Object Oriented Design | CASci Studio: Advanced Projects H AS Complex Systems Science Spaceflight Engineering Science H |
|  | Several semester electives are also offered at various grade levels. |  |  |  |
| Wellness | Wellness 9 | Wellness 10* | Integrative Health* | Senior Transitions (non-credit) Peer Group* |
|  |  | Semester electives including several cross listed in History and Social Science and Science |  |  |

- Please note that students' individual academic programs may vary from what is reflected in the grade level sequences above.
*Semester Courses
- Students must fulfill required prerequisites and have departmental approval in order to enroll in any of the 11 Advanced Placement and 8 Advanced Studies courses offered.
- Placement in semester-long Advanced Seminars is based on student achievement and by faculty invitation.
- EH denotes Earned Honors.

Class of 2022 college attendance is in bold

| American University |
| :--- |
| Arizona State University |
| Babson College |
| Barnard College |
| Bates College |
| Belmont University |
| Bentley University |
| Boston College |
| Boston Conservatory at Berklee |
| Boston University |
| Bowdoin College |
| Brandeis University |
| Brown University |
| Bucknell University |
| California Polytechnic State University |
| Case Western Reserve University |
| Chapman University |
| Clemson University |
| Colgate University |
| College of Charleston |
| College of the Holy Cross |
| College of William and Mary |
| Columbia University |
| Connecticut College |
| Cornell University |
| County College of Morris |
| Curry College |
| Davidson College |
| Dickinson College |
| Drew University |
| Drexel University |
| Elon University |
| Emerson College |
| Emory University |
| Endicott College |
| Fairfield University |
| Fordham University |
| Franklin \& Marshall College |
| Georgetown University |
| George Washington University |
| Hamilton College |
| Haverford College |
| High Point University |
| Hobart and William Smith Colleges |
| Howard University |
| Indiana University |
| James Madison University College |

American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Barnard College
Bates College
Belmont University
Bentley University
Boston College
Boston Conservatory at Berklee
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bucknell University
California Polytechnic State University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Clemson University
Colgate University
College of Charleston
College of the Holy Cross
College of William and Mary
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
County College of Morris
Curry College
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Fordham University
Franklin \& Marshall College
Georgetown University
George Washington University
Hamilton College
Haverford College
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Howard University
Indiana University
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College

## Lafayette College

Lehigh University
Lewis \& Clark College
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Macalester College
Marymount Manhattan College
Miami University
Middlebury College
Montclair State University
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
Muhlenberg College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio State University
Oxford Brookes University
Pennsylvania State University
Point Park University
Princeton University
Providence College
Purdue University
Ramapo College of New Jersey
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rivier University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Rowan University
Rutgers University-Newark
Rutgers University-New Brunswick

## Salve Regina University

Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hall University

## Skidmore College

Southern Methodist University
St. John's College
St. Lawrence University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas Christian University
The College of New Jersey

The New School-
Parsons School of Design
The University of Tennessee
Tufts University
Tulane University
United States Military Academy
United States Naval Academy
University of Arizona
University of Bridgeport
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Los Angeles
University of Central Florida
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Maryland-
Baltimore-County
University of Maryland-College Park
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of St. Andrews
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wesleyan University
William Paterson University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

