



Thayer Academy

Inspiring students since 1877

SCHOOL PROFILE 2019-2020

William T. (Ted) Koskores
HEAD OF SCHOOL

Highley Thompson
UPPER SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Carson Smith
MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Thad Robey
DIRECTOR,
COLLEGE COUNSELING

Christine Woods
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
COLLEGE COUNSELING

Nellie Brennan Hall
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
COLLEGE COUNSELING

Thayer Academy students thrive in an environment distinguished by rigorous academics, a supportive culture, and a vibrant community. Thayer's unique schedule allows students to participate in a balanced program of academics, athletics, arts, and service.

This independent, co-educational day school for students in grades 5-12 is located in the historic district of Braintree, Massachusetts. The school was established by the bequest of Sylvanus Thayer, "Father of the U.S. Military Academy" at West Point and founder of the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College. Thayer is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools and the Association of Independent Schools in New England, is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and has had a chapter of the Cum Laude Society since 1930. Easily accessible from the Red Line, the commuter rail, and five Thayer buses, Thayer draws students from 76 communities, three countries, and a wide range of backgrounds—which further enriches and differentiates the student experience.

Thayer's mission "to inspire a diverse community of students to moral, intellectual, aesthetic and physical excellence" is evident in Thayer students pursuing a rigorous academic schedule while also participating in the school's rich arts offerings and athletic tradition. The Thayer Middle School program includes experiential learning, outdoor education, visual arts, coding, and robotics as it prepares students for a demanding Upper School curriculum. Thayer Academy offers students numerous opportunities to challenge themselves academically and personally with 15 AP classes, 93 electives, 26 varsity-level sports with 85 teams, 14 different arts offerings, and over 30 activities, including five academic teams. A large percentage of students participates in Thayer's musicals, plays, bands, chorus, and dance performances each year.

Thayer Academy's Middle and Upper Schools occupy nine buildings on a 34-acre campus. Over the past decade, the Academy has invested \$46+M in facilities enhancements designed to serve all areas of school life. In the academic realm, the Academy has fully renovated both the Middle and Upper School Libraries; established four important student support areas—the Hale Learning Center, the Benelli Writing Center, the Pulsifer College Counseling Center, and the Hanflig Technology Center; updated all science labs; and, most recently, established a makerspace for creative, collaborative, student-directed projects in both divisions and added a new Computer Science & Robotics Center. To enrich the arts experience of students, the Academy has a Center for the Arts which includes a 550-seat theater, as well as dance, visual arts, choral, and instrumental studios; in addition, the Middle School theater was recently renovated. Thayer also completely renovated its art gallery and its videography and pottery studios. The athletics program has been enhanced by the Hospitality Pavilion, three turf fields, the full renovation of two gymnasiums, the addition of the Fish Center for Physical Fitness, and the newly opened Thayer Sports Center and Arthur T. Valicenti Rink. The Academy also significantly improved important community areas through the completion of a new Student Commons, Senior Lounge, and Admissions Office.

Students live the Thayer mission to "contribute to the common good" through various all-school community service activities, such as volunteering at local shelters, food banks, and other nonprofit agencies. Students run many on-campus service clubs. They work with special needs children and adults from St. Coletta's School, Cardinal Cushing, Friendship Home, and Special Olympics. Other clubs work with children and adults at Father Bill's Homeless Shelter, Cradles to Crayons, Habitat for Humanity, and Birthday Wishes. In the SALSA Club, students speak with students at local elementary schools about living substance-free. Students also tutor children from Boston schools through Project RISE and Project DEEP. Global citizenship is central to Thayer's mission. Students have the opportunity to travel to, and have cultural exchanges with, our sister schools in China, France, India, and England. Other study-abroad opportunities include trips and programs in Italy, Greece, Spain, Peru, Ecuador, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic for educational and community service experiences. In addition, students can enter Thayer's Global Scholars Program, which combines academic learning with real-world international and multicultural experiences. Global Scholars take courses with diverse perspectives, participate in travel opportunities, and complete a capstone project their senior year.

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY

Thayer Academy has extensive technological resources to supplement students' learning. Thayer has implemented a student MacBook Air laptop program, expanding project-based learning across the disciplines. All classrooms have audio-visual presentation systems to enhance the classroom learning experience. The Hanflig Technology Center is staffed with five full-time technology professionals and has a classroom dedicated to digital training. In addition to the student laptop program, the technology center supports more than 300 computers on campus, as well as a new Computer Science & Robotics Center, a Graphic Design Studio, and two Collaborative Design Labs. The Computer Science program has a high-performance computing lab and virtual desktop interface for both on- and off-campus creativity. The fully-outfitted Robotics Lab incorporates all skill-sets, engineering design, programming, construction, communication, and field trials. In the Graphic Design Studio, students use Adobe Creative Suite on large monitors to create communications materials. The Collaborative Design Labs in the Upper and Middle Schools work with students to create design-thinking projects utilizing state-of-the-art equipment.

ENROLLMENT

The Academy has an enrollment of 507 students in grades 9-12, and 198 in grades 5-8 for the 2019–2020 school year.

COSTS

Tuition is \$49,850 per year. Approximately 35% of Thayer students receive financial aid, which totals more than \$8.3 million.

FACULTY

There are 111 academic faculty members, 71% of whom have master's degrees or beyond. The student-faculty ratio is 6:1. The average academic class size is a range of 13-16 students.

CURRICULUM

All courses are college preparatory. There are 15 AP courses available to juniors and seniors, along with honors sections in English, history, mathematics, sciences, computer science, and foreign languages. Seniors may select from a variety of courses, including 93 electives in English, history, languages, mathematics, sciences, and the arts. AP English courses are offered to juniors; seniors are offered honors courses during first semester.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM

All Thayer students in the ninth and tenth grade are required to take Integrated Science, an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines biology, chemistry, and physics into major themes that include energy conservation, the atomic nature of matter, and systems, among others. Before specializing as biologists, chemists, or physicists, students develop the knowledge and skills needed for all three disciplines, and they are better able to understand the relevance of what they are learning and see the applicability of scientific thinking. In eleventh grade, the majority of students take a more specialized course in biology, chemistry, or physics; the AP level is available in those subjects for junior and senior year. Other science electives are also available, including Anatomy and Physiology, Astronomy, Astrophotography, Earth Science, AP Environmental Science, Independent Science Research (ISR), Marine Science, Robotics, and Systems & Structures. We can provide more information regarding the content of Integrated Science, if requested.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Twenty academic credits plus one course in Health & Wellness each year.

Minimum requirements:

- 4 credits of English
- 3 credits of foreign language
- 3 credits of history
- 3 credits of math
- 3 credits of science
- 1 credit of arts
- 3 credits of electives

In May, all seniors are required to participate in a four-week community service or career-oriented project, either on- or off-campus.

GRADING SYSTEM

A+ = 98 - 100	C = 73 - 76
A = 93 - 97	C- = 70 - 72
A- = 90 - 92	D+ = 67 - 69
B+ = 87 - 89	D = 63 - 66
B = 83 - 86	D- = 60 - 62
B- = 80 - 82	F = Below 60
C+ = 77 - 79	

JUNIOR YEAR CLASS OF 2020 HONOR ROLL %

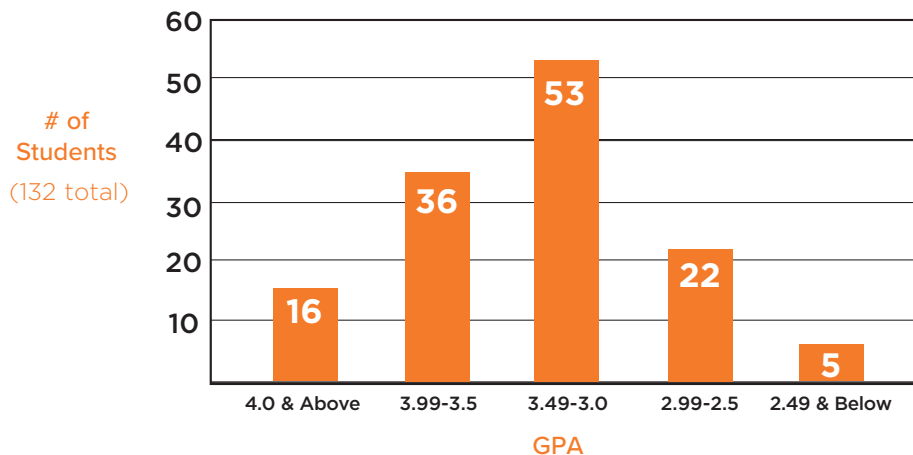
42% High Honors (90% average and above); 30% Honors (85-90% average).

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A cumulative, weighted GPA on a 4.00 scale is calculated each semester, taking into account only major academic subjects taken at Thayer Academy. The GPA is cumulative from grade nine, using Thayer Academy coursework only. AP and honors courses are weighted plus 0.5 points in the calculation. There are **132 students** in the class of 2020. The average cumulative GPA is 3.377.

CLASS OF 2020 - GPA DISTRIBUTION

Cumulative GPA through Junior Year



**STANDARDIZED TESTING
CLASS OF 2019**

ACT
Middle 50% Range: Composite 23-30

SAT
Middle 50% Ranges: EBRW 600-700, M 580-720

SAT Subject Test Averages:

Biology - <i>Ecology</i>	661	Mathematics 1	656
Biology - <i>Molecular</i>	681	Mathematics 2	709
Chemistry	723	Physics	680
English Literature	686	Spanish	591
French	680	U.S. History	624

**NATIONAL MERIT
PROGRAM**

National Merit Scholars for the class of 2020:

- 3 Commended Students
- 2 Semi-Finalists

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT
POLICY**

Thayer offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses in the following areas: Biology, Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Computer Science (A), English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French Language & Culture, Latin, Physics C, Spanish Language & Culture, Statistics, U.S. Government & Politics, and U.S. History. AP grades of 3 or better, earned prior to senior year, will appear on the student's transcript.

**SPRING 2019
AP EXAM STATISTICS**

The May 2019 AP exams resulted in the following designations:

- 30 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 11 AP Scholars with Honor
- 16 AP Scholars

Exam	# taking exam	# scoring 3 or better
Biology	19	19
Calculus AB	16	16
Calculus BC	12	12
Chemistry	14	13
Computer Science A	13	13
English Language	41	36
English Literature	16	16
Environmental Science	60	42
European History	1	1
French Language	6	6
Latin	5	5
Physics C	30	26
Spanish Language	15	15
Statistics	11	4
U.S. Government & Politics	33	26
U.S. History	34	26

AP EXAM TOTALS: 326 exams taken; 276 scored 3 or better (85%)

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

99% of Thayer students attend four-year colleges (see matriculation list on next page).

COLLEGE MATRICULATION - Classes of '15, '16, '17, '18 and '19 (three or more enrollments in **bold**)

American University

Amherst College

Arizona State University

Babson College

Bard College Berlin

Bates College

Becker College

Belmont University

Bentley University

Boston College

Boston Conservatory at Berklee

Boston University

Bowdoin College

Brandeis University

Bridgewater State University

Brown University

Bryant University

Bryn Mawr College

Bucknell University

Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University

Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design

Champlain College

Chapman University

Clarkson University

Clemson University

Colby College

College of Charleston

College of the Holy Cross

College of William & Mary

Colorado College

Columbia College Chicago

Connecticut College

Cornell University

Curry College

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Denison University

Dickinson College

Drexel University

Duke University

Eckerd College

Elon University

Emmanuel College

Emory University

Endicott College

Fairfield University

Fordham University

Franklin & Marshall College

Georgetown University

Gettysburg College

Gordon College

Hamilton College - NY

Hampshire College

Harvard University

High Point University

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Indiana University at Bloomington

Ithaca College

Keene State College

Kenyon College

King's College London

Lasell College

Lehigh University

Loyola Marymount University

Loyola University Chicago

Loyola University Maryland

Manhattan College

Marist College

Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Merrimack College

Miami University, Oxford

Middlebury College

Montana State University, Bozeman

Mount Holyoke College

Nazareth College

New York University

Nichols College

Northeastern University

Nova Southeastern University

Pace University, New York City

Pennsylvania State University

Plymouth State University

Pratt Institute

Princeton University

Providence College

Purdue University

Quinnipiac University

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rhode Island College

Rochester Institute of Technology

Roger Williams University

Roosevelt University

Sacred Heart University

Saint Anselm College

Saint Joseph's College - ME

Saint Joseph's University

Saint Michael's College

Salem State University

Santa Barbara City College

Santa Clara University

Sarah Lawrence College

Sewanee: The University of the South

Skidmore College

Southern Methodist University

Southern New Hampshire University

Springfield College

St. Lawrence University

St. Olaf College

Stonehill College

Syracuse University

Texas Christian University

The American Musical and Dramatic Academy

The Catholic University of America

The George Washington University

The Johns Hopkins University

The Johns Hopkins University - Peabody Institute

The New School - All Divisions

The University of Alabama

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The University of Tampa

The University of Texas, Dallas

Trinity College

Tufts University

Tulane University

Union College - NY

United States Coast Guard Academy

United States Military Academy - Army

University College Dublin

University of British Columbia

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, San Diego

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Connecticut

University of Delaware

University of Denver

University of Hartford

University of Hawaii at Manoa

University of Maine

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

University of Massachusetts, Boston

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

University of Miami

University of Michigan

University of Mississippi

University of New Hampshire at Durham

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 St Andrews

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

University of Vermont

University of Virginia

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Villanova University

Virginia Tech

Wagner College

Wake Forest University

Washington University in St. Louis

Wellesley College

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Wesleyan University

Wheaton College MA

Whittier College

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Yale University