



HOLTON-ARMS SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE 2025–2026

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Inveniam viam aut faciam
I will find a way or make one

The Holton-Arms School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, or sexual orientation in the administration of its hiring, educational policy, admissions, financial aid practices, or of its athletic and other school-administered programs.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Founded in 1901 by Jessie Moon Holton and Carolyn Hough Arms, the Holton-Arms School is an independent college preparatory day school for girls, grades 3 through 12, located in a suburb of Washington, D.C.

The School admits students with strong academic interests and abilities who wish to engage with and contribute to the life of the School community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Holton-Arms School is to cultivate the unique potential of young women through the “education not only of the mind, but of the soul and spirit.”

APPROACH AND PHILOSOPHY

Learn Well, Live Well, Lead Well (LW3) is a comprehensive, multi-dimensional philosophy of education.

To cultivate the unique potential of students to become change agents, we believe their education needs to be one in which they are given the tools to learn well, live well, and lead well.

Programmatically, LW3 is the framework for building Holton's curriculum. It allows us to stretch the work we do with students beyond traditional academics and builds essential competencies needed for future leaders.

STUDENTS

673 Total enrollment
362 Upper School (Grades 9–12)
100 Class of 2026
48% Students of color
3% Foreign nationals
6:1 Student/faculty ratio
15 Average class size
21% Students receiving financial aid

Student geographic distribution:

66% Maryland **21%** D.C. **13%** Virginia
100% of the Class of 2023 plans to attend four-year institutions

FACULTY

114 Full- and part-time Faculty
83% Advanced degrees
13 Doctorates **94** Masters

TESTING INFORMATION FROM THE CLASS OF 2025

SAT Testing	Mean	Mid 50%
Evidence-Based		
Reading & Writing	702	680–750
Mathematics	684	650–750
Total	1386	1320–1500

ACT Testing	Mean	Mid 50%
Composite	31	29–34
English	33	32–35
Mathematics	29	26–33
Reading	33	34–36
Science	30	26–34

TESTING INFORMATION FROM 2022–2024

SAT Testing	Mean	Mid 50%
Class of 2024	1404	1350–1490
Class of 2023	1396	1300–1500
Class of 2022	1424	1340–1510

ACT Testing	Mean	Mid 50%
Class of 2024	32	30–34
Class of 2023	31	29–33
Class of 2022	31	29–34

Trimester System:

Terms end in November, February, and May; grade reports for first trimester are automatically submitted to colleges for all seniors; grade reports for second trimester are submitted upon request.

Typical Course Load:

The recommended course load for most students is five majors. Students may take six majors with permission of the Head of Upper School.

Additional Requirements:

Students have additional graduation requirements in visual and performing arts, physical education, computer science, community service (50 Hours), and LW3 Seminar.

Discipline Policy:

In most cases, Holton-Arms does not share disciplinary records with colleges and universities. It is incumbent upon students to answer all application questions honestly and counselors support students in submitting required statements.

A+ 97-100%	B 83-86%	C- 70-72%	F below 60
A 93-96%	B- 80-82%	D+ 67-69%	
A- 90-92%	C+ 77-79%	D 63-66%	
B+ 87-89%	C 73-76%	D- 60-62%	

Holton does not rank. Only final grades from academic courses taken at Holton in grades 9-12 are used in the calculation of the GPA. Honors and Advanced courses in core academic subjects are weighted an additional 0.5 points when factored into the GPA.

*With the recent move to letter grades, our grading policy has recentered, resulting in a downward shift in grades and GPAs.

Senior Project: In May, each senior undertakes a project, subject to Senior Project Committee approval, that she designs and implements. Some explore possible future careers; others select social service work or creative pursuits.

Senior projects are graded on the following scale:

Pass with Honors (PH) Pass (P) Fail (F)

ADVANCED AND HONORS CURRICULUM

Typically students do not take advanced courses until Junior year. Students must gain approval to take more than three Advanced/Honors Courses. As of 2019-2020, AP courses have been replaced by Advanced level courses of equal rigor. Enrollment in Honors and Advanced level courses requires departmental approval.

History

- Honors Global History Since 1900
- Advanced US/European Honors II
- Advanced Principles of Economics
- Advanced Topics in Global Art History
- Advanced Topics in Psychology
- Advanced Topics in U.S. Government

Math

- Honors Geometry
- Honors Algebra 2/ Trigonometry with Data Analysis
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Integrated Math I
- Integrated Math II
- Statistics
- Calculus I
- Calculus I and II
- Multivariable Calculus

Science

- Honors Physics
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Biology
- Advanced Global Applications in Environmental Science
- Advanced Analytical Chemistry
- Advanced Topics in Biology
- Advanced Analytical Physics

World Languages

- Honors Spanish 3 and 4
- Advanced Spanish 5
- Advanced Spanish Seminar: Voces
- Honors Chinese 3 and 4
- Advanced Chinese 5
- Honors French 3 and 4
- Advanced French 5
- Honors Latin III and IV
- Advanced Latin V

Computer Science

- Advanced Python: Programming & Data Structures
- Advanced Front and Back End Web Development

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS 2022-2025

Babson College	Emerson College	2	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Miami	3	
Barnard College	Emory University	9	Rice University	3	University of Michigan	12
Bates College	Fairfield University	2	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	3	
Boston College	Fordham University	2	Santa Clara University	University of Notre Dame	3	
Boston University	George Washington University	2	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Pennsylvania	8	
Bowdoin College	Georgetown University	6	Scripps College	University of Pittsburgh		
Brandeis University	Grinnell College		Smith College	University of Richmond		
Brigham Young University	Hamilton College	3	Southern Methodist University	2	University of Southern California	10
Brown University	Hampton University		Spelman College	5	University of St. Andrews	3
Bucknell University	Harvard University	3	Stanford University	2	University of Texas at Austin	2
Butler University	Harvey Mudd College		Syracuse University	7	University of Toronto	2
Carleton College	Indiana University	2	Texas Christian University	5	University of Vermont	2
Carnegie Mellon University	James Madison University		The Ohio State University		University of Virginia	8
Case Western Reserve University	Johns Hopkins University	4	Trinity College		University of Wisconsin Madison	3
Champlain College	Kenyon College	2	Trinity College Dublin	2	Vanderbilt University	6
Claremont McKenna College	Lafayette College		Towson University		Vassar College	2
Clemson University	Lehigh University		Tufts University		Villanova University	
Colby College	Louisiana State University		Tulane University	16	Virginia Commonwealth University	
Colgate University	Macalaster College		United States Naval Academy		Virginia Polytechnic Institute	3
College of Charleston	Marist University		University of British Columbia	2	Wake Forest University	10
College of William and Mary	McGill University		University of California Davis		Washington University in St. Louis	7
Columbia University	New York University	6	University of California Irvine		Wellesley College	
Connecticut College	Northeastern University	7	University of California Los Angeles	3	Wesleyan University	
Cornell University	Northwestern University	5	University of California San Diego	2	Williams College	
Dartmouth College	Oberlin College		University of California Santa Barbara		Xavier University	
Davidson College	Occidental College		University of Chicago	12	Xavier University of Louisiana	2
Denison University	Pennsylvania State University		University of Colorado Boulder		Yale University	3
Dickinson College	Pepperdine University		University of Delaware	2		
Duke University	Princeton University	4	University of Denver			
Elon University	Purdue University	2	University of Georgia	2		
			University of Maryland College Park	4		