Catlin Gabel

2026–27 SCHOOL PROFILE

SCHOOL CODE: 380-845

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CATLIN GABEL SCHOOL

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Catlin Gabel is an independent, co-educational, non-sectarian day school serving students from preschool through grade 12. Founded in 1859, the school has a total of 792 students. 52% of the students who attend Catlin Gabel identify as people of color. This year, there are 324 Upper School students, grades 9-12.

MISSION

Catlin Gabel fosters compassionate and curious citizens of the world by inspiring in every student a love of learning and the courage to take responsible action.

ACCREDITATION

Northwest Association of Independent Schools; Cognia

ADMISSION

Admission is competitive, based on previous school record, recommendations, personal qualifications, and a day of observed activities and classroom participation. Each year, approximately 30% of ninth graders are new to Catlin Gabel. More than one-quarter of Upper School students receive financial aid.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A diploma from Catlin Gabel indicates successful completion of four years of high school experience. For most students, this means completion of at least 18 academic courses, including the departmental requirements outlined in this document. Students are encouraged to take no more than six academic courses at one time. Additionally, students are expected to complete an experiential learning project in May and June of their senior year. Infrequent waivers to graduation requirements may be granted for health, exceptional proficiency, and neurodiversity reasons. Waivers are noted on page two of the student's transcript.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Catlin Gabel offers a rigorous college preparatory curriculum. In addition to graduation requirements, students may choose from a variety of electives in all departments. Our course catalog, including course descriptions and prerequisites, is available at https://www.catlin.edu/upper-school-curriculum.

GRADING

Catlin Gabel's educational philosophy de-emphasizes letter grades, and student academic work is evaluated through formative assessments. Students receive formal feedback through frequent conferences with faculty and through narrative reports. Letter grades (A+ through F) are recorded once per year in yearlong courses; courses lasting for one semester are graded at semester's end. We do not rank our students, nor do we calculate and report a GPA on transcripts.

CLASS OF 2027 JUNIOR YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

	ENG	SOC ST	LANG	MATH	SCI	ARTS	COMP SCI
A+	7	10	16	5	27	38	7
A	27	39	29	23	48	29	6
A-	34	24	20	19	54	12	3
B+	10	11	6	9	11	1	1
B	5	5	1	13	8	0	0
B-	1	1	1	6	3	0	0
C+	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
C	1	1	0	2	0	0	0
C-	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

HONORS COURSES

Catlin Gabel Honors courses typically require students to have arrived at advanced mastery/proficiency of the preceding skills in the corresponding discipline. Typically, these courses meet or exceed the academic rigor or depth of Advanced Placement or college-level courses in the discipline. They assume students possess sophisticated skills in most or all of the following: analysis, communication, mathematics, abstract reasoning, and critical inquiry. Students in these classes are expected to work with greater independence and resilience, persevering through challenges and applying their learning to novel situations. In all cases, we strive to create a course catalog that offers equitable access to honors-level courses in a given discipline regardless of a student's individual circumstances or external resources.

CLASS OF 2026 STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

74 students from the Class of 2026 tested between August 2024 and July 2025; best scores reported.

SAT		
Mean	**Mid-50% Range**	**Test**
703	660–750	EBRW
701	640–760	Math

12 students from the Class of 2026 tested between August 2024 and September 2025; best scores reported.

ACT		
Mean	**Mid-50% Range**	**Test**
32	29–35	Composite

COURSE OFFERINGS AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027

SUBJECT	REQUIRED COURSES	GENERAL ELECTIVES	HONORS ELECTIVES
ENGLISH Four years required	• English 9 • English 10 • English 11: American Literature or English 11: American Studies • English 12: Honors Electives, two semester-long classes		*With the exception of the Palma Seminars and Dialogue for Democracy, English Honors Electives are available only to seniors who may select a maximum of two semester-long courses.* • English 12: Rotating Semester Electives(H) • Palma Seminar: Rotating Topics (H)* • Dialogue for Democracy (H)*
SOCIAL STUDIES Three years required	• Civics & Society • The Modern World • US History: Politics, Economics, and International Relations or US History: American Studies *Note: course capacity may limit registration for elective courses.*		• Palma Seminar: Rotating Topics (H)* • Dialogue for Democracy (H)* • Modern Middle East (H) • The Rise of the Authoritarians (H) • Philosophy (H) • Economics (H) • Gender Studies (H) • Social & Developmental Psychology (H)
SCIENCE Three years required	• Science I: Physics and Chemistry • Science II: Chemistry and Biology • One credit of electives *Note: course capacity may limit registration for elective courses.*	• Biodiversity & Conservation • Energy and Climate Change • Physics 1: Mechanics • Physics 2: Waves, Electricity, Magnetism • Ecology and the Environment • Organic Chemistry • Pathogens and Parasites • Kinesiology • Neurobiology • Evolutionary Biology • Body Systems • Experimental Chemistry • Teaching Assistant	Honors-level science courses require successful completion of Science I & II , an application, and instructor consent: • Honors Molecular Biology and Genetics(H) • Honors Inorganic Chemistry (H) *Add'l prerequisite: Experimental Chemistry* • Honors Physics with Calculus (H) • Honors Science Research (H)
MATHEMATICS Through Algebra II is required. Ninth graders are placed by exam and teacher recommendation.	• Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II or Honors Algebra II (H)	• Precalculus • Calculus • Statistics • Teaching Assistant	Honors-level math courses require successful completion of the previous course in the math curriculum sequence and/or teacher recommendation: • Honors Precalculus (H) • Honors Statistics (H) • Honors Calculus I (H) • Honors Calculus II (H)
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS Two years required	• Two credits *Note: course capacity may limit registration for elective courses.*	• Ceramics • CG Players Troupe • Interactive Media • Design Studio • Dance Intensive • Drawing • Performance Ensemble • Photography I–II • Video Production I–II • Costume Design • Lighting Intensive • Pre Portfolio and Senior Portfolio • Jazz Band • Jewelry Making • Podcasting • Morning Choir • Beginning Weaving • Songwriting • Playwriting and Directing • Woodworking • Class Piano • Marimba • Acting • Rock Band • Theater Tech and Design • Music Recording & Production I, II • Studio Explorations • Fiber Arts • Makeup Design	
COMPUTER SCIENCE		• Computer Science I	• Honors Computer Science II (H) • Honors Computer Science III (H) • Honors Computer Science Independent Research (H)
MODERN LANGUAGE Three years of a language beginning in ninth grade. Ninth graders are placed by exam and teacher recommendation.	• Chinese I • Chinese II • Chinese III • Chinese IV • Hon Chinese Seminar (H) • French I • French II • French III • French IV • Hon French Seminar (H) • Spanish I • Spanish II • Spanish III • Spanish IV • Hon Spanish Seminar (H) Students with demonstrated proficiency may also be Teaching Assistants.		

GLOBAL ONLINE ACADEMY

Catlin Gabel School is a founding member of Global Online Academy (GOA), a consortium of leading independent schools from around the world that fosters new, modern ways for students to learn and teachers to teach. GOA teachers and students share their voice on a global stage, enhancing learning and enabling the pursuit of individual passions. Courses taken through the Global Online Academy will be noted on a student's transcript.

*** Interdisciplinary course in which credit is awarded in more than one department // (H) Honors level course // Courses taken before grade nine that fulfill CGS graduation requirements are recorded in the transcript notes.**

PROGRESSIVE AND EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

Catlin Gabel is a leader in progressive education, and we continue to innovate and evolve. We prize understanding and action as educational goals, build a curriculum that integrates and encourages collaboration among different disciplines, and promote personalized learning. Our school values experiential education, the idea that people learn by doing, and our focus on experiential education includes community engagement. Our intention is that students learn through direct exposure to diverse projects, places, events and people. Our programs give students the real-world skills that they will need to work and create with others, and be part of a global society.

Consistent with our progressive mission, Catlin Gabel does not confer academic awards. A small number of community-based awards are given at the end of twelfth grade.

In addition to the experiential and progressive methods incorporated in our classrooms every day, the following programs are particular expressions of these values.

SENIOR PROJECTS

Senior projects are required for graduation and take place over four weeks in May and June, just prior to graduation. The projects are student-driven and self-directed, allowing seniors to spend their final weeks of high school pursuing a personal interest or activity of their choosing. Projects vary widely and are largely individual in nature. Students document their progress throughout the experience using a digital portfolio platform, and give a culminating presentation about their senior projects to individual advisory groups.

ENGINEERING PROGRAM

In the Catlin Gabel Engineering Program, students immerse themselves in real-world practice that draws from engineering as well as from computer science, electronics, mechanical design/fabrication, business development, public relations, community engagement, urban planning, and applied physics. Community Engineering students develop new products that make the world better; these products have won multiple international design competitions. The FIRST Robotics team regularly qualifies for the world championships and frequently wins the local Chairman's Award recognizing partnership and outreach.

PALMA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Palma Scholars Program serves as a locus of innovation at Catlin Gabel, through its distinct academic programming and student cohort. Between three and five incoming 9th graders are selected as Palma Scholars annually, based on their potential in four key areas: academics, athletics, leadership, and service. Programmatically, the centerpiece is the Palma Seminar, an interdisciplinary course open to all Upper School students that changes its subject matter annually, but consistently emphasizes experiential learning around contemporary social issues. In addition to the annual Palma seminar course, Palma scholars are required to complete a senior capstone project. Other than those courses, Palma scholars have no graduation requirements; they are empowered to shape their course load, in partnership with the program director, around their intellectual interests and goals.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The outdoor education program offers students avenues for social, physical, and emotional development on both short and extended expeditions. A number of trips are offered each year, and roughly 75% of students participate in at least one trip or class during their time at Catlin Gabel. Guided by four major pillars of Community, Reciprocity, Self Discovery, and Outdoor Craft, students learn technical travel skills, develop their environmental ethics, and live communally in small groups learning to balance their group's needs with their own. Financial aid is available to enable greater student participation.

IMMERSIVES

Immersive courses are two-week intensive experiences that allow students to engage in deep, rigorous, experiential, often interdisciplinary learning without the usual constraints of the school's routine schedule. They are required for all students in grades 9-11. Participation in an immersive will be noted with a Pass/Fail grade on student transcripts. Students may participate in a global education trip in lieu of immersives.

GLOBAL EDUCATION

The Global Education program offers 3 two-week trips each year. Destinations have included Turkey, Ecuador, India, Spain, Nepal, China, Ghana, Japan, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Morocco, Nicaragua, and Cambodia. Each year, approximately 15% of the student body participates in a global trip. Students learn inter-cultural communication, international community engagement, and group membership skills. Financial aid is provided for students in need.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ninth graders start with on-campus service days, collaborating with their advisors and local organizations to lay a strong foundation for their involvement. As students advance, tenth and eleventh graders deepen their engagement through community-focused classroom activities and take on leadership roles in clubs and student councils. Twelfth graders culminate their journey by presenting their senior projects to the Upper School, showcasing their growth and commitment to making a positive difference.

ATHLETICS

The goal of the Catlin Gabel athletics program is to ensure every coach and player embraces and fulfills the school's values of integrity, inclusion, and kindness. Players should understand that their success is directly connected to their teammates; it is a shared success. Any student who tries out makes a team in one of our eight programs at the JV2, JV, or Varsity level, resulting in high participation rates, with 77% of Upper School students participating in at least one sport, and 42% playing more than one sport. The Catlin Gabel Eagles have a rich tradition of success in athletics, including being a 21-time winner of the Oregon 3A All-Sports Award, and thirteen state championships over the past four years.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL & DISCIPLINARY REPORTING

Catlin Gabel places a great deal of responsibility on its students to act with kindness, integrity, and inclusion. In the Upper School, significant violations of the code of conduct or other school rules will result in the student appearing before the Judicial Council, a committee composed of students elected by their peers, and select faculty members who review serious violations of the community's standards of behavior. This committee carefully reviews the situation and conducts relevant interviews with the student(s) involved. The Council then makes recommendations for corrective actions to the Dean of Students who ultimately decides the appropriate consequences in consultation with the Upper School Head. It is Catlin Gabel's policy to be forthcoming when asked by a college about major disciplinary action. When requested, Catlin Gabel will report to colleges all major disciplinary incidents (those that result in suspension or expulsion) in grades 9-12.

COLLEGE ATTENDANCE 2023-2026

99% of the class of 2026 applied and were admitted to four-year colleges or universities. Catlin Gabel graduates during the last four years have chosen to attend the following colleges and universities. Numbers in parentheses designate the number of students who matriculated to the college or university during those years. Colleges attended by members of the class of 2026 appear with an asterisk.

American University
Arizona State University (2)
Babson College (2)
Barnard College
Bates College (2)
Biola University
Boston College (4)*
Boston University (4)*
Bowdoin College (4)*
Brandeis University (3)*
Brown University (2)
Bryn Mawr College (2)*
Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo (3)*
Carleton College (6)*
Carnegie Mellon University
Champlain College
Chapman University (4)
Claremont McKenna College*
Colorado College (5)*
Columbia University*
Connecticut College
Constructor University (2)
Cornell University (4)*
Creighton University
Dartmouth College (3)
Drexel University
Duke University (3)*
Emerson College (2)
Emory University (3)*
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fordham University (4)
Franklin W Olin College of Engineering
George Washington University (4)
Georgetown University (3)*
Grinnell College (3)
Harvard University
Haverford College (3)
Johns Hopkins University (3)*
Lafayette College
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield University*
Loyola Marymount University (3)
Loyola University Chicago (3)*
Macalester College (3)*
Marquette University*
Marymount University
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology(2)*
McGill University*
Middlebury College*
Mount Holyoke College*
New York University (5)
Northeastern University (6)*
Northwestern University (3)*
Oberlin College (3)*
Occidental College (5)*
Oregon State University (7)*
Pitzer College (5)
Pomona College
Princeton University
Purdue University–Main Campus (5)*
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*
Rhode Island School of Design (2)*
Rice University (5)*
Rutgers University*
Santa Clara University (3)
Savannah College of Art and Design
Scripps College (6)
Seattle University (2)
Skidmore College (2)
Smith College*
Stanford University (5)*
Swarthmore College*
Syracuse University (3)
The American University of Paris*
The New School (3)
Tufts University (9)*
Tulane University
University College Dublin*
University of British Columbia (3)*
University of California - Irvine (4)*
University of California - Los Angeles
University of California - San Diego
University of Chicago (3)*
University of Colorado at Boulder (7)*
University of Colorado at Denver
University of Denver
University of Edinburgh
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (8)
University of Montana (2)
University of New England
University of Notre Dame*
University of Oregon (6)*
University of Pennsylvania (8)*
University of Portland
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California (7)*
University of St. Andrews*
University of Texas at Austin (2)*
University of Texas at Dallas*
University of Utah (2)*
University of Virginia–Main Campus
University of Washington (4)*
Vanderbilt University
VERTO Education - London
Villanova University (2)
Virginia Polytechnic Inst. & State University*
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis (2)*
Wellesley College*
Wesleyan University (2)*
Whitman College (2)
Willamette University
William and Mary (3)*
Williams College (4)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (2)
Yale University (2)