



MARIN
ACADEMY

2024-2025 SCHOOL PROFILE

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ABOUT MARIN ACADEMY

Marin Academy (MA) is a co-educational, independent, college preparatory day school located in San Rafael, California, north of San Francisco. Founded in 1971, MA enrolls 450 students in grades 9–12. There are 113 students in the Class of 2025.

OUR MISSION

Marin Academy asks every individual to think, question, and create in an environment of encouragement and compassion, and challenges each person to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society.

CURRICULUM & GRADING

MA is a forward-looking school, committed to progressive, relevant, research-based, and rigorous education. Transdisciplinary experiential learning is central to the MA experience, and our focus is on authentic, real-world problems, projects, and questions. Our curriculum and assessment practices seek to develop transferable, enduring skills that are linked to our school-wide competencies: Demonstrated Empathy, Imaginative Curiosity, Intellectual Flexibility, Compelling Expression, and Strategic Boldness.

We use a letter-based A-F/4.0 grading scale; we do not offer A+.

We do not weight grades or provide academic rank, nor do we give academic awards.

Only courses taken at Marin Academy appear on the transcript and are included in the GPA.

We have not offered AP courses since 2016.

Beginning with the 2021-22 academic year, 9th graders earn Credit/No Credit in the first semester.

ACADEMIC CONTEXT

Middle 50% GPA Range

Class of 2025

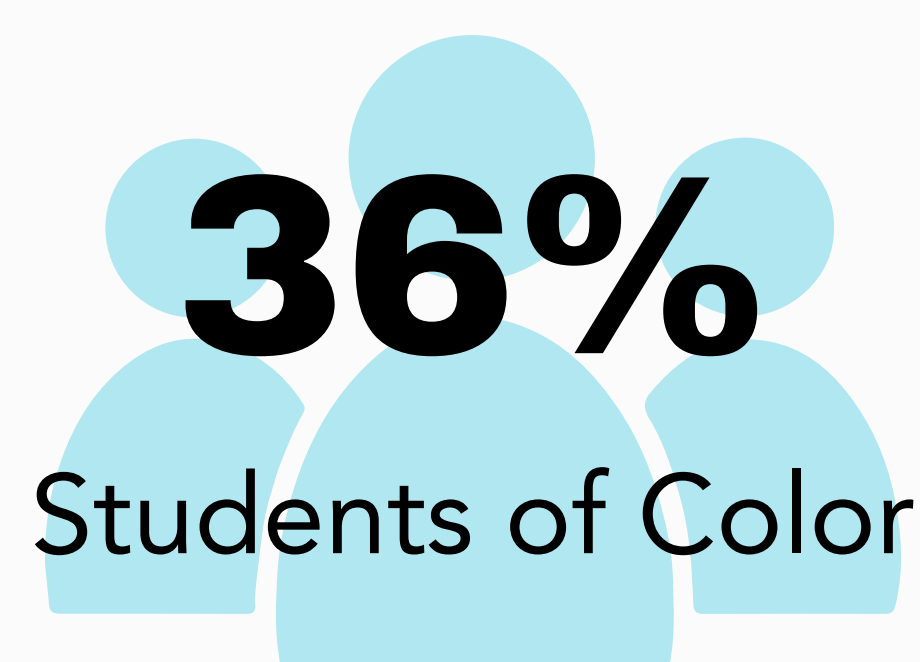
3.71 - 3.95

Access to standardized testing is a significant challenge for students in the Bay Area. Marin Academy does not administer the ACT or SAT on campus, nor do we encourage our students to travel outside the region in order to test.

ADMISSION

Admission is highly selective; a class of 110 is typically drawn from about 500 applicants. Students are admitted on the basis of previous academic work, recommendations, extracurricular involvement and interests, and personal interviews. Since 2021-2022, the admission process at MA has been test-free.

STUDENT BODY DEMOGRAPHICS



COLLEGE COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

Marin Academy adheres to NACAC's Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission.

We believe that the college search and application process is an integral component of each student's education. Through the work of deciding what to do after high school, students discern critical information about themselves and their future needs. Lessons gained during this time have a direct correlation to college preparedness and transition, and to the increased freedom and responsibility ahead. We scaffold our program and our definition of success around these core values: Choices, Self-Awareness, Autonomy, and Self-Worth.



**MARIN
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2024-2025 COURSE OFFERINGS, PROGRESSION, AND REQUIREMENTS

23 credits are required for graduation, 19.5 of which are required courses. The other 3.5 credits may be chosen from any area.

(H) designates an Honors course.

SUBJECTS	REQUIRED COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES	
ENGLISH <i>4 years required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English I (9th) English II (10th) (H) English III (11th) Two semester-long Honors English electives (12th) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (H) Eng IV: A Room of Their Own: Women's Literature (H) Eng IV: Climate Justice (TLP) (H) Eng IV: Dream Songs: The Art of Poetry (H) Eng IV: Freedom, Choice, and Obligation (H) Eng IV: Government and Technology: Reshaping Society in the Digital Age (TLP) (H) Eng IV: Narrative Nonfiction (H) Eng IV: Reader, Beware: Gothic Literature Past and Present (H) Eng IV: Sci Fi and the Politics of Imagination (H) Eng IV: The Golden Gate (H) Eng IV: The Short Story (H) Eng IV: Truth and Power 	
HISTORY <i>3 years required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern World History I (9th) Modern World History II (10th) (H) US History (11th) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (H) Hist: American Government and Politics (H) Hist: Asian American Studies (H) Hist: Belief: Religious Practice, Text, and Tradition (H) Hist: Black Liberation (H) Hist: Government and Technology: Reshaping Society in the Digital Age (TLP) (H) Hist: Islam, Islamophobia, and Military Intervention in the Arab World (H) Hist: Justice in America (H) Hist: Reclaiming the Gaze: Women of Color in Modern and Contemporary Art (H) Hist: World Empires I 	
SCIENCE <i>3 years lab science required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology (9th) Chemistry (10th) (H) Physics Elective (11th or 12th) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (H) Advanced Biology (H) Advanced Chemistry (H) Advanced Physics with Calculus (H) Physics (H) Physics: Astrophysics (H) Physics: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (H) Human Anatomy and Physiology (H) Neuroscience (H) Sci: Climate Justice (TLP) (H) MARC Elective: Applied Genetics Research (H) MARC: Exploring Experimental Design (H) MARC: Independent Research I (H) MARC: Independent Research II 	
MATHEMATICS <i>Three years and completion of Algebra II required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Algebra I Geometry or (H) Geometry Algebra II or (H) Algebra II Algebra II with Trigonometry (Precalculus credit) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precalculus (H) Precalculus (H) Calculus (H) Advanced Calculus (H) Multivariable Calculus Applied Math Computer Science I Computer Science II Introduction to Economics Statistics 	
WORLD LANGUAGES <i>3 years of the same world language and completion of Level III, or completion of two years each of two different world languages (four years total)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> French I, II (H) French III, IV, V, VI Mandarin I, II (H) Mandarin III, IV, V Spanish I, II, III, IV, V (H) Spanish III, IV, V, VI (H) Spanish for Heritage Speakers III, IV, V, VI 		
ARTS <i>2 years required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance I/II: Company Dance III/IV: Advanced Company Taiko Ensemble Foundations of Music Performance Musicianship: Rhythm and Groove Musicianship: Harmony Advanced Bands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stagecraft Theater Company Theater Techniques: Improvisational Acting Theater Techniques: Scene Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual Arts I Visual Arts II, III, IV: Ceramics Visual Arts II, III, IV: Drawing and Painting Visual Arts II, III, IV: Photography Foundations of Design and Build Three-Dimensional Thinking Three-Dimensional Thinking II Advanced Three-Dimensional Thinking
Blended CONSORTIUM <i>Not required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Greek Applied AI in Python Astrophysics Bay Area Cinema and Filmmaking Black Holes and Einstein's Theory of Relativity Digital Music Production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Literacy Food: A History Fundamentals of Filmmaking Gender Studies (H) Incarceration Nation: The Rise of the U.S. Prison Industrial Complex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies Movements for Change Public Health and Vulnerable Populations San Francisco History and Art Social History of Disease Social Psychology
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Development I (Fall 9th grade) Human Development II (Spring 10th grade) Introduction to Ethnic Studies (Spring 9th grade) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.5 physical education points earned through outings, athletic teams, or other activities Senior speech or performance Senior project (independently designed) 	



SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Transdisciplinary Leadership Program (TLP)

The Transdisciplinary Leadership Program (TLP) is an innovative research- and action-based program for 12th graders. The heart of TLP is a year-long course with a supporting practicum, fulfilling semester credits in English and either history or science. Students explore the nuances and perspectives of a social issue and then respond to it in partnership with community organizations, including institutions of higher learning, non-profit organizations, local government officials or agencies, and local companies.

Marin Academy Research Collaborative (MARC)

The MARC program empowers students to ask questions and push the boundaries of scientific knowledge. Participants receive robust curricular support as they work to make meaningful, publishable contributions to real-world scientific investigation in partnership with professional scientists. MARC: Applied Genetics Research track is a structured, one-year research experience in which students work as a team on the same project, in partnership with Stanford University scientists. MARC: Independent STEM Research track is a student-driven, two-year experience in which each student designs and pursues an independent research project in partnership with a scientist working in the relevant research area.

BlendEd Consortium

Founded in 2013 by Marin Academy and four other Bay Area independent schools, the BlendEd Consortium now includes six schools and combines face-to-face and online instruction to bring a new dimension of engaging curriculum to our students. Classes are taught by full-time faculty at one of the Consortium schools. BlendEd allows Marin Academy students to connect with students and teachers from across the Bay Area and offers students access to an even wider variety of elective courses.

Advanced Bands A/B

Advanced Bands is the culmination of the music program at Marin Academy, charging students to craft and perform a set of live music in small ensembles. While developing their own musical voice, students collaborate with others to arrange songs in original and artistic ways. Student autonomy and bandleading are emphasized, and students use the foundations of digital music production throughout their work. A two-concert series, showcasing a variety of student bands, is presented at the end of each semester.

Human Development TA

An integral part of the Human Development curriculum is peer-to-peer education. TAs facilitate discussions, lead activities, and help keep discussions relevant and meaningful. The TA Program is an important opportunity for leadership on campus, involving rigorous training, regular meetings, and giving up a free block. Generally, this is a two-year commitment that starts in 11th grade.

Conference on Democracy

Embodying a key tenet of the school's mission that "challenges each person to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society," our annual Conference on Democracy features speakers, panelists, workshops, and programming that examine a wide array of perspectives and issues related to our democratic systems. Now in its 20th year, Conference on Democracy is a fully student-led program that has featured such notable figures as Angela Davis, Roman Mars, Delores Huerta, and Chesa Boudin.

Identity & Equity (IDEQ) Leaders

Marin Academy has long modeled student-led diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging efforts. To become an Identity and Equity Leader, students apply and interview. IDEQ leaders are trained in leadership and facilitation skills, enabling them to design and implement a comprehensive program of student-led affinity spaces and open community dialogues that center the experiences and stories of minoritized community members.

Outings

The Marin Academy Outings Program offers wilderness, rural, and urban adventures large and small and has been central to the school's identity from its founding. On Outings, MA students are grounded in place, acquire and apply ecological and cultural knowledge, develop a sense of self through nature, and become responsible stewards of the human and non-human environment.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

CLASSES OF 2022–2024

American University	Kenyon College (3)	University of California Irvine
Amherst College	Lafayette College	University of California Los Angeles (8)
Babson College	Lehigh University (2)	University of California Merced
Bard College	Loyola Marymount University	University of California Riverside
Barnard College (2)	Macalester College (2)	University of California San Diego (2)
Bates College	Middlebury College (6)	University of California Santa Barbara (8)
Berklee College of Music	New York University (9)	University of California Santa Cruz (5)
Boston College (9)	New York University Shanghai	University of Chicago (4)
Boston University (3)	Northeastern University (7)	University of Colorado Boulder (4)
Bowdoin College (2)	Northwestern University (3)	University of Denver (3)
Brown University (10)	Oberlin College (2)	University of Miami (8)
Cal Poly Pomona	Occidental College (5)	University of Michigan (7)
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (13)	Oregon State University	University of Notre Dame (2)
Carleton College	Pepperdine University	University of Oregon (6)
Carnegie Mellon University	Pitzer College (5)	University of Pennsylvania (2)
Case Western Reserve University (3)	Polimoda (Italy)	University of Puget Sound
Chapman University (6)	Pomona College (3)	University of Rochester
Claremont McKenna College	Princeton University	University of San Diego
Colby College (3)	Providence College	University of Southern California (8)
Colgate University (4)	Reed College	University of St. Andrews (UK) (3)
College of Marin (2)	Rice University	University of Virginia (2)
Colorado College (8)	Rochester Institute of Technology (2)	University of Washington (5)
Colorado School of Mines	San Diego State University	University of Wisconsin (4)
Columbia University	Santa Clara University (2)	Vanderbilt University (8)
Cornell University	Sarah Lawrence College	Vassar College
Dartmouth College (3)	Scripps College (3)	Villanova University (2)
Duke University (3)	Skidmore College	Wake Forest University (2)
Eckerd College	Smith College (2)	Washington and Lee University
Emory University (2)	Southern Methodist University (2)	Washington University in St. Louis (9)
Fordham University (2)	Stanford University (5)	Wellesley College (2)
George Washington University (2)	Syracuse University (2)	Wesleyan University (5)
Georgetown University (6)	Tufts University (8)	Whitman College
Hamilton College	Tulane University (5)	Willamette University
Harvard University	University of British Columbia (3)	Williams College (2)
Johns Hopkins University (2)	University of California Berkeley (7)	Yale University



Think.
Question.
Create.