



# GFS GERMANTOWN FRIENDS SCHOOL

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2025-26

### OUR SCHOOL

- A 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 the historic Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia.
- Committed to diversity, as is reflected in our school community.
- 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.

### SIMPLICITY | PEACE | INTEGRITY | COMMUNITY EQUALITY | STEWARDSHIP

Our educational philosophy is rooted in Quaker testimonies or SPICES.

<b>1,123</b> Students Preschool through Grade 12	<b>444</b> Upper School students	<b>108</b> Students in the class of 2026	<b>41%</b> Students of color	<b>100%</b> Senior class accepted to 4-Year colleges or universities
---	--	--	------------------------------------	--

### OUR ACADEMIC PROGRAM

GFS offers a rich, varied, and challenging curriculum. We foster the growth of intellectually curious individuals, promoting students who can think and advocate for themselves. The intellectual climate at GFS is enhanced by decreased competition. In support, GFS does not provide class rank, an official GPA, or academic awards.

Grading Scale: A-F | Pass/Fail

*\* Pass/Fail grading is used in courses where the department prioritizes the learning journey versus the students' work output or end product.*

### REQUIREMENTS

- To graduate, students must complete satisfactory work in 19 major courses and meet all departmental major and minor course requirements.
- Schedules run on an 8-day cycle. Major courses meet 5 times per cycle, while minor courses meet 2-4 times per cycle.
- Grades 9-11: Minimum 5 major courses | Grade 12: Minimum 4 major courses

**English:** 4 years

**History:** 3 years

**Math:** 3 years

**Science:** 3 years

**Classical/Modern Language:** Through Level 3

**Art:** 1 year

**Music:** 1 year (or 2 semesters)

**Theatre:** 1 semester

**Health:** 1 year, grade 10

**Athletics/Physical Education:** 3.5 years

Grade 9-11: full year

Grade 12: 2 seasons

#### January Term:

Grades 9, 10, 12

Program of "mini courses" designed to provide for exploration of learning opportunities outside of the regular curriculum.

#### Junior Project:

Grade 11

Self-initiated independent study completed under the guidance of a faculty liaison. Used to gain insight into a potential career, pursue a passion, or do humanitarian work. A final paper and presentation complete the project.

### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP & COLLEGE COUNSELING OFFICE

**Dana Weeks**  
Head of School

**Lindsay Dussing**  
Director of College Counseling  
ldussing@germantownfriends.org

**Michael Heeter**  
Director of College Counseling  
mheeter@germantownfriends.org

**Melissa Benski**  
Senior Associate Director  
of College Counseling  
mbenski@germantownfriends.org

**Angela Jones-O'Brien**  
Senior Associate Director  
of College Counseling  
ajonesobrien@germantownfriends.org

**Syidah Abdullah**  
Administrative Coordinator  
sabdullah@germantownfriends.org

**Germantown Friends School**  
31 W. Coulter Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19144  
Phone: 215-951-2330  
Fax: 215-261-6752  
CEEB# 393325  
germantownfriends.org/college-counseling

### ACCREDITATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools (ADVIS)

Friends Council on Education

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS)



## ADVANCED COURSEWORK

GFS offers advanced coursework which prepares students for upper-level college courses. We do not offer AP curricula, though students may choose to take AP exams.

### ENGLISH

- Juniors and Seniors choose from year-long major seminars that fulfill their English requirement. Offerings and titles vary year over year.\*

### HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Applied Economics: Adv.
- United States History: Adv.\*
- Juniors and Seniors may choose from either one year-long or two semester-long, advanced-level History electives. Offerings and titles vary year over year.

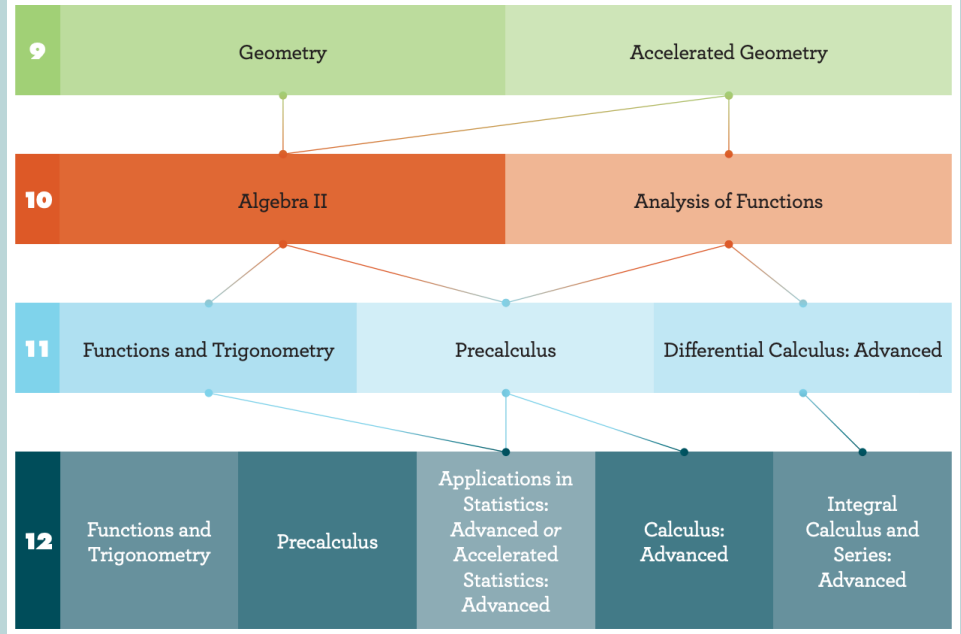
### LANGUAGES—CLASSICAL

- Ancient Greek IV: Adv.
- Ancient Greek V: Adv.
- Latin IV/V Cicero: Adv. (not offered 2025-26)
- Latin IV/V Natural Sciences: Adv. (not offered 2025-26)
- Latin IV/V: Powerful Queens of the Ancient World: Adv.
- Latin IV/V: Virgil's *Aeneid*: Adv.

### LANGUAGES—MODERN

- French IV: Adv.
- French V: Adv.
- Mandarin IV and V: Adv.
- Spanish IV: Adv.
- Spanish V: Adv.

### MATH PROGRESSION



### MATHEMATICS

- Calculus: Adv.
- Differential Calculus: Adv.
- Integral Calculus and Series: Adv.
- Applications in Statistics: Adv.
- Accelerated Statistics: Adv.
- Students who have completed our typical Math progression may seek department approval for the following:
  - Topics in Advanced Math I
  - Topics in Advanced Math II
- See chart for typical course progression.

### SCIENCE

- Organic Chemistry: Adv.
- Principles of Engineering: Adv.
- Human Anatomy & Physiology: Adv.
- Advanced Chemistry
- Advanced Biology
- Advanced Physics

### ART

- Senior Studio: Adv.

### MUSIC

- Music Composition: Adv.
- Music Lab: Adv.
- Digital Music Recording and Production II: Adv.

### THEATRE / FILM

- Theatre Lab: Adv.
- Filmmaking III: The Picture is the Thing: Adv.

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

- CS III: Algorithms & Computer Organization: Adv.

### TESTING

Classes of 2023-2025

#### SAT

Median 1410

Mid-50% range 1260-1500

#### ACT

Median 32

Mid-50% range 29-34

\* Denotes a required course; all other advanced courses are elective in nature.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY (DIS), Grades 9-12

Self-designed courses to pursue interests outside the regular curriculum, individually or in groups, under the direction of a faculty member. Students must spend a minimum of 2.5 hours per 8-day cycle meeting with their faculty advisor, and otherwise work independently. Requires a formal proposal and approval by DIS director and grade dean. This course is not graded.

### GLOBAL ONLINE ACADEMY (GOA), Grades 9-12

Consortium of 70 leading independent schools offering online coursework. The mission is to replicate in online classrooms the programs and teaching that are hallmarks of member schools; to foster new, effective ways for students to learn; and to promote students' global awareness by creating diverse, worldwide, online communities.



View Our Detailed Course Catalog at <https://bit.ly/CourseCatalog25-26>



# GERMANTOWN FRIENDS SCHOOL

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2023-25

American University (2)  
Amherst College (3)  
Arizona State University  
Bard College  
Barnard College (3)  
Bates College  
Bennington College  
Berklee College of Music  
Binghamton University  
Boston College (2)  
Boston University (3)  
Bowdoin College (4)  
Brandeis University  
Brown University (3)  
Bryn Mawr College (2)  
California Institute of Technology  
Carnegie Mellon University (3)  
Case Western Reserve University (4)  
Colby College  
College of the Holy Cross  
College of William & Mary (2)  
Colorado College  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University (7)  
Dartmouth College  
Dickinson College (2)  
Drexel University (5)  
Duke University (2)  
Eckerd College  
Emory University (2)  
Franklin & Marshall College (3)  
George Washington University (7)  
Georgetown University (2)  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Gettysburg College  
Grinnell College  
Hamilton College (5)  
Harvard University (3)  
Haverford College (5)  
Howard University (4)  
Johns Hopkins University  
Lehigh University (2)  
Macalester College (2)  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College (4)  
Morehouse College (5)  
Mount Holyoke College  
New York University (5)  
Northeastern University (4)  
Northwestern University (6)  
Oberlin College (4)  
Occidental College  
Pennsylvania State University  
-Abington  
Pennsylvania State University  
-Behrend  
Pennsylvania State University  
-Harrisburg  
Pennsylvania State University  
-University Park (3)  
Pomona College  
Princeton University (5)  
Purdue University  
Rice University (2)  
Rochester Institute of Technology (3)  
Saint Joseph's University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Skidmore College  
Smith College (2)  
Spelman College  
St. Lawrence University  
Swarthmore College (3)  
Syracuse University (3)  
Temple University  
The New School (2)  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Trinity College  
Tufts University (6)  
Tulane University (3)  
Union College - New York (2)  
University of California, Davis  
University of California,  
Los Angeles (4)  
University of California,  
Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago (4)

University of Colorado Boulder (2)  
University of Delaware (2)  
University of Kentucky  
University of Maryland  
University of Miami (3)  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (2)  
University of North Carolina  
at Chapel Hill (3)  
University of North Carolina  
at Greensboro  
University of Oregon  
University of Pennsylvania (36)  
University of Pittsburgh (8)  
University of Redlands  
University of Rochester  
University of The Arts  
University of Toronto (3)  
University of Vermont (2)  
University of Virginia (5)  
University of Wisconsin—Madison (2)  
Ursinus College (2)  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College (7)  
Villanova University (3)  
Washington University in St. Louis (5)  
Wesleyan University (3)  
Williams College (2)  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Yale University (4)

### SCHOLARS PROGRAMS

**Bonner Scholar Program**  
Morehouse College

**Humanities & Social Sciences  
Scholars Program**  
Howard University

**Karsh STEM Scholars**  
Howard University

**Morehead-Cain**  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Questbridge Scholar**  
University of Pennsylvania