BANCROFT SCHOOL

Excellence · Inquiry · Equity · Community · Ethical Leadership



2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP & COLLEGE COUNSELORS

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MISSION

Through active, inquiry-based learning and challenging experiences, Bancroft School empowers students with the skills, knowledge and confidence to make a difference in their community and the world.

AT A GLANCE

PREK-12 INDEPENDENT, CO-ED DAY SCHOOL LOCATED IN WORCESTER, MA

460 STUDENTS IN THREE DIVISIONS

12 STUDENTS AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

202 STUDENTS IN UPPER SCHOOL (9-12)

50% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

23 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN UPPER SCHOOL

78+ CITIES AND TOWNS REPRESENTED IN STUDENT BODY

38% STUDENTS OF COLOR

34 ACRE CAMPUS

18 VARSITY ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

49 STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2026

25+ CLUBS & AFFINITY SPACES

COURSE OFFERINGS

Bancroft School offers over 100 course options for Upper School students, including 30 advanced or AP courses. These encompass a diverse range of subjects, including core academic disciplines, electives, and specialized courses that align with student interest and aspiration.

SCHEDULE

Bancroft's Upper School operates on a 2 semester system. Courses run on a six-day rotating schedule comprising 28 blocks of 60 minutes each, with two 'community blocks' designed to facilitate belonging at Bancroft: students come together with classmates for activities centered around leadership opportunities and time for cross-divisional student connection. Students are encouraged to schedule an average of 24-26 blocks of course time per rotation.



GLOBAL STUDIES TRIP TO CHINA 2025

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- English: 4 years
- History: 3.5 years
- World Languages: 3 levels of one language, or 2 levels of two languages
- Math: 3 years (through Algebra II)
- Lab Science: 3 years (Chemistry, Biology, and a third lab science; Physics strongly recommended)
- Arts: 1 year of Performing or Visual Arts
- Physical Education: 4 semesters
- Freshman Seminar
- Inquiry and Identity
- Senior Thesis/Senior Year Inquiry
- Senior Cooperative
- Community Service: 30 hours

ACADEMIC PROGRAM: CHOICE AND CHALLENGE

As part of determining their individual paths and trajectories, Bancroft students spend their first years in the Upper School completing core courses and requirements in a variety of subjects, as well as beginning to explore greater challenge through “Honors” and even “Advanced” classes. Classes designated as “Honors” position students to engage in college-level work before they leave high school. Students in “Advanced” courses are prepared for upper-level college courses in these and related departments. Students are not only recommended for but also self-advocate for the challenge of these advanced courses. Bancroft does not place a limit on the number of Advanced courses students can take. Rather, students meet individually with advisors who help them chart their paths toward mastery.

Bancroft offers many AP courses that align with the school’s commitment to inquiry and challenge. Advanced world language students take immersive, field-oriented courses such as Advanced Studies in Spanish or Contemporary French Culture. Computer Science and Math students have the opportunity to take courses beyond the traditional AP curriculum including Algorithms & Data Structures and Multivariable Calculus. In the Arts, both Advanced Visual Portfolio and Advanced Theatrical Design allow talented and independently driven artists to continue their studies in these fields well beyond the core requirements.

5.5
AVERAGE NUMBER OF ADVANCED CLASSES EACH STUDENT TAKES DURING UPPER SCHOOL

Students elect junior/senior courses representing a broad range of disciplines. Many students choose to “double up” and take extra courses in areas of interest beyond just the next level in that discipline. All students complete an Inquiry Credit in their Senior Year, either by completing the Senior Thesis, a capstone research paper, or by completing at least a semester of Science and Engineering Inquiry (SEI). In SEI, advanced students choose a specific topic of interest, conduct experimentation and/or research, and present their deep mastery and research findings at regional, state and national competitions. Additionally, the Senior Co-op Program offers a unique capstone experience where seniors engage in specifically selected projects with organizations in and around Worcester not only to develop their career and professional interests but also to contribute meaningfully to their community.

65%
OF STUDENTS CHOOSE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL COURSES IN SUBJECTS OF INTEREST

GRADING & CLASS RANK

Bancroft does not rank its students. We use a uniform, unweighted marking system ranging from A to F; we do not use A+. Students with an overall average of A- achieve High Honors, and those with a B+ average achieve Honors. Bancroft is a member of the national Cum Laude Society, which inducts a maximum of 10% of the junior and 10% of the senior class every spring.

EXTRACURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS

Bancroft School offers a dynamic array of extracurricular programs that nurture diverse student interests and talents. Our **competitive athletics** program fosters teamwork and discipline, while our nationally renowned **Robotics team** empowers students to excel in engineering. The **Speech team**, with 24 state champions in the past 10 years, stands as a proud testament to our tradition of excellence. In addition, dedicated club time and co-lab periods built into the school day give students multiple opportunities to lead and participate in **more than 25 clubs and affinity spaces**, allowing them to pursue their passions and affirm their identities.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES & MATRICULATIONS, 2021-2025

Bancroft students were accepted at the following institutions over the past five years.
Boldface indicates schools where they chose to matriculate.

Adelphi University
Allegheny College
American International College
American University
Anna Maria College
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University-Tempe
Assumption University
Babson College
Bard College
Barry University
Bates College
Baylor University
Bennington College
Bentley University
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bridgewater State University
Brown University
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
California College of the Arts
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Central Connecticut State University
Champlain College
Chapman University
Christopher Newport University
Clark Atlanta University
Clark University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Charleston
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia College Chicago
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Culinary Institute of America
Curry College
Dean College
Denison University
DePaul University
DeSales University
Dickinson College
Dominican University of California
Drexel University
Earlham College
Eastern Connecticut State University
Eastern Washington University
Eckerd College
Elms College
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Emory University
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fisher College
Fitchburg State University
Flagler College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Fordham University
Framingham State University
Franklin University Switzerland
Furman University
Gettysburg College
Gonzaga University
Gordon College
Goucher College
Guilford College
Hamilton College
Hampton University
Harvard University
Haverford College
Hawaii Pacific University
Hellenic College-Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith
Hofstra University
Holy Cross College
Howard University
Indiana University-Bloomington
Iona University
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University-Providence
Kenyon College
King's College London (University of London)
Lafayette College
Lasell University
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lesley University
Lewis & Clark College
Long Island University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Lynn University
Manhattan University
Marist University
Marquette University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Merrimack College
Miami University-Oxford
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York University
Nichols College
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Norwich University
Nova Southeastern University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University - College of Engineering
Ohio State University-Main Campus
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University, Westchester Campus
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University-Altoona
Pennsylvania State University-Lehigh Valley
Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus
Pitzer College
Plymouth State University
Pratt Institute – Brooklyn
Providence College
Purdue University-Main Campus
Quinnipiac University
Regis College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Sacred Heart University
Saint Anselm College
Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Leo University
Saint Louis University
Saint Michael's College
Salem State University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle University
Seton Hall University
Simmons University
Skidmore College
Southern Methodist University
Southern New Hampshire University
Spelman College
Springfield College
St. John's University-New York
Stanford University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Catholic University of America
The College of Wooster
The George Washington University
The New School
The University of Alabama
The University of British Columbia
The University of Montana
The University of Tampa
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
The University of Texas at Austin
Thomas Jefferson University
Trinity College
Trinity College Dublin
Tufts University
Union College (NY)
Unity Environmental University
University at Albany, SUNY
University College - Roger Williams University
University of Arizona
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Davis
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California-Merced
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of California-Santa Cruz
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Connecticut at Hartford
University of Connecticut-Stamford
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Hartford
University of Houston
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Maine
University of Manchester
University of Maryland-College Park
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
University of Massachusetts-Boston
University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
University of New England
University of New Hampshire-Main Campus
University of New Haven
University of New Orleans
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina-Columbia
University of South Florida-Main Campus
University of Southern California
University of Southern Maine
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Washington-Seattle Campus
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest University
Washington State University
Washington University in St Louis
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Western New England University
Wheaton College - Massachusetts
Whitman College
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University

INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS
McGill University
University College Dublin
University College London
University of Edinburgh
University of St Andrews
University of Toronto

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