



# MERCERSBURG ACADEMY

## Profile 2025-2026

100 Academy Drive, Mercersburg, PA 17236 • CEEB #392570 • mercersburg.edu

### MERCERSBURG ACADEMY PROFILE

- » Founded in 1893; a coeducational boarding and day school enrolling students in grades 9-12 and offering a postgraduate year.
- » 439 students from 26 states and the District of Columbia and 38 countries; 33 percent of students identify as a student of color; 51 percent of students receive financial aid.
- » 4:1 student-to-faculty ratio; average class size of 12 students.
- » 100 percent of graduates attend a four-year college or university.
- » Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- » **Advanced Studies (AS) represents the highest level of rigor in all academic disciplines.** In most cases, students may complete a maximum of four credits in AS per term.
- » In 2022-2023, Mercersburg Academy introduced **Earned Honors** in select courses. Students may earn honors credit in these courses by fulfilling honors criteria throughout the school year; honors credit is assigned at the conclusion of the school year in accordance with these criteria. In many cases, courses formerly designated as Honors are now facilitated as Earned Honors.
- » In a standard curriculum, students in grades 9 and 10 earn 5-6 credits per term (17-18 credits per year), while students in grades 11 and 12 earn 5 credits per term (15 credits per year). Students will receive a grade of record in each course at the conclusion of each trimester.
- » From 2021-2024, students participated in the Mercersburg Intensive, a credit-bearing, immersive experience in which students and teachers worked as equal learners to explore a topic, genre, question, theme, or skill. In 2024-2025, Mercersburg suspended its Intensive program.

### CAPSTONE EXPERIENCES

- » Successful completion of a capstone experience (MAPS or Springboard) is a graduation requirement for all seniors. Capstones are dynamic, self-directed endeavors and the culminating academic experience of every Mercersburg student.
- » Springboard courses are designed using the Challenge-Based Learning model. Each course concludes with student-designed projects that are publishable, permanent, or viewed by the public.
- » MAPS is a selective two-year program for 12-15 students per graduating class. The 11th-grade experience—called *Thought, Knowledge, and Belief*—reinforces a student's ability to examine the depth and value of how they search for solutions and truth so that in 12th grade, they can conduct research for a 30- to 50-page SEARCH project, a high school equivalent of a master's thesis.

**Quentin McDowell P '25, '27**  
Head of School  
mcdowellq@mercersburg.edu

### COLLEGE COUNSELORS

**Michael Conklin**  
Dean  
conklinm@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6230

**Cindy Fowler P '29**  
Associate Director  
fowlerc@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6382

**Matt Hurst**  
Assistant Director  
hurstm@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6158

**Rachel Mallory**  
Associate Director  
malloryr@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6161

**Erin McHugh**  
Associate Director  
mchughe@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6368

**David Stephenson**  
Associate Director  
stephensond@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6355

**Vicki Thompson**  
Director  
thompsonv@mercersburg.edu  
717-328-6212

**College Counseling Office**  
717-328-6156 (phone)  
717-328-6311 (fax)  
collegecounseling@mercersburg.edu

### SCHEDULE A VISIT

Mercersburg Academy is located in the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania, a few miles north of the Maryland state line. The Washington, D.C./Baltimore area is a 90-minute drive from campus. College admission representatives may schedule an in-person or virtual visit at [maialearning.com](http://maialearning.com).

## STATEMENT ON GPA AND RANK

Mercersburg Academy does not report GPA or class rank.

We strongly believe in multiple entry points for students and intentionally grow the class each year. Therefore, a cumulative GPA would not accurately reflect the Mercersburg experience, as it would include grades from many different institutions. Official grades for all courses attempted are reported on the transcript.

## STATEMENT ON DISCIPLINE

While seeking to develop self-discipline and responsibility in every student, Mercersburg recognizes the importance of clear boundaries and resulting consequences for overstepping those boundaries in a successful community. Though Mercersburg does not report disciplinary infractions to post-secondary institutions, students are counseled and expected to self-report the details of final warnings, suspensions, and required withdrawals if asked.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS\*

English	Four years
History	Three years, including a course in U.S. history
Math	Through Algebra II
Science	Three years; includes biology and either chemistry or physics
Religion	One term
Language**	Through the third year of a language or until graduation
Arts	Four terms in two areas
Interdisciplinary Studies	Completion of MAPS or Springboard

\*Graduation requirements vary depending on year of entry.

\*\*Students may meet Mercersburg Academy's graduation requirement in language by demonstrating proficiency in more than one language.

## SAT/ACT SUMMARY (CLASS OF 2025)

SAT: 42 Test Takers	Middle 50%	Mean
EBRW	650-750	692
MATH	670-780	711
ACT: 24 Test Takers	Middle 50%	Mean
	32-34	32

Results include only members of the graduating class who submitted ACT or SAT scores to at least one college or university; each member is represented in SAT or ACT results, not both. These summaries do not include one-year seniors or postgraduate students.

## 2025-2026 SELECT COURSE OFFERINGS

### ADVANCED STUDIES (AS)

#### Art

Music Theory  
Studio Arts  
Dance

#### English

Explorations in Literary Theory  
Language, Rhetoric, and Composition  
Literature and Composition  
Stories of Post-Colonial Resilience  
Writing for Sustainable Futures

#### History

Classical Art and Archaeology  
Comparative Government and Politics  
World History II  
Radicalism in History  
The Vietnam War  
U.S. History

#### Language

French History and Literature  
Latin: Vergil-Pliny  
Spanish Language and Culture

#### Math

Precalculus AB  
Precalculus C & Calculus A  
Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
Computer Science A  
Economics  
Linear Algebra with Applications  
Statistics

#### Science

Biology  
Chemistry  
Environmental Science  
Organic Chemistry  
Physics C Electricity and Magnetism/Mechanics  
Physics C Mechanics

### HONORS\*

#### Language

Second-Year Spanish  
Third-Year Spanish

#### Science

Chemistry  
Physics

### SENIOR CAPSTONE

#### MAPS

SEARCH: Global Studies Research  
Thesis  
Thought, Knowledge, and Belief

#### Springboard

Arts Practicum  
Entrepreneurship  
Maker's Lab  
Mercersburg's History  
Open Topic  
Psychology Research  
Principles of Research Science  
Research Science  
Write Your Novel

\*Students may earn honors credit in select standard-level courses (not listed on our school profile) by fulfilling honors criteria throughout the school year. Honors credit is assigned at the conclusion of the school year in accordance with these criteria, and a corresponding honors notation is added to the transcript thereafter.