



PROFILE: THE CLASS of 2018

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 80 communities and nine counties in northern New Jersey. There are 559 students in grades 6-12, with an Upper School enrollment of 430. There are 100 faculty members, of whom 66% hold advanced degrees, of which 16 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.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Advanced Seminar Program

In an effort to provide a rigorous alternative to the standardized curriculum and testing of AP courses, we have created a menu of Advanced Seminars for seniors and selected juniors that equal or exceed AP courses in terms of conceptual challenge, complexity of material, development of critical skills and overall preparation for college academics. They are therefore among the most academically rigorous courses we offer. These courses, which are either one semester or full year, are proposed by faculty with a particular interest and expertise in a given field and are subject to a thorough peer-

review process, overseen by a committee of experienced teachers with college teaching backgrounds, before being authorized by the School. The seminar format promotes critical thought and discussion, requires students to work independently and is flexible enough to encompass a broad range of course themes. In all Advanced Seminars, the level of reading, writing and critical discussion equals that found in a first-year college course. Seminars are small and enrollment is by permission of the instructor. **Please note: Advanced Seminars are designated with the prefix “AS,” denoting a level of rigor comparable to AP.**

Earned Honors Model

In keeping with the idea of a growth mindset and the awareness, definitively established by research, that intelligence is not fixed but capable of continuous growth in the proper learning contexts, we have created an “Earned Honors” model in many classes whereby students are not pre-slotted as “honors” or “regular” but are placed in heterogeneous classes and given the opportunity to earn honors on the basis of the work they produce. The honors distinction is not based on quantitative factors (i.e. “more work”), but is measured by the qualitative rigor and analytical depth of the tasks undertaken to earn honors.

Humanities Program

The Humanities approach to the study of English and history in grades 9-11 merges the traditional subject areas of these departments to create a richer and more engaging experience of both literature and history. An integrated curriculum, organized thematically and global in perspective, allows students to make new and surprising connections among different cultures, works of literature and time periods, while enhancing a common set of critical skills. The program relies heavily on analytical writing, critical and creative thinking, discussion-driven classes, close reading and oral presentation. It is also a model of cross-disciplinary collaboration for both students and faculty.

Writing Across the Curriculum

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) is a pedagogical movement that values writing as a method of learning across all fields, not merely in the traditional areas such as English and history courses. When students are given frequent opportunities for WAC, they think more critically and creatively, engage more deeply in their learning, and are better able to transfer what they have learned from course to course, context to context. In 2011, MBS established a comprehensive Center for Academic Writing (modeled closely on the writing centers found in every college and university) led by a trained composition specialist who has helped to establish a robust writing program at the School. Transformative assignments have been integrated into Science, Math, Wellness, Foreign Language, History, and Performing Arts departments. In 2013 we created a junior elective designed to train students to be peer tutors in composition. Students engaged in academic writing at MBS are supported through a variety of writing workshops, feedback from faculty and peers, and other services offered by the Center.

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. Current topics include: Astrobiology, Computer Animation, Equine Veterinary Medicine, Mandarin, Music Composition and Orchestration, Speech Pathology, Sports Marketing and Management, and Playwriting.

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	1 year

TEST SCORES (CLASS OF 2017)

	Middle 50%	Mean
SAT		
Evidence Based Reading and Writing	595-670	630
Math	550-655	605
ACT		
Composite	24-30	27

GRADING SYSTEM AND CLASS RANK

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

Letter Grade	Grade Range	Points
A+	97-100	4.00
A	93-96	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.00
D-	60-62	0.67
F	Below 60	0.00

Class of 2018: JUNIOR YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

* Semester Courses

GRADES	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-
Humanities English 11 Fall *			9	12	14	5			
Humanities English 11 Fall (H) *		7	12	27	11		1		
Humanities English 11 Spring *		2	9	13	7	6	3		
Humanities English 11 Spring (H) *		8	20	22	5	2	1		
English Electives *	1	2	2	1	1				
English Electives (H) *		17	10	1					
Humanities History 11		6	17	11	9	13			
Humanities History 11 (H)		11	6	6	4				
US History (AP)		4	7	3	1				
History Electives *		5	5	9	3				
History Electives (H) *		6	4	1					
Algebra 2	2	5	9	5	8	6	3		
Algebra 2 (H)					4				
Pre-Calculus	1	8	6	10	4	2			
Pre-Calculus (H)		6	10	12	8	12			
Calculus AB (AP)			2	2					
Business Math *		1		2					
Discrete Mathematics *		1							
Non-Euclidean Geometry (H) *		2	1						
Probability Theory *		2	1		1				
Statistics and Data Analysis *		4	1		1		1		
Trigonometry (H) *		1		1					
Mathematical Physics 9				2					
Biology		2	7	11	13	11		2	
Biology (H)		9	6	2	2				
Experimental Biology		1	4	1	2				
Experimental Biology (H)		8	5	8	1				
Chemistry					1				
Chemistry (AP)		2	1		1				
Environmental Science			1						
Advanced Physics 1 (H) *			1						
Advanced Physics 2 (H) *			1						
Forensic Science *		1	2						
Genetics and Biotechnology*		1	3				1		
Sports Medicine *		5	4	3	3				
French 3				2	4				
French 3 (H)			2	4	2	2			
French 4			5		2				
French 4 (H)		4	4	1	1				
French Cinema (H)		1	5	1					
Latin 3				1	3				
Latin 3 (H)			1		1				
Latin 4 (H)		2	1						
Spanish 2			2	2					
Spanish 3		1	7	8	7		1		
Spanish 3 (H)		2		2	1				
Spanish 4			6	5	5	1			
Spanish 4 (H)			1	2	2				
Spanish (AP)		1							
Spanish Literature (H)			1						
Medicine: Analysis and Decisions (AS) *		1	2						
Theories of Beauty (AS) *		1							
Introduction to iOS Programming				1					
Computer Arts and Sciences 2						1			
Spaceflight Engineering (H)				2					

Upper School

ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS 2017-2018

ADVANCED SEMINARS

(11,12; AS):
Evolutionary Psychology
The Humanities and the Sciences: Bridging the Gap
Human Rights at Home and Abroad
Italian Language and Culture
Medicine: Analysis and Decisions
Microeconomics
Writing-as-Science

DESIGN ARTS AND SCIENCES

Advanced iOS Programming (9,10,11,12)
Computer Arts and Sciences 1 (9,10,11,12)
Computer Arts and Sciences 2 (10,11,12)
Space Flight Engineering and Design (11,12; honors)

Semester Electives

(9,10,11,12)
Digital Arts, Digital Graphic Design, Advanced Graphic Design, Digital Video Storytelling, Music Production

ENGLISH

Humanities English 9 (standard & honors)
Humanities English 10 (standard & honors)
Humanities English 11 (standard & honors)
English 12 (standard & honors – semester electives)
English 12 (AP)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard & honors unless noted):
An Exploration of Truth and Perspective, Creative Writing, Debate Matters, Deconstructing Gender in Literature and Life, Elements of Style, Fantasies of Power, Harmony and Discord: Music and Literature, Journalism, Literature and the Body, Manuscripts and Musicals, Monsters and Madness, The Power of Stories, Reading and Writing Graphic Narrative, Shakespeare and Film, What's So Funny? Comedy in Literature, Writing our Lives, Writing Studies (11, honors), Villains

HISTORY

Humanities History 9 (standard & honors)
Humanities History 10 (standard & honors)
Humanities History 11 (standard & honors)
United States History (11,12; AP)
European History (12, AP)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard & honors unless noted):
Constitutional Law (honors), Continuity and Change in the Middle East, Diversity and Public Policy, Economics, Forests: Myth, Truth, Gone?, The Living Constitution, Medieval Studies, Real to Reel: History through Pop Culture, The Rhetoric of Leadership, Social Psychology, The Sociology of Diversity, The Vietnam War, Why We Fight: A History of War, Women's History, World Religions

MATHEMATICS

Integrated Math 1 (9, standard)
Integrated Math 2 (9,10; standard & honors)
Algebra 2 (9,10,11,12; standard & honors)
Pre-Calculus (9,10,11,12; standard & honors)
Calculus (11,12; standard & honors)
Calculus AB (10,11,12; AP)
Calculus BC (11,12; AP)
Statistics (11,12; AP)
Statistics and Probability (11,12; honors)

Semester Electives

(10,11,12 unless noted; standard unless noted)
Discrete Mathematics, Mathematics and Music (11,12; standard & honors), Personal Finance and Business Math (12), Probability Theory, Statistics and Data Analysis, Trigonometry with Applications (honors)

PERFORMING ARTS

(9,10,11,12 unless noted):
Acting 1-4
Stagecraft 1-4
Technical Theater
Tap
Theater Dance 1-4
Chorus 1-4
History of Music: From Beethoven to "Bang on a Can!"
Jazz Ensemble 1-4
Percussion Ensemble 1-4
String Ensemble 1-4
Woodwind Choir 1-4
Introduction to Dance
Dance Performance
Advanced Dance
Morristown-Beard Dance Ensemble

Semester Electives

(9,10,11,12 unless noted):
Advanced Monologue Study, Chorus Mini Session (11,12), Improvisation for Actors, Fundamentals of Music, Music Theory, Public Speaking: Speak Up and Speak Out, Stagecraft Mini Session (11,12), Tap Mini Session (11,12), Theater Dance Mini Session (11,12)

SCIENCE

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

Full-Year Electives:

Biology (11,12; AP)
Chemistry (11,12; AP)
Environmental Science (11,12; standard & honors)
Physics C Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism (11,12; AP)

Semester Electives

(11,12; standard unless noted):
Advanced Physics 1- 2 (honors), Anatomy and Physiology, Forensic Science, Genetics and Biotechnology, Sports Medicine

STUDIO ARTS

Art 1 (9,10,11,12)
Art 2 (10,11,12)
Art 3 (11,12)
Art 4 (12)
Studio Art (12, AP)
Engineering Drawing 1 (9,10,11,12)
Engineering Drawing 2 (10,11,12)
Architecture 1 (11,12)
Architecture 2 (12)

Semester Electives

(9,10,11,12 unless noted):
Ceramics, Sculpture: The 3D Experience, Photography 1, Photography 2 (10,11,12), Alternative Photographic Processes (10,11,12), Advanced Photography (11,12), Digital Photography, Photography Past and Present

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):
Introduction to Hatha Yoga, Nutrition, Peer Group (11,12), Wide World of Wellness

WORLD LANGUAGES

(9,10,11,12 unless noted):
French 1 (standard)
French 2-4 (standard & honors)
French Cinema (10,11,12; honors)
French 5: Conversational French: Modern Topics
French Language (AP)
Spanish 1 (standard)
Spanish 2-4 (standard & honors)
Spanish through Music and Film (11,12; standard)
Spanish Language (AP)
Novice Latin (standard)
Latin 2-3 (standard & honors)
Latin 4-5 (honors)

OTHER

Service Learning
Senior Project

2014-2017

MATRICULATION LIST

American Academy of Dramatic Arts
American University
Assumption College
Auburn University
Barnard College
Belmont University
Bennington College
Bentley University
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Brown University
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Charleston
Columbia University
Connecticut College
County College of Morris
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Elon University
Emory University
Fairfield University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Hamilton College
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Howard University
Indiana University
Ithaca College
Johnson & Wales University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College

La Salle University
Lehigh University
Loyola University Maryland
Marist College
Miami University
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Monmouth University
Morehouse College
Muhlenberg College
New England College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Pennsylvania State University
Plymouth State University
Providence College
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Joseph's University
Salve Regina University
Santa Clara University
Seton Hall University
Skidmore College
Southern Methodist University
St. John's University
St. Lawrence University
State University of New York at Albany
Stevens Institute of Technology
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Catholic University of America
The College of the Holy Cross
The College of New Jersey
The George Washington University
The University of Alabama
The University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill

The University of Scranton
The University of Texas
Trinity College
Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
United States Naval Academy
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Colorado
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Illinois
University of Maryland
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
University of New Hampshire
University of New Haven
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Southern Maine
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Washington College
Washington and Lee University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Western New England University
West Virginia University
William Paterson University
Yale University