



WESTRIDGE SCHOOL

2023-2024 School Profile

CEEB CODE: 052420

ACCREDITATIONS

Western Association of Schools & Colleges
California Association of Independent Schools

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

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DIRECTOR OF UPPER SCHOOL

Gary Baldwin

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL

Westridge is an independent school for girls in Pasadena, CA, committed to developing intellectually adventurous thinkers and courageous, compassionate leaders. Inspired by our founder, who in 1913 dedicated herself to empowering girls and expanding their access to college preparatory education, today we strive to prepare young women to live lives of meaning, contribution, and impact.

The Westridge program provides challenging academics designed to foster habits of mind and character that enable students to engage with the subjects they study with depth, nuance, and balance. Immersed in an environment specifically for girls where social-emotional learning (SEL) and leadership development are prioritized, Westridge students are empowered as students and young women who are comfortable being themselves, making themselves heard, and jumping headfirst into making a mark on this world.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM UPDATE: ADVANCED COURSES

Last year Westridge began moving beyond the AP program with the introduction of **Westridge Advanced Courses**. Our students have the option of completing 16 Advanced Courses within our curriculum including Aerospace Engineering II; Environmental Science and Sustainability; Identity, Borders, and Revolutions: Advanced Cultural Studies in Spanish; Perspectives in Literature; Latin IV Vergil: From the Underworld to Olympus; senior English course options such as Banned Books and Censorship: A Study of the Challenges to Intellectual Freedom and Women of the Novel; and We the People: The Search for Freedom in the United States.

These courses replace and go beyond previous AP course offerings and represent the highest academic level possible in their respective disciplines. New Advanced Courses will be introduced each year until the final AP offerings are retired by the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

EXPANDING MEANINGFUL RIGOR

Westridge Advanced Courses are designed to inspire deeper learning in students than traditional AP and honors-level courses. Based on significant research into how girls learn best and how adolescent brains develop, these courses capture and showcase student passions, encourage self-directed learning, and emphasize 21st century skills—creativity, curiosity, critical thinking, collaboration, problem-solving, and empathy. The curricula honor experiences and understandings beyond the classroom so students can apply and transfer their learning to the real world.

With a focus on synthesizing diverse perspectives, requiring deep disciplinary mastery, and drawing out interdisciplinary connections, Westridge Advanced Courses are the new curricular standard.

FACULTY

Westridge employs **71** faculty; **70%** hold advanced degrees, of which **14%** hold doctoral degrees.

ENROLLMENT

Full enrollment **550** Average class size **15**
High school enrollment **296** Student/faculty ratio **8:1**
Senior Class of 2024 **70**



WESTRIDGE SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2021

Class size	74
GPA (unweighted)	3.69
GPA (weighted)	3.97
SAT EBWR*	690-780
SAT Math*	710-760
ACT*	31-34

CLASS OF 2022

Class size	67
GPA (unweighted)	3.717
GPA (weighted)	4.053
SAT EBWR*	630-700
SAT Math*	600-710
ACT*	30-32

CLASS OF 2023

Class size	78
GPA (unweighted)	3.741
GPA (weighted)	4.011
SAT EBWR*	700-750
SAT Math*	670-750
ACT*	32-33

*mid-50% range

GRADING

Grading is done on an A to F scale, plus or minus, for core courses and Pass/Fail for the school's "H Block" electives. Human Development and Physical Education are not included in GPA calculations. The **unweighted GPA** is computed on A=4, D=1, plus and minus used, with no grade of A+. The **weighted GPA** includes +0.5 for Honors courses and +1.0 for AP courses taken in 10th grade.

As of the 2022-2023 school year, Westridge School is not weighting grades. All previously completed coursework will maintain its weighted status. Westridge does not rank.

NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS

In the past three years, Westridge students have been nationally recognized for several academic honors:

- 12** National Merit Finalists
- 12** National Merit Semifinalists
- 21** National Merit Commended Students

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Community Action Project This graduation requirement is an opportunity for Westridge students to demonstrate how their personal interests and passions can set the stage for deep learning and service to others. Over the course of four years, students engage in service opportunities, research issues or service organizations of interest, and develop a project proposal which will ultimately be acted upon and presented to the campus community.

Discovery Week This annual experiential program is closely linked to the curriculum and focused on project-based, interdisciplinary experiential learning. It strives to deepen students' awareness of their own intellectual and emotional growth as they develop and pursue new interests and passions. Experiences in 2023 explored the broader American experience and global citizenship and its implications with excursions focused on the important role African Americans play in our history (Washington, D.C.), engagement in the rich cultural heritage of Cambodia, high-impact service with cultural and language immersion in Guatemala, and more.

Westridge Global Initiative Students passionate about global studies may, working with the Global Initiative Committee faculty, undertake in-depth study of a modern-day global issue through an intentional selection of classes, experiential programs, and directed service. While coursework and activities also meet core graduation requirements, students in the program build a digital portfolio of their work, present their work to the committee, and earn a special Global Initiative transcript designation.

Writing & Math Centers Each year, specially-trained student Writing and Math Fellows provide in-person academic guidance to Upper School peers in related subject areas. Fellows at the Math Center plan and lead review sessions in addition to providing individualized support. At the Writing Center, student fellows learn to consider how equity and bias tie into their work with peers to help better guide them through any stage of the writing process.



WESTRIDGE SCHOOL

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

* Indicates course with increased rigor

** Students may elect into Challenge by Choice option for advanced denotation.

	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
ENGLISH 4 Years	English I	English II	- English III: WWI & Literature - Honors English III* - Perspectives in Literature*	- Banned Books and Censorship* - Madness in Literature* - Perspectives in Literature* - Women of the Novel*
MATHEMATICS 3 Years	- Geometry - Honors Geometry	- Algebra II - Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry*	- Pre-Calculus - Pre-Calculus Honors* - Statistics - Advanced Statistics*	- Calculus I - AP Calculus AB* - AP Calculus BC* - Statistics - Advanced Statistics*
CULTURAL STUDIES & HISTORY 3 Years	World Views: Ancient & Modern	Crisis & Courage in Global History**	<i>In addition to the electives listed at right:</i> - We the People: A Search for Freedom in the United States**	<i>History Electives</i> - Research in History - Ethics - AP Art History* - The Modern Middle East
SCIENCE 3 Years	Biology	- Chemistry - Honors Chemistry*	<i>Laboratory Science Electives</i> - Anatomy & Physiology - AP Biology* - AP Chemistry* - Ecology & Evolution - Environmental Science & Sustainability* - Physics I - Advanced Physics I*	<i>In addition to the electives listed at left:</i> - Advanced Physics II* - AP Physics C* - Research in Science (university-level research positions)
WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURE 3 Years	- Latin I, II, III, Latin IV (Vergil: From Olympus to the Underworld)* - Honors Latin V: LARES*	- Mandarin I, II, III, IV - Advanced Studies in Chinese Language & Culture*	- Spanish I, II, III - El Mundo Hispanohablante - Identity, Borders, & Revolutions: Advanced Cultural Studies in Spanish* - Spanish Literature	
ARTS (VISUAL, MUSIC, THEATRE) 2 Years	VISUAL ARTS: - Art Studio & Seminar Intensive I & II - Ceramics I - Clay Design & Engineering I & II	- Painting & Drawing I & II - Photography I & II - 3D Design I & II - Journeys in Film	MUSIC: - Chamber Orchestra - String Orchestra - Glee Club	THEATRE: - Acting I - Theatre Production
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9 credits; PE/athletics	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & THE COLLEGE PROCESS 4 years		COMMUNITY SERVICE (See previous page)	
OTHER ACADEMIC ELECTIVES	COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING: - Aerospace Engineering I - Advanced Aerospace Engineering II*	- AP Computer Science A* - Foundations of Computer Science & Engineering	- Full Stack Web Development* - Computer Science & Engineering Capstone*	OTHER ELECTIVES: - Economics



WESTRIDGE SCHOOL

COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2021-2023

University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art	Pratt Institute
American University	Cornell University (7)	Princeton University
Amherst College	Davidson College	University of Puget Sound (2)
Anglo-American University	Denison University	Purdue University
Arizona State University	DePaul University (3)	Reed College (4)
Auburn University	Emerson College	Rose Bruford College
Bard College	Fordham University	San Diego State University
Barnard College (4)	The George Washington University (4)	University of San Francisco
Bates College (3)	Georgetown University	Santa Barbara City College
Bennington College (2)	Hamilton College	Santa Clara University (4)
Bentley University	Harvard University	Sarah Lawrence College
Boston University (5)	Harvey Mudd College (2)	Scripps College (3)
Brown University (2)	Johns Hopkins University (2)	University of Southern California (9)
Butler University	University of La Verne (2)	St. Olaf College
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Lewis & Clark College (5)	Stanford University (5)
California Institute of Technology	Loyola Marymount University (2)	Syracuse University
California State Polytechnic University-Pomona	Macalester College (3)	Texas A&M University
University of California	Manhattan College	Texas Christian University
- Berkeley (14)	Michigan State University	The American University of Paris
- Davis (2)	University of Michigan (4)	The New School (3)
- Los Angeles (5)	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	Trinity College Dublin (5)
- Riverside (2)	Mount Holyoke College	Tufts University
- Santa Barbara (2)	New York University (5)	Tulane University of Louisiana (6)
- Santa Cruz (5)	Northeastern University (6)	Vassar College
Carnegie Mellon University (2)	Oberlin College (4)	University of Vermont
Chapman University	Occidental College (2)	Washington University in St. Louis (2)
University of Chicago (10)	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of Washington (2)
Claremont McKenna College (2)	University of Oregon (2)	Wellesley College
Columbia University International Dual Degree Programs	University of Pennsylvania (2)	Whitman College
University of Connecticut (2)	Pennsylvania State University	Whittier College
Connecticut College (2)	Pepperdine University	University of Wisconsin-Madison (4)
	Pomona College	Yale University (3)

The **78** members of the Class of 2023 earned **581** acceptances to **73** colleges and universities. They matriculated to **48** colleges and universities in **18** states, the District of Columbia, France, and the Czech Republic.