



Concord Academy  
166 Main Street  
Concord, MA 01742

# 2016–17 Profile

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## CONCORD ACADEMY MISSION

*Concord Academy engages its students in a community animated by a love of learning, enriched by a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives, and guided by a covenant of common trust.*

Students and teachers work together as a community of learners dedicated to intellectual rigor and creative endeavor. In a caring and challenging atmosphere, students discover and develop talents as scholars, artists, and athletes and are encouraged to find their voices.

The school is committed to embracing and broadening the diversity of backgrounds, perspectives, and talents of its people. This diversity fosters respect for others and genuine exchange of ideas.

Common trust challenges students to balance individual freedom with responsibility and service to a larger community. Such learning prepares students for lives as committed citizens.

## THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Concord Academy's academic program is rooted in a love of learning. While students have ample opportunity to measure themselves against high standards, their intellectual lives are not circumscribed by competition; rather, they study in an environment that emphasizes both individual accomplishment and partnerships with teachers and peers. The curriculum at Concord Academy prepares students thoroughly and broadly, and invites them to explore and refine their interests.

## THE SCHOOL

Concord Academy is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school for grades nine through twelve, with an enrollment of 383 boarding and day students. Students come from public and private schools in sixteen states and thirteen countries and territories. Approximately one hundred new students are enrolled annually, drawn from a pool of nearly nine hundred applicants from across the United States and around the world. The ninety-six members of the Class of 2017 come from seventy sending schools. The composition of the student body currently includes thirty-one percent U.S. students of color and ten percent international students. Financial aid is awarded to twenty-five percent of the total enrollment, while the average aid award covers seventy-seven percent of the tuition. The campus, occupying thirty-nine acres, is set in Concord, Massachusetts, a small town of historic and literary significance, eighteen miles west of Boston.

## THE FACULTY

Concord Academy has a distinguished and dedicated faculty. Of the school's sixty-seven instructors, approximately eighty-one percent hold master's or doctoral degrees. Many pursue outside professional and scholarly interests; all value individuality, and work toward their students' intellectual, emotional, and moral development.

## GRADING AND RANK IN CLASS

Concord Academy does not rank its students, nor does it award any honors or prizes. Students are graded A, B, C, D, or E (failing). Students may elect a pass/fail option for non-required courses.

## GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR CLASS OF 2017

### JUNIOR YEAR COURSES

Subjects	Total Grades	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+ and below	Audit/ Pass
English	190	6	56	62	44	14	1	1	0	1	2	9
History	142	6	42	51	22	6	0	1	1	0	1	0
Modern and Classical Languages	166	20	74	35	22	18	6	2	3	0	1	1
Science	180	12	45	56	39	25	17	10	1	0	2	1
Mathematics	182	9	48	40	39	28	19	3	1	0	0	6
Computer Science	8	3	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Performing Arts	153	17	112	19	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	15
Visual Arts	83	9	36	29	14	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

DEPARTMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
English	4 years
History	2.5 years; specific levels
Modern and Classical Languages	Completion of a third-level course in French, German, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish
Science	2.5 years
Mathematics	Geometry 2 and one course beyond Algebra 2
Computer Science	Demonstrated proficiency
Performing Arts, Visual Arts	10 credits, including 2 credits in each department
Athletics	3 seasons each year for grades 9–10; 2 seasons each year for grades 11–12
Health & Wellness	Health and Wellness course in grades 9–11

All students are expected to take a minimum of fourteen credits per semester with four major courses earning three credits each per semester. The maximum credit load is twenty credits per semester. In rare cases, a student is permitted to audit courses beyond the twenty-credit limit.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS

Advanced courses, those equaling or exceeding the rigor of the AP program, are designated with a plus sign (+) preceding the course title. Students take Advanced Placement examinations in many subjects, with specific preparation for these examinations offered in advanced computer studies, modern and classical languages, calculus, music theory, and some science courses.

In May 2016, our students took 101 AP examinations in eighteen subjects: Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Chinese Language and Culture, Computer Science A, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, German Language and Culture, Latin, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Music Theory, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics, Spanish Language and Culture, Statistics, and U.S. History.

### AP EXAM RESULTS

#### 101 EXAMS TAKEN, MAY 2016

Qualifying score of 3 or better	101
Score of 5	54
Score of 4	29
Score of 3	18
Score of 2	0
Score of 1	0

## GPA AND SAT STATISTICS

	CLASS OF 2017 END OF JUNIOR YEAR	CLASS OF 2016 END OF JUNIOR YEAR	CLASS OF 2016 END OF SENIOR YEAR
<b>Average GPA*</b>	3.59	3.43	<b>3.45</b>
<b>New SAT—EBRW</b>	710	—	—
<b>New SAT—math</b>	700	—	—
<b>Average critical reading</b>	685	670	<b>686</b>
<b>Average math</b>	696	679	<b>689</b>
<b>Average writing</b>	678	684	<b>699</b>

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CLASS OF	# IN CLASS	SEMIFINALISTS	COMMENDED
2017	96	3	28
2016	95	3	20
2015	91	5	24

\*Courses taken in the ninth grade and at schools other than Concord Academy are excluded in the calculated GPA.

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2012–16

Tufts University	24	Mount Holyoke College	3	Hudson County Community College	1
New York University	19	Pitzer College	3	Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya (Israel)	1
Wesleyan University	14	Rhode Island School of Design	3	Ithaca College	1
Connecticut College	13	Swarthmore College	3	Manhattanville College	1
Middlebury College	12	Trinity College	3	Marlboro College	1
Barnard College	11	Tulane University	3	McGill University (Canada)	1
Bates College	11	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	3	Oberlin Conservatory of Music	1
Brown University	10	University of Southern California	3	Occidental College	1
Carleton College	10	University of St. Andrews (UK)	3	Olin College of Engineering	1
Colorado College	10	University of Vermont	3	Parsons School of Design, The New School	1
Cornell University	10	Vassar College	3	Pennsylvania State University	1
Northwestern University	10	Bard College	2	Pratt Institute	1
Smith College	10	Boston College	2	Providence College	1
Washington University in St. Louis	10	Brandeis University	2	Reed College	1
Yale University	9	Bucknell University	2	Ringling College of Art and Design	1
Columbia University	8	College of Wooster	2	Salve Regina University	1
Hamilton College	8	Dickinson College	2	St. Lawrence University	1
Northeastern University	7	Emerson College	2	Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)	1
Sarah Lawrence College	7	Eugene Lang College, The New School for Liberal Arts	2	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance (UK)	1
Skidmore College	7	Franklin & Marshall College	2	United States Military Academy, West Point	1
College of the Holy Cross	6	Harvey Mudd College	2	University of California, Berkeley	1
Haverford College	6	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	2	University of California, Santa Cruz	1
Kenyon College	6	High University	2	University of Connecticut	1
Davidson College	5	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2	University of Hawaii	1
Duke University	5	Rochester Institute of Technology	2	University of Maryland	1
Johns Hopkins University	5	Simmons College	2	University of Michigan	1
Muhlenberg College	5	Stanford University	2	University of North Carolina, Wilmington	1
Wellesley College	5	Syracuse University	2	University of Pennsylvania	1
Williams College	5	Union College	2	University of Pittsburgh	1
Bowdoin College	4	University of Rochester	2	University of Puget Sound	1
Carnegie Mellon University	4	University of Texas, Austin	2	University of Redlands	1
Emory University	4	University of Virginia	2	University of Richmond	1
Georgetown University	4	Bennington College	1	University of Toronto (Canada)	1
Oberlin College	4	Berklee College of Music	1	Ursinus College	1
Princeton University	4	Case Western Reserve University	1	Waseda University (Japan)	1
Scripps College	4	Clark University	1	Washington and Lee University	1
University of California, Los Angeles	4	Colgate University	1	Wheaton College	1
University of Chicago	4	Colorado School of Mines	1	Whitman College	1
University of Colorado, Boulder	4	Colorado State University	1	William & Mary	1
University of Edinburgh (UK)	4	Durham University (UK)	1	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	1
Allegheny College	3	Florida Institute of Technology	1		
Amherst College	3	George Washington University	1		
Boston University	3	Gettysburg College	1		
Bryn Mawr College	3	Goucher College	1		
Claremont McKenna College	3	Grinnell College	1		
Colby College	3	Guilford College	1		
Harvard University	3	Hofstra University	1		
Macalester College	3				

*This list indicates first-year matriculation and does not reflect college transfers. 100% of graduates attend four-year institutions either directly or after an interim year experience.*

## CURRICULAR NOTES

The **English Department** helps students become more critical and perceptive in their reading, more organized and persuasive in their writing, more expressive in their use of language, and more confident in voicing their opinions, feelings, and questions. Classes are small and highly interactive, and students at every level write frequently. In the first two years, students follow a common curriculum, preparing them for the wide-ranging junior/senior electives. With the exception of journalism courses and the writing seminar, all upper-level English electives are advanced. Approximately thirty different literature and writing classes are offered to students in the upper grade levels; no two students follow the same path through CA's English elective program.

The **History Department** fosters a love of learning about the past and an appreciation of other cultures. By examining a diverse range of peoples and societies, students gain deep knowledge of how individual thought, the creation of institutions, and cultural expression reflect the complexity of human aspirations and experiences. Students develop an understanding of United States society, its institutions, and its roots; deep knowledge of other cultures; and the ability to critically analyze primary and secondary sources and conflicting interpretations of history. All courses develop reading, writing, and research skills; upper-level courses demand college-level competence. The curriculum offers three semester-long survey classes: Early Modern Europe and United States History 1 & 2; electives span three millennia and five continents.

By requiring students to complete at least the third level of one language, the **Modern and Classical Languages Department** instills an understanding of other cultures, the increased awareness crucial in a global world, and the ability to communicate in a nonnative tongue. Since the successful study of a foreign language develops both discipline and flexibility of mind, students are trained in all four language skills—reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The curriculum offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced study of French, German, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish.

**Science** courses blend and balance content, context, skill-building, and experimentation while training students to ask good questions, to communicate clearly, and to be skeptical consumers of information. Year-long courses in the traditional disciplines of biology, chemistry, earth and environmental science, and physics are supplemented by semester electives that explore applications of the various disciplines (such as electromagnetism and oceanography). Advanced and accelerated courses in biology, chemistry, environmental science, and physics demand college-level skill and dedication. The Science Department is committed to passionate engagement with processes and ideas rather than fulfillment of standardized curricula.

## DISCLOSURE POLICY

Concord Academy views discipline as part of the educational process and normally an internal matter. However, when colleges ask admissions candidates for information about their high school disciplinary records, students are expected to respond honestly. In such a case, the student should explain in a short letter any action that involves a probation, suspension, or dismissal. One of the school's college counselors will sign the letter verifying its content. If the school's college counselor declines to sign a student's letter, the counselor may communicate independently with colleges. In addition, whether or not it is requested by a college, seniors are required to report to colleges any disciplinary action that results in a suspension or expulsion during the senior year. Such a report must be filed within two weeks of the infraction regardless of when the infraction occurs during the senior year (during application, during review, or after acceptance). The college counselor will check with colleges to confirm that this communication has occurred.

**Mathematics** courses at Concord Academy bring students to a level of proficiency at which they can apply mathematical concepts and tools to other disciplines. Math courses also guide students toward an appreciation of the beauty and interconnectedness of mathematical structures. To that end, courses are not driven by standardized tests. The curriculum is divided into a regular sequence of courses—a college-preparatory program and an accelerated sequence appropriate for students who might choose to major in math or science in college. The Advanced Topics course covers material, such as fractals and number theory, which might typically be taught during the sophomore year in college.

Given the challenge of teaching a subject that changes every moment, the **Computer Science Department** constantly revises course offerings to incorporate new technologies. Faculty members are eager to understand and contribute to emerging systems, tools, trends, and discoveries in the field, and encourage students to do the same. The Computer Studies Department offers semester courses in business and creative tools, Web and graphic design, programming and scripting. Teachers also work with students to explore emerging technologies through independent study, internships, and senior projects. Innovative classes appeal to a broad range of students' interests and abilities. Through computer studies, students find new approaches to critical thinking, problem-solving, research, communication, and creative expression.

The **Performing Arts Department** (music, theatre, and dance) has three main goals: 1) to provide students with the opportunities and tools to experience the beauty and power of the arts as creators, performers, and informed audience members, 2) to help students understand the transformative value and collaborative nature of the creative process, and 3) to ensure that students embrace engagement with the arts as an enriching lifelong pursuit. The curriculum includes more than thirty-five courses that offer exposure to a variety of genres and styles. Students are taught to think and work as artists, engaging their intellect, physical body, and imagination to create individual and collaborative works.

The **Visual Arts** program is designed to enhance students' understanding of the visual world. Faculty members help students to develop an appreciation for art from a wide variety of cultures and backgrounds, to build confidence in their own instincts, to embrace risk-taking, and, finally, to achieve a high level of satisfaction from the act of creating. To accomplish these goals, visual arts courses include instruction in studio techniques, slide lectures, discussions, and group critiques of class work. All Visual Arts faculty members are practicing artists who are equally comfortable demystifying the studio process for the beginning student as they are challenging the most advanced adolescent Rembrandt.