

2024-2025 PROFILE



HARVARD
WESTLAKE
SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

3700 Coldwater Canyon Avenue, Studio City, California 91604
(818) 487-6525 • CEEB Code 052159

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL

An independent college preparatory day school for grades seven through twelve, Harvard-Westlake School is the result of a merger between the Harvard School (for boys), founded in 1900, and the Westlake School for Girls, established in 1904. Harvard-Westlake School draws its student body from the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and is located on two campuses: the Middle School, serving grades seven through nine, is located in Los Angeles; the Upper School, with grades ten through twelve, is located in Studio City. The school is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

ENROLLMENT:

877
UPPER SCHOOL
(Senior Class: 283)

739
MIDDLE SCHOOL

1616 TOTAL

COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

Harvard-Westlake is committed to **holistic counseling**. At the beginning of the sophomore year, each student is assigned to one of twelve Upper School Deans who, over the next three years, advises the student in academic matters and counsels the student in the college application process.

190

**FULL-TIME
TEACHING FACULTY**
of whom **151** hold
advanced degrees.

GRADING SYSTEM AND RANKING POLICY

Harvard-Westlake reports both weighted and unweighted grade point averages on high school transcripts. Honors and AP courses are given an extra point when calculating a weighted grade point average.

Harvard-Westlake School does not rank its students.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The Harvard-Westlake school year includes **two semesters** of approximately **eighteen weeks each**. Harvard-Westlake operates on a block schedule, with most classes meeting every other day for **75 minutes in a six-day cycle**.

UPPER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS & DEANS

Richard B. Commons
President

Laura Ross
Head of School

Janine Jones
*Assistant Head of School
for Community and Belonging*

Beth Slattery
Head of Upper School

Jonathan Wimbish
Head of Middle School

Terry Barnum
Head of Athletics

Jamie Chan - jchan@hw.com

Sharon Cuseo - scuseo@hw.com

Erik DeAngelis - edeangelis@hw.com

Michael Durant - mdurant@hw.com

Adam Howard - ahoward@hw.com

Chris Jones - cjones@hw.com

Nia Kilgore - nkilgore@hw.com

Jee Won Lee - jwlee@hw.com

Adam R. Levine - alevine@hw.com

Sarah Miller - smiller@hw.com

Jesse Rueter - jrueter@hw.com

Teneice Wesson - twesson@hw.com

Coordinators of the Deans' Office:

Camille da Santos - cdasantos@hw.com • **Pat Nolte** - pnolte@hw.com

AP/HONORS MAXIMUMS

Harvard-Westlake offers 43 Honors courses and 14 Advanced Placement courses. Honors and AP designations denote equal rigor.

Beginning fall 2021, in an effort to encourage students to make more authentic curricular choices, we instituted an AP maximum policy.

For the class of 2025, as more faculty decided to move away from the College Board's AP curriculum and designed their own Honors courses, we changed our policy to an AP and Honors maximum of:

- **2 AP classes in sophomore year**
- **5 AP/Honors classes in junior year**
- **5 AP/Honors classes in senior year**

SPECIAL COURSE OFFERINGS

Senior Independent Study allows seniors and faculty mentors an opportunity to work together in an area of common interest. Independent study projects are designed by students; the projects are evaluated by the faculty mentors and a faculty/administrative committee.

Directed Study courses allow students the opportunity to explore topics beyond our standard curricular offerings through courses that meet twice per cycle and highlight various areas of expertise within our teaching faculty.

20 courses are offered through our Kutler Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and Independent Research. These courses offer students opportunities for research, in-depth study, and immersion across disciplines and beyond those available in traditional offerings.

SEMESTER- AND YEAR-AWAY PROGRAMS

Harvard-Westlake students may study in France, Spain, and Italy with the School Year Abroad Program, in Vermont at Mountain School, in Maine at the Maine Coast Semester, in Washington DC at the School for Ethics and Global Leadership, in Colorado at High Mountain Institute, or in Idaho at Alzar School.

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

Harvard-Westlake reports major disciplinary measures taken against a student to any college, university, scholarship program or educational program that requests such information. Harvard-Westlake will report this information at the time of application. Major disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, suspensions and expulsions occurring while the student is enrolled in grades nine through twelve. When such measures have been taken against a student after an initial application has been sent, Harvard-Westlake will send updated information reflecting this change in the student's status.

CURRICULUM GUIDE

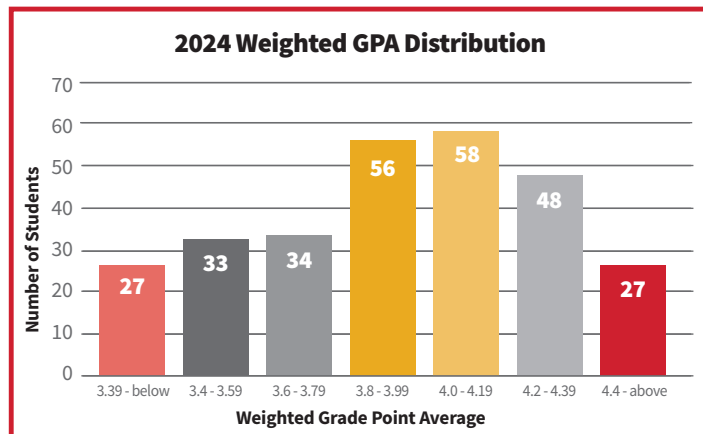
To view a list of Harvard-Westlake course offerings, please click here:

<https://www.hw.com/academics/Curriculum-Guide/Course-Descriptions>

CLASS OF 2025

Curriculum and Statistics

Distribution of all Grades in Academic Sections that Enrolled Juniors



2024 SCHOOLWIDE AP EXAM SCORES

1,195
TOTAL NUMBER
OF AP TESTS

82%
OF TESTS
SCORING
4 OR 5

96%
OF TESTS
SCORING 3
AND ABOVE

STANDARDIZED TESTING RESULTS

727
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST SAT CR

736
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST SAT
MATH

33
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST ACT
COMPOSITE

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

33 SEMI-FINALISTS

The Harvard-Westlake curriculum is designed to be college preparatory. The course of study covers six years (7th-12th). Students are required to carry no fewer than five academic subjects during each semester. All students are required to participate in the physical education program and to complete an arts and health/human development requirement. In addition, through Harvard-Westlake's Community Service Program, students perform service in the school and the community each year.

To view a comprehensive list of Harvard-Westlake course offerings and graduation requirements, please click here:
<https://www.hw.com/academics/Curriculum-Guide>

Below are the most challenging courses listed by academic department.

ENGLISH

Honors English III: Imagining America
Honors English IV: Dystopias and Utopias
Honors English IV: Good Grief
Honors English IV: Outsiders and Aliens
Honors English IV: Same House, Different Worlds
Honors English Seminar: One Life's Worth
Honors English Seminar: The Road Ahead

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES

AP Comparative Government and Politics
AP European History
AP United States Government and Politics
Honors Art History
Honors United States History
Honors Urban and Ethnic Studies
Honors World History

MATHEMATICS

AP Calculus AB	Honors Economics
AP Calculus BC	Honors Geometry
AP Calculus C	Honors Precalculus
AP Statistics	Honors Topics in Computer Science
Honors Algebra II	Linear Algebra
Honors Design and Data Structures	Multivariable Calculus

WORLD LANGUAGES

AP Latin	Honors French Language and Culture
AP Spanish Language and Culture	Honors French Literature and Arts
Honors Chinese III	Honors Latin III
Honors Chinese Language and Culture	Honors Latin Literature
Honors Chinese Literature and Culture	Honors Spanish II
Honors French II	Honors Spanish III
Honors French III	Honors Spanish Literature and Arts
	Post-AP Spanish Seminar

SCIENCE

AP Chemistry	Honors Geology
AP Environmental Science	Honors Molecular and Cellular Biology
AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	Honors Physics I
AP Physics C: Mechanics	Honors Physics II
Honors Biology	Honors Evolution and Ecology
Honors Chemistry	

VISUAL ARTS

Honors Senior Seminar: Drawing and Painting
Honors Senior Seminar: Photography
Honors Senior Seminar: Three-Dimensional Art
Honors Senior Seminar: Video Art

PERFORMING ARTS

AP Music Theory

College Matriculation

BY THE CLASSES OF 2020-2024

The first column indicates the number of students who matriculated from the Class of 2024, and the second column indicates the number of students who matriculated over the past five years.

COLLEGE	CLASS OF '24	5 YR. TOTAL
Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies	1	2
American University	1	4
American University of Paris	0	3
Amherst College	1	10
Art Center College of Design	0	1
Avon Old Farms Prep School (PG Year)	0	1
Babson College	1	2
Bard College	0	3
Barnard College of Columbia University	3	16
Bates College	1	6
Berklee College of Music	0	3
Boston College	1	13
Boston University	0	14
Bowdoin College	3	7
Brandeis University	0	4
Brigham Young University	0	1
Brown University	4	26
Bucknell University	0	2
California College of the Arts	0	2
California Institute of Technology	1	3
California Lutheran University	0	1
Cal Poly Pomona	1	1
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	0	2
California State University Fullerton	0	1
California State University Long Beach	1	2
California State University Northridge	1	4
Carleton College	1	3
Carnegie Mellon University	1	10
Case Western Reserve University	0	10
Central Saint Martins Coll. of Art & Design	0	1
Chapman University	1	5
Cheshire Academy (PG Year)	0	1
Claremont McKenna College	2	10
Clark University	1	1
Clemson University	0	2
Colby College	0	3
Colgate University	4	21
College of the Canyons	1	1
Colorado College	0	1
Columbia University	3	27
Columbia/Tel Aviv Univ Dual Degree	0	1
Columbia/Trinity College Dublin Dual Degree	0	2
Connecticut College	0	2
Cooper Union	0	1
Cornell University	13	45
Culinary Institute of America	0	1
Dartmouth College	4	16
Denison University	1	3
Drexel University	1	1
Duke Kunshan University	0	1
Duke University	2	12
Eckerd College	0	1
Ecole Hotelier Lausanne	0	1
Elon University	0	1
Emerson College	0	2
Emory University	4	12
Fordham University	1	4
Franklin University Switzerland	1	1
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering	0	1
George Washington University	3	13
Georgetown University	8	33
Grinnell College	1	4

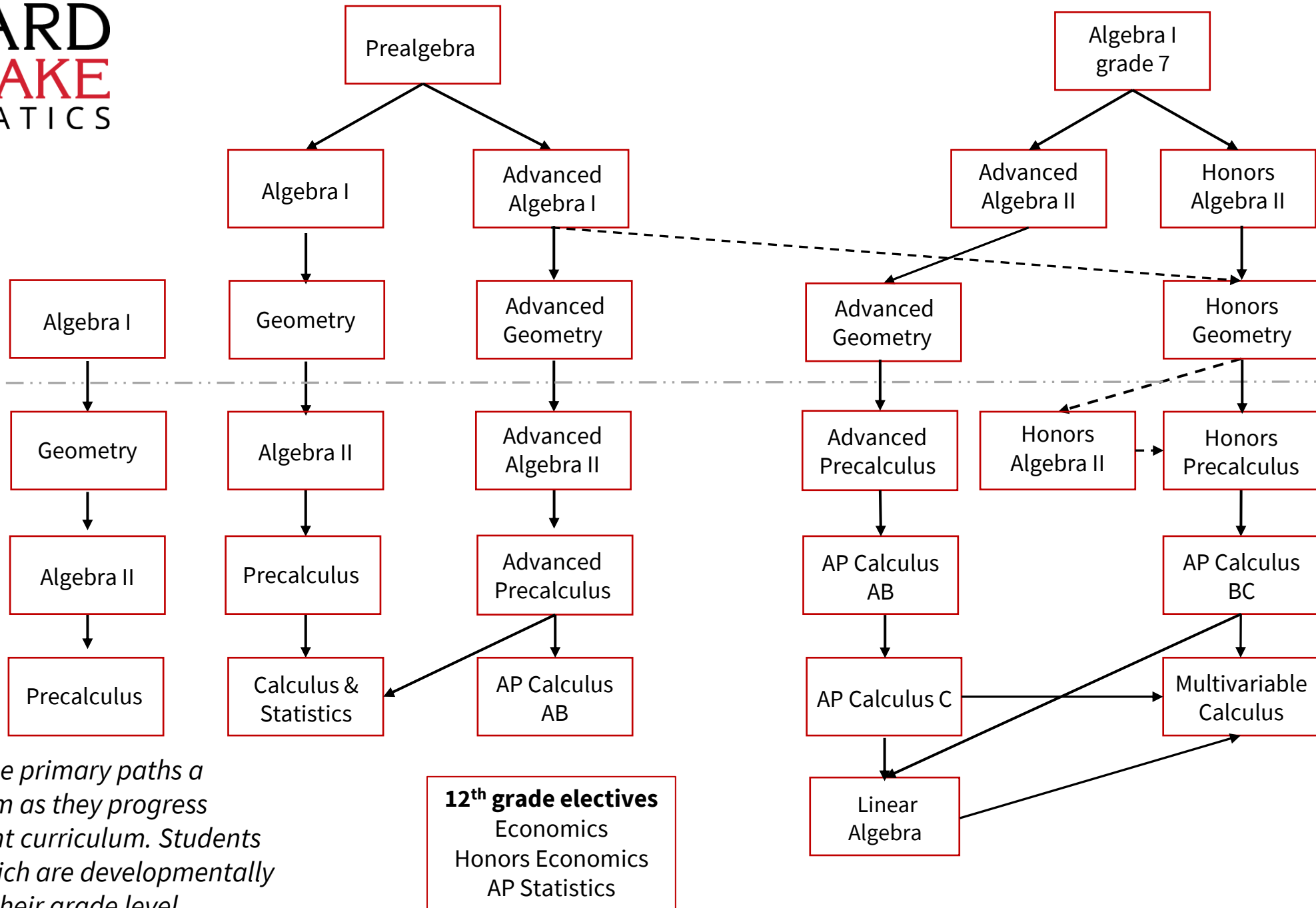
COLLEGE	CLASS OF '24	5 YR. TOTAL
Hamilton College	0	2
Hampton University	0	1
Harvard University	14	51
Harvey Mudd College	2	3
Haverford College	1	2
Holy Cross College	0	1
Howard University	5	6
Indiana University	2	7
Jewish Theological Seminary	0	1
Johns Hopkins University	0	3
Kenyon College	2	15
Lehigh University	1	1
Lewis & Clark College	0	1
Los Angeles Valley College	0	1
Louisiana State University Baton Rouge	0	1
Loyola Marymount University	2	7
Loyola University Maryland	0	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1	8
McGill University	0	4
Middlebury College	1	1
Moore College of Art and Design	1	1
Morehouse College	1	2
Mount Holyoke College	0	1
Muhlenberg College	0	1
New York University	7	75
Northeastern University	6	13
Northwestern University	0	16
Oberlin College	0	3
Occidental College	4	6
Oxford College of Emory University	1	3
Pace University	0	1
Parsons School of Design	0	5
Pasadena City College	2	4
Peabody Conservatory of Music	1	2
Penn State Behrend	1	1
Pepperdine University	0	4
Phillips Academy Andover (PG Year)	0	1
Phillips Exeter Academy (PG Year)	1	2
Pitzer College	1	6
Pomona College	2	7
Pratt Institute	0	1
Princeton University	3	17
Providence College	0	1
Purdue University	4	8
Reed College	0	3
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	0	1
Rhode Island School of Design	1	2
Rice University	0	5
Salisbury University	0	1
Santa Clara University	1	6
Santa Monica College	4	9
Sarah Lawrence College	0	4
Savannah College of Art & Design	0	1
School of the Art Institute of Chicago	1	3
Scripps College	2	7
Skidmore College	1	3
Smith College	0	2
Southern Methodist University	2	18
Spelman College	0	1
St. John's University	0	1
Stanford University	4	31
Swarthmore College	0	3
Syracuse University	5	13
Temple University	0	1

COLLEGE	CLASS OF '24	5 YR. TOTAL
Texas Christian University	1	2
The Hill School - Post Grad	1	1
The New School	0	5
Trinity College - Connecticut	0	5
Trinity University	0	1
Tsuji Culinary Institute in Osaka	0	1
Tufts University	4	24
Tulane University	2	18
University College Dublin	0	1
United States Military Academy	1	3
United States Naval Academy	0	1
University of Arizona	1	1
University of California Berkeley	12	40
University of California Davis	1	5
University of California Irvine	4	5
University of California Los Angeles	6	20
University of California San Diego	2	10
University of California Santa Barbara	1	6
University of California Santa Cruz	1	6
University of Chicago	16	76
University of Colorado at Boulder	0	9
University of Edinburgh	0	1
University of Hawai'i at Manoa	1	1
University of Illinois	1	2
University of Manchester	0	1
University of Massachusetts at Amherst	0	1
University of Miami	2	6
University of Michigan	10	64
University of Missouri at Columbia	0	2
University of Notre Dame	0	3
University of Oregon	1	4
University of Pennsylvania	7	39
University of Redlands	1	3
University of Richmond	0	6
University of Rochester	1	2
University of San Francisco	0	1
University of Southern California	8	40
University of St Andrews	2	12
University of Texas at Austin	3	15
University of the Arts London	0	1
University of the District of Columbia, UDC	0	1
University of Toronto	1	1
University of Utah	0	2
University of Vermont	0	1
University of Virginia	6	10
University of Washington	3	6
University of Wisconsin at Madison	7	19
Vanderbilt University	1	8
Vassar College	0	7
Villanova University	0	1
Virginia Tech	0	1
Wake Forest University	1	4
Washington University - St. Louis	5	39
Wellesley College	2	7
Wesleyan University	2	20
Whitman College	0	1
William & Mary	1	2
Williams College	1	8
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	1	2
Yale University	6	32



Middle
School

Upper
School



Please note that these are the primary paths a student has available to them as they progress through the Math department curriculum. Students are placed in the courses which are developmentally appropriate, irrespective of their grade level.



Middle
School

Intro to
Programming I

Intro to
Programming II

Intro to
Computer
Science

Advanced
Computer
Science

Honors
Design & Data
Structures

Honors Topics
in Computer
Science

Upper
School