

2023-2024

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:

883

UPPER SCHOOL
(Senior Class: 289)

748

MIDDLE SCHOOL

1631 TOTAL

COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

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

270

FULL-TIME TEACHING FACULTY

of whom **132** hold masters degrees
and **35** hold doctoral 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 six-day cycle**.

UPPER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS & DEANS

Richard B. Commons
President

Laura Ross
Head of School

Janine Jones
Assistant Head of School

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

Adam Howard - ahoward@hw.com

Chris Jones - cjones@hw.com

Nia Kilgore - nkilgore@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 • **Lynn Miller** - lmiller@hw.com

AP/HONORS MAXIMUMS

Harvard-Westlake offers 32 Honors courses and 20 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:

- **2 APs in sophomore year**
- **3 APs in junior year**
- **4 APs in senior year**

Beginning Fall 2023: 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:

- **3 AP/Honors in sophomore year**
- **5 AP/Honors in junior year**
- **5 AP/Honors 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, China, 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, or in Colorado at High Mountain Institute. Grades earned at semester and away programs are not factored into students' cumulative Harvard-Westlake GPAs.

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

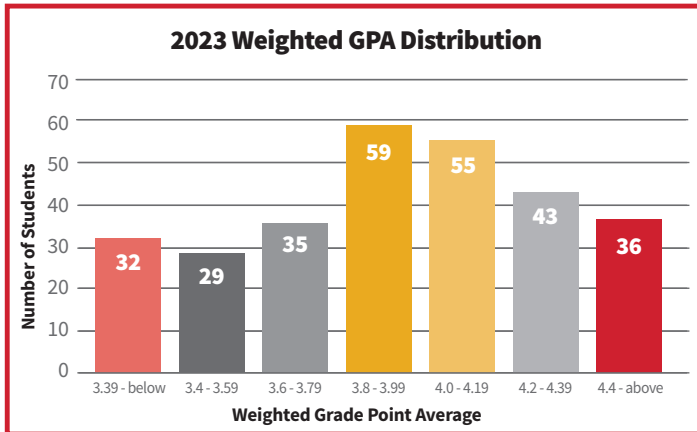
To view a list of Harvard-Westlake course offerings, please click here:

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

CLASS OF 2024

Curriculum and Statistics

Distribution of all Grades in Academic Sections that Enrolled Juniors



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 all AP and Honors courses listed by academic department.

ENGLISH

- Honors English III: Imagining America
- Honors English IV: Dystopias and Utopias
- 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 Human Geography and Urban Studies
- AP United States Government and Politics
- Honors Art History
- Honors United States History
- Honors World History

MATHEMATICS

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

PERFORMING ARTS

- AP Music Theory

2023 SCHOOLWIDE AP EXAM SCORES

1,118
TOTAL NUMBER
OF AP TESTS

78%
OF TESTS
SCORING
4 OR 5

95%
OF TESTS
SCORING 3
AND ABOVE

STANDARDIZED TESTING RESULTS

717
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST SAT
CR

736
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST SAT
MATH

33
AVERAGE OF
HIGHEST ACT
COMPOSITE

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

34 SEMI-
FINALISTS

WORLD LANGUAGES

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

SCIENCE

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

College Matriculation

The first column indicates the number of students who matriculated from the Class of 2023, and the second column indicates the number of students who matriculated over the past five years.

COLLEGE	CLASS OF '23	5 YR. TOTAL
Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies	1	1
American University	1	3
American University of Paris	2	4
Amherst College	1	14
Art Center College of Design	1	1
Avon Old Farms Prep School (PG Year)	0	1
Babson College	0	1
Bard College	1	3
Barnard College of Columbia University	3	14
Bates College	1	6
Berklee College of Music	1	3
Boston College	3	15
Boston University	5	15
Bowdoin College	1	6
Brandeis University	1	4
Brigham Young University	0	1
Brown University	6	29
Bucknell University	0	3
California College of the Arts	1	2
California Institute of Technology	1	3
California Institute of the Arts	0	1
California Lutheran University	1	2
California Polytechnic State Univ Pomona	0	1
California Polytechnic State Univ San Luis Obispo	0	2
California State University Fullerton	0	1
California State University Long Beach	0	1
California State University Northridge	1	3
Carleton College	1	4
Carnegie Mellon University	2	12
Case Western Reserve University	4	11
Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design	0	1
Chapman University	0	7
Cheshire Academy (PG Year)	0	1
Claremont McKenna College	1	9
Clemson University	1	2
Colby College	0	5
Colgate University	5	24
Colorado College	0	3
Columbia University	9	30
Columbia University and Tel Aviv Univ Dual Degree Program	0	1
Columbia University-Trinity College Dublin Dual Degree	0	2
Connecticut College	0	3
Cooper Union	0	1
Cornell University	8	40
Culinary Institute of America	0	1
Dartmouth College	3	16
Denison University	1	2
Duke Kunshan University	0	1
Duke University	3	15
Durham University	0	1
Eckerd College	0	1
Ecole Hotelier Lausanne	1	1
Elon University	0	1
Emerson College	2	3
Emory University	1	13
Fordham University	1	4
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering	0	1
Gap Year	0	3
George Washington University	0	11
Georgetown University	6	33
Georgia Institute of Technology	0	1
Gonzaga University	0	1
Grinnell College	1	5

COLLEGE	CLASS OF '23	5 YR. TOTAL
Hamilton College	0	2
Hampton University	1	1
Harvard University	13	50
Harvey Mudd College	0	1
Haverford College	0	1
Holy Cross College	0	1
Howard University	1	1
Indiana University	2	7
Jewish Theological Seminary	0	1
Johns Hopkins University	0	6
Kenyon College	3	16
King's College London	0	1
Lewis & Clark College	0	2
Los Angeles Trade-Technical College	0	1
Los Angeles Valley College	0	1
Louisiana State University Baton Rouge	0	1
Loyola Marymount University	5	9
Loyola University Maryland	0	1
Marist College	0	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1	8
McGill University	2	5
Morehouse College	0	1
Mount Holyoke College	1	1
Muhlenberg College	0	1
New York University	14	89
Northeastern University	1	9
Northwestern University	3	17
Oberlin College	2	3
Occidental College	1	2
Oxford College of Emory University	1	2
Pace University	0	1
Parsons School of Design	1	5
Pasadena City College	2	2
Peabody Conservatory of Music	1	1
Pepperdine University	0	4
Phillips Academy Andover (PG Year)	0	1
Phillips Exeter Academy (PG Year)	0	1
Pitzer College	3	5
Pomona College	1	6
Pratt Institute	0	1
Princeton University	3	19
Principia College	0	1
Providence College	1	1
Purdue University	2	4
Reed College	0	3
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	0	1
Rhode Island School of Design	1	2
Rice University	2	6
Richmond Intl. American University in London	0	1
Salisbury University	0	1
Santa Clara University	4	6
Santa Monica College	0	5
Sarah Lawrence College	0	5
Savannah College of Art & Design	1	1
School of the Art Institute of Chicago	0	3
Scripps College	2	5
Skidmore College	1	2
Smith College	0	2
Southern Methodist University	5	18
Spelman College	1	1
St John's University	1	1
St. Mary's College - Moraga	0	1
Stanford University	9	34
Swarthmore College	0	3
Syracuse University	3	8
Temple University	1	2

COLLEGE	CLASS OF '23	5 YR. TOTAL
Texas Christian University	1	1
The New School	3	6
Trinity College - Connecticut	1	6
Trinity University	0	1
Tsuji Culinary Institute in Osaka	0	1
Tufts University	3	23
Tulane University	5	22
UCD Dublin	1	1
United States Military Academy	1	3
United States Naval Academy	0	1
University of Arizona	0	1
University of British Columbia	0	2
University of California Berkeley	10	35
University of California Davis	2	5
University of California Irvine	1	2
University of California Los Angeles	4	16
University of California San Diego	1	9
University of California Santa Barbara	1	6
University of California Santa Cruz	1	6
University of Chicago	14	74
University of Colorado at Boulder	0	10
University of Edinburgh	0	1
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	0	1
University of Kentucky	0	1
University of Manchester	0	1
University of Massachusetts Amherst	1	1
University of Miami	2	5
University of Michigan	10	59
University of Missouri at Columbia	0	2
University of Notre Dame	2	4
University of Oregon	0	3
University of Oxford	0	1
University of Pennsylvania	7	39
University of Portland	0	1
University of Redlands	0	2
University of Richmond	1	7
University of Rochester	0	1
University of San Francisco	0	1
University of Southern California	0	46
University of St Andrews	1	10
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 Utah	1	2
University of Vermont	1	1
University of Virginia	2	6
University of Washington	2	4
University of Wisconsin at Madison	2	13
Vanderbilt University	2	8
Vassar College	2	9
Villanova University	0	1
Virginia Tech	0	1
Wake Forest University	2	5
Washington University - St. Louis	7	50
Wellesley College	2	7
Wesleyan University	4	21
Whitman College	0	1
William & Mary, College of	0	1
Williams College	1	9
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	0	1
Yale University	5	33