2025-26 University School of Milwaukee School Profile

School Information

USM is a coeducational PK-12 preparatory day school with a 174-year history of independence in education, cultivating excellence in learning, leadership, and citizenship for prekindergarten through 12th grade students. Students are engaged, known, and valued within our passionate independent school community, guided by our Common Trust: we agree to relate to one another and the school with respect, trust, honesty, fairness, and kindness. Selective admission is based on a student's ability to perform college preparatory work. Admission is non-discriminatory.

Upper School Demographics

Upper School enrollment: 392 students (111 students in Class of 2026) from five Milwaukee-area counties

Students receiving financial assistance: 30%

Students at University School of Milwaukee that identify as students of color: 41%

Academic Information

All academic classes are college preparatory. Many of our electives are comparable to AP in rigor. Math and Science are the only departments to use "Honors" in course titling. Classes in other disciplines are considered honors-level. No student may take more than four AP classes in a year without special approval and demonstrated history of academic excellence. Students enrolled in AP courses are expected to sit for the exam.

Graduation Requirements

English: 4 years; **History, Mathematics, Science, and World Language**: 3 years; **Fine Arts**: 4 semesters; **Physical Education**: 1 semester in 9th grade; 1 year in 10th grade; **Community Service**: 30 hours

	12th Grade
ENGLISH	Semester-long English electives, AP English Literature
HISTORY	Semester-long history electives
MATHEMATICS	Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Calc and Stats, AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, *Post AP BC Calculus courses:* Multivariable Calculus; Linear Algebra
SCIENCE	Anatomy and Physiology A/B, Biochemistry of Human Metabolism, Materials Science, Women's Health, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 2, AP Physics C
WORLD LANGUAGES*	Chinese: Novice 1-Intermediate 4; French: Novice 1–AP French Language and Culture; Latin: 1-4, Spanish: Novice 1-AP Spanish Literature and Culture
ARTS	Graduation requirement: 3 semesters of visual/performing art electives
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PE electives

	11th Grade
ENGLISH	English 3
HISTORY	US History, AP US History, Semester-long history electives
MATHEMATICS	Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus Honors
SCIENCE	Physics, Physics Honors, Anatomy and Physiology A/B, Biochemistry of Human Metabolism, Materials Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science
WORLD LANGUAGES*	Chinese: Novice 1-Intermediate 4; French: Novice 1–AP French Language and Culture; Latin: 1-4, Spanish: Novice 1-AP Spanish Language and Culture
ARTS	Graduation requirement: 3 semesters of visual/performing art electives
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PE electives

	10th Grade
ENGLISH	English 2
HISTORY	World Civilizations 2
MATHEMATICS	Algebra 2, Geometry, Geometry Honors
SCIENCE	Chemistry, Chemistry Honors, AP Biology
WORLD LANGUAGES*	Chinese: Novice 1-Intermediate 4; French: Novice 1–Intermediate 5; Latin: 1-4; Spanish: Novice 1-Intermediate 4
ARTS	Graduation requirement: 3 semesters of visual/performing art electives
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Wellness and Physical Education

	9th Grade
ENGLISH	English 1
HISTORY	World Civilizations 1
MATHEMATICS	Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Algebra 2 Honors
SCIENCE	Biology, Biology Honors
WORLD LANGUAGES*	Chinese: Novice 1-Intermediate 4; French: Novice 1–Intermediate 5; Latin: 1-4; Spanish: Novice 1-Intermediate 4
ARTS	Public Speaking
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	FITT 4 Life

*USM's World Language department offers coursework ranging from Novice 1 through AP-level in Spanish, French, Chinese, and Latin (AP Chinese and AP Latin are not offered every year). Students are placed in courses according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language's standards for proficiency. Students move from one course to another as their competencies increase, but not always necessarily each school year.

Most Rigorous Courses

Honors courses	AP courses	Post-AP courses
6	18	9

Class of 2025 Advanced Placement Data

1+ AP course:	4+ AP courses:	7+ AP courses:
96%	60%	17%

Class of 2025 Honors Data

1+ Honors course:	4+ Honor courses:	6 Honors courses:
56%	29%	10%

National Merit Scholarship Program

Class of:	2025	2024	2023
National Merit Finalists	5	6	7
% of Graduating Class	5%	6%	7%

(continued on reverse)

Grading System

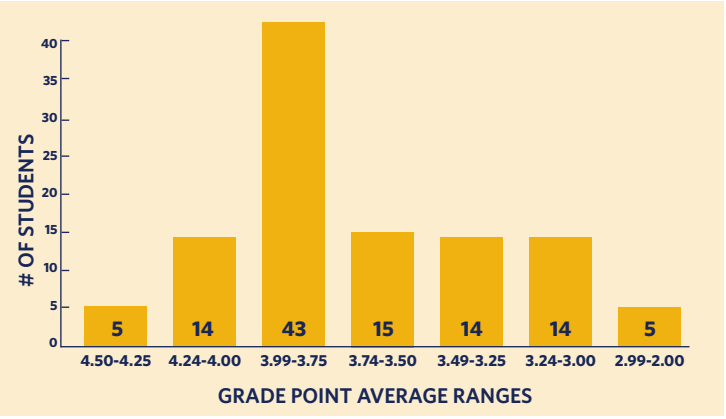
USM grades on a weighted A-F scale (A=4).

***Only* AP grades are enhanced by a multiplier of 1.15. Honors classes are *not* weighted.**

USM does not rank its seniors.

Top weighted GPA for class of 2025 at sixth semester: 4.42

The graph below shows the Class of 2026 (111 students) six-semester weighted GPA distribution, August 2022–June 2025.



Disciplinary Reporting: USM expects students to adhere to our community's Common Trust and to disclose violations of the Common Trust that result in a suspension to institutions that ask.

Standardized Testing (Class of 2025)

ACT Summary *(59% of class testing)*	*Class Average Using Highest Score*
English	27
Math	26
Reading	28
Science Reasoning	28
Composite	28

SAT Summary *(41% of class testing)*	*Class Average Using Highest Score*
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	662
Mathematics	667
Total 1600 Scale	1330

College Guidance Office Contact Information

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UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MILWAUKEE

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Special Programs

Tower Project: An application-based, independent, capstone research and creative project in which students work with school and outside mentors, keep a public record of progress, defend research and conclusions, and present a 30-minute TED-like talk to a USM community audience. Participation is noted on transcript as a P/F class.
Class of 2026 Tower Participants: 15

Internship and Shadowing Program: Sophomores, juniors, and seniors apply to participate in sponsored summer opportunities in the private, public, government and nonprofit sectors, and in the medical field. Opportunities vary annually.

Transcript Distinctions

Students who opt into USM's unique transcript distinction programs seek substantial intellectual and non-curricular enrichment beyond the traditional expectations of a high school graduate. Candidates for distinction are recognized on their transcripts, and distinctions are officially conferred upon graduation. Due to the comprehensive nature of these programs, only one distinction may appear on a student's transcript. All transcript distinction programs feature:

Practical application of classroom learning to real world situations;
Collaboration with peers, faculty, and professionals;
Sustained research at the college level;
Public presentation of findings/creations/achievements;
Leadership skill cultivation and practice; and
Impact on/**Contribution** to a field or population in need.

Global Scholar Distinction: A selective, application-based distinction requiring students to complete a crisis simulation, service work, and globally themed extracurricular activities, as well as four additional semesters of globally related course work, four years of study of the same language, and a senior capstone research seminar.
Class of 2026 Global Scholars: 24

Independent Science Research Distinction: Students learn research methodologies and communicate their findings through hands-on experiences. Distinction in the program is earned through completing scientific research with an expert in their field and writing a college-level paper, as well as either a) completion of Independent Science Research 1-3 and participation in three science fairs or b) selection for Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair.
Class of 2026 ISR Participants: 24

Kramlich Innovation Distinction: Students complete four additional semesters of challenging coursework beyond graduation requirements that meet the attributes, skills, and competencies characterizing innovative thinking. Students must participate in technologically themed extracurricular activities that engage their work with the broader community and complete a year-long Independent Study with an accompanying final project.
Class of 2026 Innovation Distinction Candidates: 14

Civic Leadership Distinction: Students explore issues of citizenship and service in depth through co-curricular and elective classes and service-related projects through the sophomore and junior years, culminating in an informed partnership with a nonprofit in which the student develops expertise and directly addresses an issue of concern to them through a substantial, long term project in the senior year. One hundred (100) hours of service are required.
Class of 2026 Civic Leaders: 17

College Matriculation

The 101 students in USM's Class of 2025 are attending 66 unique institutions across 29 states and two countries.