

# GERMANTOWN FRIENDS SCHOOL

## COLLEGE COUNSELING SCHOOL PROFILE 2020-21

### Our School

- Quaker, independent, coed day school for preschool through grade 12
- Founded in 1845 under the care of the Germantown Monthly Meeting and governed by the School Committee
- Located in historic Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia
- 1,070 students; 410 in grades 9-12; 100 in senior class
- Student/teacher ratio: 7:1
- 75% of Upper School faculty hold advanced degrees
- 35.8% of student body are students of color
- \$5.3 million of financial assistance awarded to 33% of students
- 100% of senior class accepted to 4-year colleges or universities
- Accreditations & Memberships: Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS), Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (MSACSS), National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools (ADVIS), Friends Council on Education

### Our Mission

Germantown Friends School is dedicated to reaching that of God in every person. Our mission is to seek truth, challenge the intellect, honor differences, embrace the city, and nurture each student's mind, body and spirit.



### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND COLLEGE COUNSELING STAFF

**Head of School** Dana Weeks

**Director of Upper School** Matthew Young

**Director of College Counseling** James Hightower, III

**Associate Director of College Counseling** Alison Abrams

**Associate Director of College Counseling** Nicolas Dillman

**Administrative Assistant** Mesale Toggia

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CEEB #393325

### Our Community and Neighborhood Engagement

GFS is committed to diversity, as is reflected by the broad spectrum of racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds of its student body, faculty, administration, and staff. Through neighborhood initiatives, environmental action projects, and institutional partnerships, we are deeply connected to Germantown and the city of Philadelphia. Our educational philosophy is rooted in the Quaker testimonies of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship (SPICES). Students in grades 9-12 participate in grade-wide community days as well as student-organized community programs, including tutoring in neighboring elementary schools, donation drives, fundraisers, and neighborhood clean-ups, as well as volunteer projects with shelters, community gardens, and food pantries.

### Statement of Class Rank

We do not compute class rank, nor calculate an official GPA at GFS. We believe our school's intellectual climate is enhanced by decreased competition, and we strive to teach our students to seek knowledge for its own sake.

### Minimum Graduation Requirements

Students in grades 9-11 are required to carry five major courses per year. Students in grade 12 are required to carry four major courses, but may elect to carry five.

<b>English:</b> 4 years	<b>Art or Theatre:</b> 1 year
<b>History:</b> 3 years	<b>Music:</b> 1 year
<b>Math:</b> 3 years	<b>Science:</b> 3 years
<b>January Term:</b> (grades 9, 10, 12)	<b>Junior Project:</b> (grade 11)
<b>Classical or Modern Language:</b> 3 levels	<b>Health:</b> 1 semester (grade 10), 1 year (grade 12)

### Athletics & Physical Education

Grade 9: 2 seasons athletics; 1 semester of PE

Grade 10: 3 seasons athletics or PE (one must be athletics)

Grade 11: 3 seasons athletics or PE

Grade 12: 2 seasons athletics or PE

### Colloquia Remote Learning

Our remote learning platform, Colloquia (named for the Latin word "conversations"), was established in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and offers students a place for connection and community, familiarity and consistency, discovery and expression, and ways to encourage and embrace their love of learning—virtually. Created by our talented and dedicated faculty and administration, this thoughtful, engaging, comprehensive program was designed to reflect the depth and breadth of the GFS on-campus experience.

Colloquia includes live classes; recorded video lessons; hands-on, independent projects; group social “outings”; PE and physical activity; Meeting for Worship; art, music, theatre, special assemblies, and more.

### Grading Protocol & Transcripts for 2019-20

Reflecting our commitment to support the best interests of our students and the unpredictability of recent circumstances classified as a “significant academic disruption,” we have modified our grading policy as follows:

- The official Upper School transcript report for the 2019-20 academic year includes a year-end grade for each course that is the higher of the two grades received from either the first semester or the second semester, contingent upon passing the second semester.



## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

### SAT Scores Class of 2020

- Overall Average: 1390
- Math Average: 700
- EBRW Average: 700
- Overall Middle 50%: 1320-1510
- Math Middle 50%: 640-770
- EBRW Middle 50%: 650-740

### ACT Scores Class of 2020

- Overall Composite Average: 31
- Overall Composite Middle 50%: 29-33

### National Merit Scholarship Program 2014-2020

- 13 Scholars
- 65 Finalists
- 76 Semifinalists
- 111 Commended Scholars

## ADVANCED COURSEWORK

Students who do well in courses designated as “Advanced” are prepared for upper level college courses in these and related subject areas. GFS does not offer an AP curriculum; however, many students who choose to take AP Exams score 4 or higher. Accelerated math courses prepare students for the two-course sequence of Differential Calculus and Integral Calculus and Series.

### ENGLISH

- Literature & Composition Part I: Advanced
- Literature & Composition Part II: Advanced

### CLASSICAL LANGUAGE

- Ancient Greek IV: Advanced
- Ancient Greek V: Advanced
- Latin IV: Advanced
- Latin V: Advanced

### HISTORY

- United States History: Advanced
- Advanced History Electives (*students choose two semester-long courses*):
  - African-American Studies
  - Modern U.S. Political Ideologies and Issues
  - The Making of the Modern World
  - The Patriot Woman
  - U.S. Government and Civics
  - War and Peace: The Modern Middle East
  - World Revolutions

### MATHEMATICS

- Differential Calculus: Advanced
- Calculus: Advanced
- Integral Calculus and Series: Advanced

- Applications in Statistics: Advanced
- Accelerated Statistics: Advanced
- Topics in Advanced Mathematics

### MODERN LANGUAGE

- French IV: Advanced
- French V: Advanced
- Mandarin IV: Advanced
- Mandarin V: Advanced
- Spanish IV: Advanced
- Spanish V: Advanced

### SCIENCE

- Advanced Biology
- Advanced Chemistry
- Advanced Physics
- Principles of Engineering: Advanced

### ART

- Senior Studio: Advanced

### MUSIC

- Music Theory II: Advanced
- Music Composition I: Advanced
- Music Composition II: Advanced

### THEATRE

- Filmmaking: The Picture Is the Thing: Advanced

## SPECIAL ELECTIVE PROGRAMS

### Directed Independent Study (DIS)

The DIS program allows students in grades 9-12 to pursue interests outside the regular curriculum by studying individually or in small groups with a faculty member. Areas of study range from Arabic and International Current Affairs to Neuroscience, Jazz Theory, and Java Programming.

### Essentially English

During the spring term, students in grades 10-12 choose from a set of elective courses taught by GFS faculty and scholars from the surrounding community. These classes provide the opportunity to carefully examine the work of a particular author, to explore a specific genre of writing, or to consider how literature reflects certain

ideological and cultural patterns. The program also includes creative and non-fiction writing courses.

### Global Online Academy (GOA)

Germantown Friends School is a founding member of the GOA, a consortium of more than 70 leading independent schools from around the world committed to offering world-class online courses taught by teachers from its member schools. Its mission is to replicate in online classrooms the programs and teaching that are hallmarks of its member schools; to foster new, effective ways for students to learn; and to promote students’ global awareness by creating truly diverse, worldwide, online communities.

### January Term

This month-long program enables students in grades 9, 10, and 12 to explore learning opportunities outside the regular curriculum. They choose from more than 70 “mini-courses,” providing teachers and students space for experimentation and reflection.

### Junior Projects

During the month of January, all juniors research, secure, and complete a month-long independent study of their own design under the guidance of a faculty liaison. Students use this opportunity to gain insight into a potential career, pursue a passion, or do humanitarian work in the U.S. or overseas. A final paper and presentation complete the project.

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## COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2016-20

*Parenthetical numbers denote graduate enrollment of two or more.*

Albright College	Lafayette College	University of Colorado, Boulder (2)
American University (4)	Lehigh University (2)	University of Edinburgh (2)
Arizona State University	Loyola Marymount University	University of Miami (2)
Babson College (2)	Macalester College (6)	University of Michigan (4)
Bard College (2)	Maryland Institute College of Art	University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Barnard College (13)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Bates College (2)	McGill University (4)	University of Notre Dame
Bentley University	Middlebury College (5)	University of Pennsylvania (48)
Berklee College of Music	Mount Holyoke College	University of Pittsburgh (7)
Boston College (2)	Mount St. Mary's University	University of Rochester
Boston Conservatory	New England Conservatory of Music	University of Southern California (2)
Boston University (5)	New York University (17)	University of St. Andrews
Bowdoin College (3)	Northeastern University (3)	University of Texas, Austin
Brown University (8)	Northwestern University (4)	University of Vermont (3)
Bryn Mawr College (2)	Oberlin College (2)	University of Washington
California Institute of Technology	Pace University	University of Wisconsin, Madison (3)
Canisius College	Pennsylvania State University (2)	Ursinus College (2)
Carleton College	Pitzer College (3)	Vanderbilt University (2)
Carnegie Mellon University (2)	Pomona College	Vassar College (7)
Case Western Reserve University	Princeton University (8)	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Champlain College	Reed College (3)	Wake Forest University
Chapman University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Washington University in St. Louis
Clarkson University	Rhode Island School of Design (2)	Wellesley College (2)
Colby College	Rice University (3)	Wesleyan University (10)
Colgate University	Rochester Institute of Technology (3)	West Chester University
College of William & Mary (2)	Ryerson University	Whittier College (3)
College of Wooster	Saint Joseph's University	Widener University (2)
Columbia University (8)	Sarah Lawrence College (4)	Williams College (3)
Connecticut College (2)	Savannah College of Art and Design	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Cornell University (5)	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Yale University (6)
Dartmouth College (2)	Sciences Po/Columbia University Dual BA Program	
Dickinson College (2)	Scripps College (2)	
Drexel University (15)	Skidmore College (7)	
Duke University	Smith College (5)	
Earlham College	Soka University of America	
Elon University	Stanford University (4)	
Emerson College (2)	SUNY Stony Brook (2)	
Emory University (4)	Swarthmore College (3)	
Fordham University (2)	Syracuse University (2)	
Franklin and Marshall College (5)	Temple University (18)	
George Washington University (4)	Texas State University	
Georgetown University (5)	The New School (2)	
Georgia Institute of Technology (6)	Trinity College	
Goucher College (2)	Trinity College Dublin	
Hamilton College (5)	Tufts University (8)	
Hampshire College (2)	Tulane University (7)	
Harvard University (2)	United States Naval Academy	
Haverford College (16)	University College London	
High Point University	University of California, Berkeley	
Howard University	University of California, Los Angeles (3)	
Johns Hopkins University (2)	University of Chicago (4)	
Kenyon College (5)		
La Salle University		

