

SCHOOL PROFILE

2024-25

Lancaster Country Day School is a coeducational, nonsectarian independent school for students from preschool through twelfth grade. The school provides a rigorous college preparatory academic program in an atmosphere of warmth and support. Small classes, individual attention, and a broad range of extracurricular and athletic programs combine to offer numerous opportunities for personal growth and discovery. In addition, the school enables its students to undertake meaningful work in the community and encourages an ethic of service as well as a commitment to social justice. The school seeks students of character and ability from diverse ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, and geographic backgrounds. Students come from a five-county area known for its unusual blend of industry, diverse agricultural economy, tourism, and institutions of higher learning.



**LANCASTER
COUNTRY DAY
SCHOOL**

INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lewis Thayne, Ph.D.

INTERIM HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

Lindsay Deibler-Wallace

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Michelle O'Donnell

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Emily Herbert

Schedule and Requirements for Graduation

The school operates on a trimester system with final exams at the end of the year. Students are advised to take six courses per trimester, with the general guideline that a student should take five challenging academic courses and one practicum (music, theatre, or art). In the Upper School, the minimum requirements for graduation are four years of English (including American Studies, World Civilizations I and II), three years of history (including American Studies, World Civilizations I and II), one year of mathematics beyond Algebra II, foreign language study through level III of a language, three years of lab sciences (including biology, chemistry, and physics), and a total of two years in the arts. A total of 2.5 credits of physical education earned through sports team participation or LCDS fitness classes or their equivalent are also required. (2.0 credits)

CEEB/HIGH SCHOOL CODE: 392115

Accredited by the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools

ENROLLMENT

Lower School 272 Students
(Grades Preschool-5)

Middle School 124 Students
(Grades 6-8)

Upper School 228 Students
(Grades 9-12, 72 seniors)

Upper School Humanities at LCDS

In 9th, 10th, and 11th grades, LCDS students take a blended, interdisciplinary class for English and history credits. The courses are World Civilizations I (9th grade), World Civilizations II (10th grade), and American Studies (11th grade). Students receive 2.0 credits for each class to show its connection to both English and history. In 11th grade only, an Honors section is offered and is taught at an equivalent level to an AP course.

Course descriptions can be found online at www.lancastercountryday.org/Academics/College-Counseling

Advanced Placement Courses

Advanced Placement courses are available to juniors and seniors who fulfill prerequisites. Students are advised to take no more than two or three of these courses per year. The following AP courses are offered at LCDS:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Computer Science A
- Computer Science Principles
(Not offered 2024-25)
- English Literature and Composition
- English Language and Composition
(Discontinued as of June 2024)
- Human Geography
- Music Theory
- Physics 1
- Spanish Language
- Statistics
- United States History
(Only available to the Class of 2025)

Advanced/Terminal Courses

Though not AP courses, these classes are offered as advanced or terminal courses in different academic departments and carry similar rigor to AP courses:

- Multivariable Calculus
- International Model United Nations
- Organic, Polymer, and Biochem
- Honors American Studies

Grading Scale

LCDS courses are not weighted; the GPA includes all courses except physical education. Students are not ranked. Because LCDS is a college preparatory school, students are evaluated in a rigorous manner in terms of academic achievement.

Explanation of Grading Scale

A's	90-100	B's	80-89	C's	70-79	D's	60-69
(4.0) A	93-100	(3.33) B+	87-89	(2.33) C+	77-79	(1.33) D+	67-69
(3.67) A-	90-92	(3.0) B	83-86	(2.0) C	73-76	(1.0) D	63-66
		(2.67) B-	80-82	(1.67) C-	70-72	(0.67) D-	60-62
						BELOW 60	F

Outstanding Community Service

A designation of Outstanding Community Service, noted on the transcript, is awarded to students who have undertaken more than 50 hours of supervised community service in a single year and have completed a reflection essay.

Global Education Program

The Global Education Program strives to prepare students to live, work, and flourish in a world that is culturally diverse and economically and politically independent. Students take World Civilizations I and II as the foundation for a global and historical perspective. Over half of tenth through twelfth grade students participate in travel courses, trips or academic & cultural exchanges. Full-year travel courses allow students to develop an understanding for cultural, real world connections that are directly related to curriculum. For each course, interested students need to meet specific prerequisites and a competitive application process for admittance to the course. Model United Nations students travel to The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) conference in the Netherlands or Doha, Qatar. Other trips include Spanish Civilization and Culture to study language and culture in Spain and Science of Hawaii to study geology and marine biology across the big island. Three exchange programs are available for Upper School students to study abroad at one of our global partner schools in England, Spain, and South Africa. Students also enjoy opportunities to host international students and to travel domestically with them, for a true cultural exchange.

Independent Study and Off-Campus Courses

Independent Study offers an opportunity for students to receive academic credit for accelerated study in a discipline beyond the existing curriculum. An IS course may also be created so that a student can study for an AP exam or curriculum not offered by LCDS. Limited to juniors and seniors, these courses do not replace required courses; credit value is assigned according to the amount of work demanded. Off-campus courses must be approved by the Academic Committee.

Outcomes

One hundred percent of LCDS graduates are accepted to four-year colleges or universities. A five-year list of acceptances and enrollments is located on the school website.

Testing Data

The following statistics are for the classes of 2022, 2023, and 2024. Not all students test. Ranges represent the middle 50% of student test scores.

SAT

Class of	# Students	CR	MATH
2022	43	580-670	550-670
2023	45	580-680	580-710
2024	36	580-710	540-670