MARET

2017–2018 UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDE
MISSION
Maret is a vibrant K-12, co-educational, independent school in Washington, DC. We ignite our students’ potential and foster their academic, artistic, and athletic talents. We develop the mind, nurture curiosity, welcome challenge, embrace joy, and build community that is equitable and inclusive.

PHILOSOPHY
Maret provides a vigorous and dynamic curriculum, created by a skilled faculty of lifelong learners. We instill a devotion to academic excellence and a love for discovery and exploration. From our inception in 1911, Maret has adopted proven educational tenets while pursuing innovative approaches to learning. At every grade level, our students receive a broad and deep educational experience that allows them to cultivate individual strengths and interests.

Maret believes that social and emotional development is central to students’ well-being and success. We encourage our students to tackle challenges in a culture of nurtured risk taking. We want them to push beyond their comfort zone so they can build resilience, character, and robust problem-solving skills. We understand the need for balance in our lives and seek opportunities to infuse our school day with moments of laughter and surprise.

Maret is an inclusive community that embraces diversity of perspective, experience, identity, circumstance, and talent. Our size and single campus foster meaningful connections among students, faculty, and parents. Our historic campus and its location in the nation’s capital are integral to our program. We engage in service opportunities that enhance students’ sense of civic responsibility and leadership. Students graduate from Maret well equipped to excel in future academic endeavors and to lead confident and fulfilling lives in an ever-changing world.

Maret’s core values are respect, integrity, excellence, creativity, the individual, connectedness, and joy.
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As our Mission states, “Maret School galvanizes the intellectual, analytical, creative, and physical capabilities of our students and equips them to excel in future academic endeavors.” Understanding the rapidly evolving world in which our students live and will mature, we recognize that it is important to move beyond the traditional canon of content to concentrate on the cultivation of skills. We believe that the core program should be used to develop students’ skills in academic, physical education, and social/emotional realms. Skills are carefully woven throughout the entire K-12 program with the goal that students will have these resources at their disposal to inquire and think critically in their physical, emotional, and intellectual lives. In particular, we focus on skills in the following domains:

**Communication**
- Master multiple languages and effectively use oral, written, and multimedia formats to communicate vital ideas and information in ways that show an empathetic understanding of diverse audiences.

**Research, Exploration, and Problem Solving**
- Develop a sophisticated understanding of problem-solving and the confidence to approach complex, open-ended problems that encourage deep questioning, analytical thinking, and real-world connections.

**Wellness**
- Maintain a balanced, healthy, and happy life that emphasizes making appropriate and sustainable choices.

**Collaboration**
- Welcome the perspectives of others and learn ways to collaborate creatively, effectively, and responsibly with a wide range of people from different cultures, interests, and talents.

**Leadership**
- Embrace opportunities to see beyond one’s self and to think deeply and ethically about problems faced by communities both near and distant, and acquire and practice the leadership skills needed to responsibly address them.

**Creativity/Innovation**
- Express unique perspectives effectively through original approaches to complex questions explored both independently and in collaboration with others.

**Information, Media, and Technology Literacy**
- Thoughtfully, creatively, and responsibly use technology to explore, evaluate, and synthesize information and ideas from traditional sources and new media.

**Global Awareness**
- Develop a nuanced understanding of global challenges and appreciate the impact of our decisions and actions, both as individuals and as citizens.
Guidelines for Academic Accommodations
At Maret, both our Mission Statement and our Core Values emphasize the individual and respect for different cultures, talents, and interests. We strive to nurture and encourage the intellect, creativity, love of learning, and pursuit of individual excellence in each of our students. We recognize that this may take different forms in different students, and we embrace and celebrate those variations within our school community.

Our appreciation of individual styles helps shape the way we guide the education of our students with learning differences. The Maret faculty understands that all of our children approach learning in their own unique ways, and that some of our children have specific and special needs. We address those needs within small class settings and a flexible curriculum, with the guidance of our student support team. While we are successful with many of our students with specific needs, we also realize that these supports are limited. Maret works to ensure that efforts to serve particular students are balanced between other students’ opportunities to learn and realistic expectations for teachers.

Parents are expected to share any existing assessments or educational support plans which will allow us to determine if the School can successfully meet the needs of the student. This information will allow us to meet the child’s needs from the beginning of his/her Maret career. During a child’s attendance, parents are responsible for obtaining any services, assessments, or therapies that are recommended by a team of teachers, advisors, administrators, and student support team representatives. The School has designated funds to support those families on financial aid who need to obtain such outside services. Suggested accommodations that result from professional evaluations will be reviewed by the Maret team to determine the feasibility of their use in the classroom. The use and benefit of these accommodations will be reviewed periodically.

Targeting Success
Some of the hallmarks of Maret’s educational program include:
- Faculty who initiate close and trusting relationships with students
- Small class sizes
- A curriculum that offers breadth and affords considerable choice
- Classroom strategies that acknowledge multiple intelligences and different learning styles
- Possibilities for communication between teachers/advisors and parents beyond routine parent-teacher conferences
- Opportunities for extra help, such as the supervised study hall in Middle School or appointments with teachers
- Limited allocation of space in school for work with tutors, hired by parents
- Parent-teacher conferences and narrative evaluations that address the student as a whole person, honoring effort and improvement as well as achievement

Addressing Student Needs
Parents who expect that accommodations may be necessary for a student to work successfully at Maret are advised to begin conversations with the division director, learning specialist, teachers and advisors as early as possible. Accommodations will be considered on an individual basis, as recommended by Maret faculty and/or professional evaluations, in the context of existing resources.

In the Lower School, accommodations could include, but are not limited to:
- Preferential seating
- Verbal prompts
- Previewing material
- Supportive technology
In the Middle and/or Upper School, accommodations could include, but are not limited to:
• Opportunity to use another student’s notes or teacher’s notes when available
• Note-taking on a laptop, provided by the parent
• Alternative test/assignment formats to demonstrate competence
• Enlarged font, to increase readability
• Extended time on quizzes, tests, exams
• Use of computer/laptop to take tests and exams
• Testing in an isolated environment for reduced distractions
• Modified schedule

The College Counseling Office
The US Learning Specialist will assist parents and students with the College Board and ACT process to request accommodations. Students applying for accommodations on the College Board and/or ACT exams must have documentation on file that meets their respective guidelines. Students must be using the requested accommodations on school-based tests for at least four months prior to submitting the application to the College Board or ACT.

Maret does not provide
• Individualized Educational Programs
• Constant monitoring or one-on-one instruction/attention
• Extensive attention to drill or emphasis on rote learning
• Written description of all class activities

Learning Specialists
There are three Learning Specialists who support lower, middle, and upper school students, faculty and parents. They help interpret and summarize professional evaluations for teachers, attend parent conferences, and help plan how to best support students based on identified recommendations. The Learning Specialists act as a resource for parents and teachers by making connections to outside educational professionals when appropriate.

Counseling Department
The Counseling Department serves as a resource to all members of the Maret community, including students, faculty, staff, and parents. The school psychologist offers individual and group counseling for students on a short-term basis, acts as a consultant to faculty, and maintains an extensive network of referrals and resources based in the Washington metropolitan area. Students may receive these, or other, services offered by the school psychologist as part of our regular academic program. All services are confidential as appropriate. Under certain circumstances, confidential information may be shared with people who have a legitimate need to know it. The department is also actively involved with diversity programs, substance abuse education programs for students and parents, advisor/advisee groups, the assembly program, the human development program, and student activity groups.

Early Release for Students
The Maret community understands that our children have diverse talents and that some of our children may have specific and special needs in relation to those talents. These needs may require modifications in our traditional academic schedule, including early release. We will work in partnership with families to determine if the school can successfully meet the needs of these students. However, this may not always be possible given other curricular demands. We will review annually schedule adjustments to assess their continuing benefits and feasibility.
INTRODUCTION
Maret’s upper school curriculum is rich, challenging, and exciting. Upper school students prepare for college with intentional instruction in analytical reading and writing, study skills, laboratory work, and research methods. Working with faculty advisors, students craft a course of study that is appropriate and engaging.

Students in ninth grade take core English and history classes. In upper grades, they choose electives based on their abilities and interests. Independent study courses are available in most disciplines. Some students take advanced language or mathematics classes at other schools, including universities, or join online MSON seminars with peers from across the country. Students may enrich their education through immersive summer courses.

Upper school students develop as thoughtful, healthy, empathetic, and engaged adults who are involved in their communities. Maret’s core values (Respect, Integrity, The Individual, Connectedness, Creativity, Excellence, and Joy) become second nature to our students. Faculty, administrators, and staff ensure that

- Students are respectful of each other and of adults
- Harassing or offensive comments or acts are recognized, addressed, and corrected
- Students are academically honest and understand and avoid plagiarism
- Fair play and sportsmanship are encouraged in athletics
- Open debate and differing points of view are respected
- Creativity is celebrated

Students expand and enrich their thinking through assemblies, which include outside speakers, films, and performing groups. In each grade, upper school students have increased freedoms and are encouraged to take intellectual risks.

SCHEDULE
Ninth grade students generally take five academic courses: a foreign language, Biology or Physics with Algebra, mathematics (often Geometry), History 9: Shaping of the Modern World, and English 9: Elements of Literature. They also take two half-credit courses in the arts—one in visual art and one in the performing arts. Students are aided in the design of their academic programs; division directors and department chairs work with ninth grade students to build a challenging yet manageable schedule. Ninth grade families are invited to join in early discussion of the students’ upper school schedules.

In tenth and eleventh grades, students usually take five academic courses and one non-homework class. Non-homework classes include visual and performing arts and some technology courses. Tenth graders typically take courses in a foreign language, English 10, US History, science, math, and either art or music. Eleventh grade students take five academic courses, which typically include two humanities electives, a foreign language, science, and math. Juniors and seniors have between five and 10 free periods a week. Faculty members aid students in the crafting of their academic schedules.

With the help of division heads and advisors, seniors design their schedules to meet their individual interests and needs. Seniors must take at least four homework courses; many elect to take five. The options are flexible. Students who take four academic courses may drop foreign language or, less typically, a science course. However, some seniors choose to take three humanities courses and a language course.
REQUIREMENTS
Students are required to complete 21 credits; a credit is defined as a two-semester course.

Discipline Requirements
Humanities 7 credits
Mathematics Completion of math progression through Precalculus or 4 years of mathematics
Science 3 credits, at least one credit in each discipline of biology, chemistry, and physics.
World Languages 3 credits in 1 language OR 2 credits in each of 2 languages
Visual Art and Performing Arts 2 credits total: ½ credit in each discipline plus 1 additional credit in visual or performing arts
Physical Education 11 of 12 seasons, or participation on 2 Maret team sports per year
Community Service 30 hours

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION
Students unable to complete senior year due to unusual circumstances (medical or otherwise) may be awarded a certificate of completion in lieu of a diploma. The certificate indicates that the student successfully completed Maret’s rigorous graduation requirements in non-traditional ways.

ADVANCED AND ACCELERATED COURSES
Maret’s flexible and rigorous high school curriculum lets students explore many challenging topics in depth. Although some advanced and accelerated courses are similar in rigor and complexity to conventional Advanced Placement (AP) classes, none are designated as AP. That designation signifies adherence to an externally prescribed curriculum that might offer fewer benefits than Maret’s student-centric program. However, Maret recognizes that colleges and universities may utilize AP exam results to determine placement, especially in math, science, and languages.

Students in some advanced Maret classes opt to take an AP exam upon successful completion of a specific course. Others sit for AP exams for which Maret’s coursework has equipped but not explicitly prepared them. Maret students routinely excel in AP exams, including Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French Language, Latin, Physics C: Mechanics, Spanish Language, and US History.

The Malone Schools Online Network (MSON) is a consortium of schools funded by the Malone Family Foundation. Gifted and talented high school students (generally juniors and seniors) can participate in a variety of superior online courses, taught by subject experts. Students benefit from the courses’ commitment to excellence, small class sizes, and personal relationships with fellow students nationwide. To qualify for enrollment, students demonstrate sufficient independence and the commitment to succeed in a virtual discussion seminar setting.

MSON COURSES
MSON courses blend synchronous instruction—real-time video conferencing seminars and discussions—with asynchronous instruction—recorded lectures and exercises, which students complete outside of the class. Each course enrolls a minimum of six and a maximum of 16 students. Twenty-nine courses are offered in the 2017–2018 academic year, spanning the humanities, science, math, technology, and world languages.

MSON PARTNER SCHOOLS
Canterbury School (IN) Casady School (OK)
Chadwick School (CA)
The Derryfield School (NH)
Fort Worth Country Day School (TX)
Hopkins School (CT)
Indian Springs School (AL)
Manlius Pebble Hill School (NY)
Maret School (DC)
Mounds Park Academy (MN)
Newark Academy (NJ)
The Prairie School (WI)
Porter-Gaud School (SC)
The Roeper School (MI)
St. Andrews Episcopal School (MS)
Severn School (MD)
Stanford Online High School (CA)
Trinity Preparatory School (FL)
University School in Nashville (TN)
Waynflete School (ME)
Wilmington Friends School (DE)
Winchester Thurston School (PA)
INDEPENDENT STUDY
Students who wish to pursue an academic interest not available at Maret or through MSON may opt for an independent study in that subject, arranged with the department chair, the director of academic affairs, and the director of upper school. Any extra costs incurred through independent study are the responsibility of the family.

SENIOR OPTION
Seniors may broaden their studies by creating a senior option course with approval of the director of upper school. These courses earn a grade and a credit. Recent senior options have included coaching middle school sports, studying child development as an assistant in the Lower School, and working on a presidential campaign.

ACADEMIC AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS
Students in the top 20 percent of their graduating class are eligible for election to the national Cum Laude Society. A faculty committee representing various disciplines selects students based on engagement in intellectual inquiry, the level of courses taken, and demonstrated academic excellence. Maret also recognizes seniors’ achievements through the School’s annual Core Value Awards. The School selects the class valedictorian based on cumulative GPA, rigor of academic course load, and intellectual curiosity.

SERVICE LEARNING
Upper school students apply newly acquired academic skills and knowledge in real-life situations that promote awareness of and involvement in the larger community. Service learning projects are conducted collaboratively between the School and community organizations and are designed to meet identified needs of community partners. Students engage in short-term and sustained service learning initiatives with local, regional, national, and global communities. In the classroom, students reflect on, discuss, and write about their experiences. They develop communication skills, educational competence, and a sense of personal and social responsibility.

The ninth grade history course focuses on hunger and its relationship to major historical events. Ninth graders participate in a service retreat, serving in soup kitchens, homeless shelters, food banks, and children’s centers. They also raise funds to build schools and help AIDS orphans in Ethiopia. Upper grades engage in service learning through electives such as Chemistry in the Community, Precalculus, Civil Liberties, Advanced Spanish I, World Literature, and Advanced Environmental Science.

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMMING
At the beginning of the week, all upper school students gather together in Morning Meeting to share news of the week, athletics results, and other important information. Longer assembly periods twice a week allow students to appreciate musical performances, hear speakers from outside of school, gather for discussions on issues of current interest, and meet with their academic advisors.

Upper school students participate in over 35 student-led clubs. Faculty advisors help student leaders manage the clubs, substantively and logistically. Many clubs meet weekly during breaks; other clubs meet less frequently or seasonally.

INDEPENDENT STUDY WEEK (ISW)
ISW provides enriching educational experiences outside the traditional classroom format. Students select their top five choices and are placed in a program by the ISW chair. The School covers most ISW costs; qualified students may request financial aid for any additional fees.

FATEH LIBRARY AND CENTER FOR INQUIRY
Students develop effective research and inquiry practices through the Center’s innovative information-literacy programs. Students cultivate a lifelong love of reading and can peruse the vast online catalog of offerings on their hand-held devices.

The director of the Center supports teachers through the creation of curriculum resource programs; trains faculty in current research and information-processing techniques; and shares with other independent schools current methodologies, ideas, and best institutional and educational practices.
2017–2018 COURSE LISTING

HUMANITIES

Required Courses
English 9: Elements of Literature
History 9: Shaping of the Modern World
English 10: American Literature
History 10: United States History

History and Social Science Electives
Accelerated United States History
Advanced Economics: Macro & Micro (MSON)
African History: Panoramas, Portraits, Perspectives
The American Food System:
  Past, Present, Future (MSON), spring
Are We Rome? (MSON), spring
Building Utopia (MSON), fall
Civil Liberties
Diversity in a Global Comparative Perspective (MSON), fall
Environmental Bioethics (MSON), spring
Globalization and the Modern World
History of Nonviolence
Human Geography: Understanding Our World
  Through Spatial Relationships
Imperialism and Empire
Man’s Inhumanity to Man: Genocide and Human Rights
  in the 20th Century (MSON), spring
Mapping Inequality in DC
Law, Culture, and Society
Medical Bioethics (MSON), fall
Positive Psychology (MSON), spring
The Power of Story
The State of Black America:
  History and Literature of Race Relations in America
Topics in Psychology

Literature Electives
American Voice, American Speech: Word as Action from
  Anne Bradstreet to Donald Trump (MSON), spring
Comedy and Satire
Coming of Age in the Modern World
Comparative Literature
Contemporary American Literature
Creative Long Fiction Writing, spring
Creative Non-Fiction Writing Workshop:
  If Only You Could See this Place (MSON), spring
Creative Short Fiction Writing, fall
Creative Writing in the Digital Age (MSON), fall
Etymology of Scientific Terms (MSON), fall
Law, Culture, and Society
Literature and Theories of Knowledge
Media and Literature: Critical Approaches to MEdia,
  MEdsages, and ME, spring
Philosophy in Pop Culture (MSON), spring
The Power of Story
Religion and Literature
Speech Matters: Public Speaking in Everyday Life, fall
The State of Black America:
  History and Literature of Race Relations in America
World Literature

MATHEMATICS

Geometry
Advanced Geometry
Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Advanced Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Accelerated Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Precalculus
Advanced Precalculus
Accelerated Elementary Functions
Calculus
AB Calculus
BC Calculus
Multivariable Calculus (MSON)
Advanced Applied Math Through Finance (MSON)
Advanced Statistics: Microeconomic Theory
  and Econometrics
PERFORMING ARTS

Introductory Courses
- Band 9/Symphonic Orchestra
- Basic Acting Technique
- Croakers
- Woodley Singers
- Introduction to Technical Theatre

Advanced Courses
- Advanced Music Theory
- Concert Choir
- Film Production
- Musical Theatre Seminar
- Symphonic Orchestra
- Technical Theatre

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

Interscholastic Program

Boys
- Baseball, spring
- Basketball, winter
- Club Ice Hockey, winter
- Lacrosse, spring
- Football, fall
- Soccer, fall
- Tennis, spring

Girls
- Basketball, winter
- Lacrosse, spring
- Soccer, fall
- Softball, spring
- Tennis, fall
- Volleyball, fall

Coed
- Cross Country, fall
- Golf, fall
- Swimming, winter
- Track and field, spring
- Ultimate Frisbee, spring

P.E. and Lifetime Activities
- Dance, winter
- Running, winter
- Step Team (student run group), winter and spring
- Strength and Conditioning, all seasons
- Yoga, fall and winter

Independent P.E.

SCIENCE

Biology
- Biology (Grade 9)
- Biology (Grades 11–12)
- Advanced Biology

Chemistry
- Chem Com (Chemistry in the Community)
- Chem Study
- Advanced Chemistry

Physics
- Physics with Algebra
- Physics A
- Advanced Physics B
- Accelerated Physics C: Mechanics

Science Electives
- Advanced Environmental Science
- Advanced Topics in Chemistry (MSON), spring
- Astronomy (MSON), fall
- Astronomy Research Seminar (MSON), spring
- Biotechnology: Techniques and Applications, fall
- Comparative Ecosystems (MSON), spring
- CSI: MSON Forensic Science (MSON), spring
- Genetics and Genomics:
  - Diving into the Gene Pool (MSON), fall
- Gravitational Astrophysics, spring
- Introduction to Organic Chemistry (MSON), fall
- Lab Research in Biology, spring
- Waves, Optics, and Sound, fall

Summer Science Elective
- Subtropical Zone Ecology

TECHNOLOGY

Programming and Design Fundamentals, fall
Computer Science and Programming in Java
Computer Science:
- Beyond the Graphical User Interface (MSON)
- Data Structures and Design Patterns (MSON)
- Independent Study: Special Topics in Computer Science

VISUAL ART

Grade 9 Core Courses
- Clay Core
- Drawing and Painting Core
- Mixed Media Core
- Photography Core
- Sculpture Core

Advanced Courses
- Advanced Clay
- Advanced Computer Graphics
- Advanced Drawing and Painting
- Advanced Mixed Media
- Advanced Photography
- Advanced Sculpture
- Advanced Art Seminar: Photography
- Advanced Art Seminar: Studio Art
- Advanced Art Courses: Levels II and III
WORLD LANGUAGES

CLASSICS
Intermediate Latin
Advanced Latin Literature
Vergil and Caesar
Ancient Greek 1 (Language and Literature) (MSON)

MODERN LANGUAGES

Arabic
Arabic 1 (MSON)
Arabic 2 (MSON)

Chinese
Chinese 1: Elementary Chinese
Chinese 2: Elementary Chinese
Chinese 3: Intermediate Chinese
Chinese 4: Advanced Intermediate Chinese
Chinese 5 (MSON)

French
French 3
French 4
Advanced French Grammar
Francophone Cultures
Modern French Literature

Spanish
Spanish 1
Spanish 2
Spanish 3
Spanish 4
Comparative Literature
Hispanic Cultures
Hispanic Literature
Spanish in Film
Survey of Hispanic Literature
Topics in Afro-Hispanic Cultures

Summer Language Electives
Maret in Spain
Maret in France

Humanities

Requirements: 7 credits
Chair: Nicholas Michalopoulos
Reading lists are subject to change.

OVERVIEW
Maret’s humanities courses explore the human condition in a variety of forms, including literature, history, art, psychology, economics, philosophy, religion, and film. The Humanities Department strives to broaden and deepen the understanding of the universality of ideas, themes, and images, while emphasizing the unique qualities of individual works and events.

The range of courses meets the needs of students with varied backgrounds, interests, and abilities. Careful reading; crisp, clear writing; critical thinking; and articulate speaking are the goals of every course. Students will:

• Improve reading comprehension, interpretation, analysis, and synthesis
• Develop clear, persuasive, accurate, and imaginative ways of writing
• Engage in critical thinking through close analysis, rigorous questioning, and lively debate
• Practice public speaking through discussion, debate, speeches, and oral presentations

The Humanities Department encourages respectful in-class dialogue and advocates creative approaches to analysis, writing, and problem solving.

REQUIREMENTS
Seven humanities credits are required for graduation. Most students accrue eight or nine credits. Of these, English 9: Elements of Literature, History 9: Shaping of the Modern World, English 10, and US History are required for every student. In addition to the four required courses, students must take at least three electives: one elective that encompasses history/social studies, one that encompasses literature, and a third elective of their choice.

In all courses, students are expected to write frequently and at length, through journals, short essays (1–2 pages), and longer analytic or interpretive essays (5–10 pages). English 10, US History, and most electives require at least one substantial research paper.

Students confer with their advisors before deciding upon electives that are appropriate to their interests and needs.
REQUIRED COURSES

English 9: Elements of Literature
Students study genres and text from the Renaissance through the twentieth century to enjoy the richness of the works and understand the literary foundations that animate them: setting, characterization, theme, symbolism, and the elements of style. Students refine their critical reading abilities by learning to value—and analyze—textual patterns and writers’ decisions about language. Students develop their writing skills, focusing on clear organizational structure, effective use of evidence in analytical writing, and powerful stylistic choices. Students also develop the interpersonal skills necessary for effective classroom discussion and debate.

Texts:
- Fugard, My Children, My Africa
- Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God
- Shakespeare, Macbeth
- Shaw, Pygmalion
- Sijie, Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress
- Spiegelman, Maus
- Selected short stories, poems, and speeches

Summer Reading:
- TBD

History 9: Shaping of the Modern World
This survey of 1400 to the present provides a global-scale outlook on how the world gradually became modern. Students study political, social, intellectual, and cultural aspects of this modernizing process, examining how societies both interacted with each other and changed internally. They also learn how issues look different when viewed from different perspectives. Students use course content to hone essential skills: active reading, critical thinking, historical and comparative analysis, effective research, strong oral presentation, and clear and well-organized writing. The course’s service learning theme is how wealth, poverty, and hunger have changed over the past 500 years and continue to persist today, despite the world’s unprecedented overall wealth. Along with studying these patterns, students partner with outside organizations and take advocacy steps to address hunger and poverty issues.

Text:
- Strayer, The Ways of the World, vol. 2

Summer Reading:
- Kamkwamba, The Boy who Harnessed the Wind

English 10: American Literature
This course introduces a diverse range of texts that span American literature and examines the techniques, themes, values, and ideas that shape America’s literary tradition. Students deepen analytical reading skills, structure and support complex written arguments, and polish their ability to effectively use vocabulary and grammar by frequently writing short and long essays. A longer research paper, which places a work in historical and cultural context, hones note-taking, bibliography, and revision skills.

Texts:
- Selected American poetry
- Fitzgerald, The Great Gatsby
- Jacobs and Douglass, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl & Narrative of the Life of an American Slave
- Walker, The Color Purple
- Williams, A Streetcar Named Desire
- Yang, American Born Chinese

Summer Reading:
- English 10 and History 10 combine their summer reading to give students a choice of reading two texts from a large list of classic and contemporary American literature.

History 10: United States History
Students gain a conceptual understanding of the issues, events, and personalities that have shaped American history from colonial times to present day. They explore the tension between individual freedom and majority rule; analyze the causes and consequences of major events and developments; draw parallels between past and current events; and explore multiple perspectives on the construction and meaning of “history.” Students are encouraged to challenge their biases and preconceptions and to reach their own conclusions about American history. Students are evaluated through quizzes, tests, papers, group discussions, class projects, and short, informal writing exercises. Themes and topics in this course complement those in English 10.

Texts:
- Foner, Give Me Liberty
- Kilborne, Woodley and its Residents
- Selected primary source materials

Summer Reading May Include:
- History 10 and English 10 combine their summer reading to give students a choice of reading two texts from a large list of classic and contemporary American literature.
HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Accelerated United States History
Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: departmental recommendation

In this accelerated course, students cover American history from indigenous history to the present. Students are exposed to extensive primary and secondary sources and to the interpretations of various historians. Class participation through discussions and debates is required. Special emphasis is placed on critical reading and essay writing to help students prepare for college history courses. The course is structured chronologically, divided into nine units. Each unit includes one or more of the nine periods and/or key concepts outlined in the AP US History curriculum framework. Students are introduced to archival work and participate in historical research.

Texts:
Foner, Give Me Liberty

Summer Reading:
Zinn, A People’s History

Advanced Economics: Macro & Micro (MSON)
Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: Precalculus (prior or concurrent)
Teacher: Kelly Aull, Trinity Preparatory Day School

Advanced Economics covers basic concepts in macroeconomics, the study of economic systems, and microeconomics, the study of individual economic actors. Specific topics include the study of economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, international trade, the nature of product and factor markets, game theory, and the role of government in promoting efficiency and equity in the economy. Students deliberate on these topics, manipulate economic models, and practice “thinking like an economist.” Course completion prepares students to sit for the AP Economics exams if they wish, but this course does not strictly follow the AP curriculum.

African History: Panoramas, Portraits, Perspectives
Grades 11–12

This course spans from the origins of humanity to Africa’s present-day prospects and challenges. It addresses both developments within Africa and Africa’s relationship to the wider world. Broad panorama topics include the spread of peoples, languages, and technologies; the rise of large and small-scale states; local and world religions; slavery and slave trading; colonialism; and contemporary successes and struggles. Students use biographies and case studies for more sharply drawn portraits. Topics may include medieval Angola; slavery, gender, and early colonialism in West Africa; Liberia’s history; the Rwandan genocide of the 1990s; and Chinese-African connections. Perspectives also matter. Students consider how different groups, including students and teachers in the course, hold particular perspectives about Africa’s past, present, and future. They examine what differing perspectives can tell us about Africa, and what they can tell us about the perspective holders.

The American Food System: Past, Present, Future (MSON)
Spring; Grades 11–12
Teacher: Regina Assetta, The Derryfield School

The American Food System consists of the interrelated components of how we get food from “farm to fork,” including the producing, harvesting, processing, transporting, marketing, distributing, and the eating of food. Through a humanities-based, interdisciplinary approach, the course examines the political, social, economic, and environmental aspects of the system, as well as the challenges and opportunities in moving from our current industrial food system to a more sustainable one. Students engage in a variety of projects, allowing them to understand their regional and local food systems, while learning from their classmates throughout the country. Topics include animal agriculture, organic farming, local production and distribution, the debate over GMOs, the marketing of unhealthy food to children, and the problem of hunger in America.

Are We Rome? (MSON)
Spring; Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: US History (prior or concurrent); background in classics not required
Teacher: Michael Leary, The Derryfield School

Inspired by Cullen Murphy’s 2007 book of the same name, Are We Rome? examines the similarities between the Roman Empire and the United States. This course is a capstone for study in classics and history. The interdisciplinary nature serves as a vehicle by which students of Latin and history can expand their knowledge and apply that knowledge in an intercultural comparison. Since 1776, from our system of government to the architecture of government buildings, the United States has created many institutions using Rome as a model. This course is structured around one basic question: How can the United States learn from Rome? In our discussions, we examine, among other things, political and social ideologies, privatization, globalization, borders, and exceptionalism. Taking our beginnings from the founding of these two nations, we discuss the governing practices and bodies, the rhetoric of politics, and the public view
of governmental institutions with emphasis on how these progress and change. The course culminates with analysis of the most recent political and social events in the United States, and students form a final conclusion on our topic. Class discussions center around primary sources from both Rome and the US. Weekly reading and writing assignments are required.

**Building Utopia (MSON)**  
*Fall semester; Grades 11–12*  
*Prerequisite: None; background in ancient and European history recommended*  
*Teacher: Mary Ellen Carsley, Severn School*

Utopia, “a good place,” as defined by the Greeks, is a term coined by Sir Thomas More referring to a fictional ideal island society. The act of intentionally shaping one’s environment to be “a good place” modeled after sustainability, economy, and delight is a uniquely human endeavor. Students examine the course of Western architecture from the ancient Egyptians to the 21st century through the lens of the primary philosophic ideas that have been the drivers of aesthetic vision of Western civilization architecture through the ages. The course offers an introduction to design principles, the visual language of architecture, and design analysis. The necessities, desires, and spiritual beliefs which go into the shaping of a culture’s aesthetic vision of their ideal environment are examined in a series of seven units:  
1. Forming the Human Universe: Mark Making and the Necessity of Shelter  
2. Creativity and Humankind: Beauty Defined and the Building of Civilizations  
3. Immortality and the Gods: Building for the Greater Glory  
4. Getting Perspective: Perfect Geometry in Design and Building in the Humanist and Rational World  
5. Power and Production: Society and the Machine  
7. Back to the Future: Palimpsest and Irony

**Civil Liberties**  
*Grades 11–12*  

This course explores the range of individual freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the government’s role in protecting these liberties. Students examine such controversial topics as hate speech, prayer in schools, gun control, discrimination, abortion, and the death penalty to determine the boundaries of personal rights protected by the Constitution. Students read and analyze leading Supreme Court cases and legal commentary to develop their conclusions. Current event topics also help to shape the curriculum. Students are required to rely both on personal opinion and grounded analysis in their decision-making process. Class time centers on student dialogue and debate; all members of the class are expected to contribute actively to discussions. Students participate in local mock trial and moot court competitions, and create political videos and cartoons for national competitions. Field trips to the Supreme Court and lower level courts, as well as a wide range of guest speakers, further enrich students’ understanding of the political system. Through the content of the class, students cultivate their analytic, writing, research, and oral advocacy skills.  
*Text: Epstein and Walker, Constitutional Law for a Changing America*  
*Summer Reading: Stewart, The Summer of 1787*

**Diversity in a Global Comparative Perspective (MSON)**  
*Fall; Grades 11–12*  
*Teacher: John Aden, Canterbury School*

This course examines the ways our human family has sought to create, marshal, contest, and maintain identities through culture and relations of power. These identities can be appreciated through “lenses of analysis.” The course critically engages the traditional “Big Three” lenses of analysis: race, class, and gender, understanding that culture serves as an important backdrop against which these identities emerge. Once students appreciate the important ways the social sciences have engaged with, written about, and debated these three core modes of analysis, the course expands to incorporate other, equally rich, lenses: age, ableism, intellectual diversity, geographic diversity, cognitive and neurological diversity, and the business case for diversity, as well as how to study synergistically intertwined phenomena. Film and critical film studies, as well as the role colonialism has played in the major conflicts of the last 500 years, each serve to enrich student understandings of diversity.

**Environmental Bioethics (MSON)**  
*Spring; Grades 11-12*  
*Teacher: Ellen Johnson, Wilmington Friends School*

This course focuses on such cases as environmental sustainability, global energy, and food resources, gathered from sources in literature, journalism, and film. The academic study of ethics examines how people make decisions. Curricula builds on a foundation of theoretical moral theories, more specifically, how one makes decisions when faced with complex, often controversial, issues. No prior knowledge of philosophy is assumed; however, authentic assessment of students’ initial facility with
logical analysis will ensure that all students are challenged to grow and deepen their theoretical and practical understandings of the subject.

Globalization and the Modern World

**Grades 11–12**

Pressing issues around the meaning and impact of globalization are central to this class. Through repeated looks at the United States and case studies of China and India, students debate questions such as:

- What is globalization?
- Is globalization new?
- Does globalization promote peaceful integration?
- What role does globalization play in tension and hostility?
- Will globalization provide people new ways to fashion their identities and allow societies to shape their cultures more creatively?
- Are regional cultures crushed under the weight of corporate branding?
- How does globalization impact the world's poor?

**Texts:**
Adiga, *White Tiger*
Wise, *Cultural Globalization*

History of Nonviolence

**Grades 11–12**

Students in this seminar-style class examine the history, theory, and current day practices of nonviolence in social and political environments around the world. They engage in lively discussions as they learn the proper way to approach a seminar class and explore and analyze nonviolent techniques, such as strikes, culture jamming, conflict zones reporting, marches, and boycotts. Students study the prison industry, inner-city violence, gender and racial discrimination, environmental degradation, dictatorships, and homophobia. Projects include written film analyses and essays. Students participate in a capstone project that questions, “Are the techniques of nonviolence supporting the causes for which they stand or are there other techniques that should be adopted?”

Imperialism and Empire

**Grades 11–12**

Students will study the impacts and consequences of imperialism over time and across the world. Throughout human history, societies have employed a myriad of justifications for expanding their territories and world influence. Although such expansion invariably spurred technological advancement, and shrunk the “unknown,” the extension of power across different regions through political, cultural, economic, and military might, has, in many instances, resulted in devastating repercussions for the people living under its domain.

To gain a foundational understanding, students will read different theoretical frameworks for assessing imperialism, including conservative, liberal, Marxist, and realist perspectives. The class will also develop counter narratives for imperialism, focusing particularly on the resistance of subjugated peoples and the ethical consequences of territorial expansion. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the impacts of imperialism on both the oppressor and the oppressed, as well as obtain knowledge about the pervasive effects of imperialism today. Topics include the Ethiopian Empire, Ottoman Empire, Russian Empire, colonialism vs. imperialism, European expansion into Latin America, neo-Imperialism in Africa and Asia, impact of the World Wars and American Imperialism. Students will use both primary sources (text, art, video and literature) and secondary sources. Assignments include essays, projects, debates, and tests.
Man’s Inhumanity to Man: Genocide and Human Rights in the 20th Century (MSON)

*Spring; Grades 11–12*

**Teacher: George Dalbo, Mounds Park Academy**

The story of genocide in the 20th century stands in stark contrast to the social progress and technological advancements made over the last 100 years. As brutal culmination of nationalist and racist attitudes and policies, as well as a poignant reminder of both the cruelty and resilience of human beings, these genocides punctuate modern history with harsh reality. This course explores the many facets of genocide through the lenses of history, literature, art, sociology, and law. We attend to understanding the framing of genocide as a legal concept. Using the holocaust as our foundation, we examine examples of additional genocides from the 20th century. Ultimately, we train our attention to the enduring legacy of genocides around the world, especially as we consider attempts to recognize, reconcile, and memorialize genocide from the individual to the collective. Students read and analyze primary source material, secondary historical accounts, genocide testimony and memoirs, and examine individual fictional and artistic responses and the collective memories and memorials of whole societies.

Mapping Inequality in DC

*Grades 11–12*

Students use a map-based computer program and census data to perform original research and analysis on social science questions involving racial and economic inequality in Washington, DC. “Original research” means that students conduct analysis that has never been done before: the class will contribute their knowledge to the scholarly fields of DC history and urban policy. Students use Arc-GIS Online, Excel and Story Maps to develop digital geospatial maps that illustrate the present-day “geography of opportunity” in DC. (No prior knowledge of these programs is necessary.) They use the technology to map historical patterns of segregation and housing policy in order to document the connection between historical public policies and societal developments and present-day geographic patterns in DC.

This project-based class uses college-level approaches to learning; students obtain knowledge and understanding from primary sources, follow scientific methods of research, and employ both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Students address questions that are not known ahead of time, and learn to emphasize the mindset necessary to problem solve. They should be comfortable with a certain amount of unpredictability and with modifying an activity or project midway to adjust to unforeseen challenges. Students write two papers, take content-based tests, make several presentations, and participate in the Maret Humanities Capstone event at the end of the school year.

Law, Culture, and Society

*Grades 11–12*

*May also be taken as a literature elective*

Debate over the role of law in our society is not limited to courtrooms and newspapers; it is waged in literature, on stage, in movie theaters, on radio and television, and online. This course explores the nexus of law, society, and culture. Students study how cultural expression influences public perceptions of the law and justice. Students examine the meaning of justice, the relationship between law and morality, the difference between justice and revenge, and the proper aims of the criminal justice system, while digging into legal controversies around race, gender, social class, and sexuality. They work as historians and as cultural critics, analyzing a wide range of works such as Bryan Stevenson’s memoir *Just Mercy*, the play *The Laramie Project*, the paired novels *The Stranger* and *The Meursault Investigation*, Michelle Alexander’s *The New Jim Crow*, the documentary *Making a Murderer*, the TV series *Orange is the New Black*, and the classic legal film *The Verdict*. Students will hone their research and writing skills through literary and cultural analyses, creative projects, position papers, closing statements, document investigations, essays, and op-eds. The class is highly interactive, with discussions, debates, oral and media projects, and Socratic seminars.

Medical Bioethics (MSON)

*Fall; Grades 11–12*

**Teacher: Ellen Johnson, Wilmington Friends School**

The academic study of ethics examines how we make decisions. This course focuses on such cases as medical practice, medical research and development, and health care policy, examined through a wide array of case studies, gathered from sources in literature, journalism, and film. Curricula builds on a foundation of theoretical moral theories; more specifically, how we make decisions when faced with complex, often controversial, issues. No prior knowledge of philosophy is assumed; however, authentic assessment of students’ initial facility with logical analysis will ensure that all students are challenged to grow and deepen their theoretical and practical understandings of the subject.
Positive Psychology (MSON)  
**Spring; Grades 11–12**  
**Teacher: Blake Keogh, Waynflete School**

This course provides a historical context of positive psychology within broader psychological research, and helps explain why the field is of particular importance to those in a high school or college setting. Students are introduced to the primary components and related functions of the brain in order to understand the biological foundation of our emotional experiences. Current research is used to develop a broader sense of what positive psychology is and is not, and how it can be applied in students' own lives. Additionally, students gain an understanding of basic research methods and their application to the science of psychology. This course will require substantial reading (sometimes on par with 100 level college courses) and writing. Students are asked to reflect regularly on their individual experiences in order to integrate course material into their daily lives. One of the key learning outcomes is to have each participant identify his or her own strengths while simultaneously recognizing and respecting the attributes others bring to the course.

The Power of Story  
**Grades 11–12**  
*May also be taken as a literature elective*

“The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon.”  
Brandon Sanderson, *The Way of Kings*

Stories are essential ways we come to know ourselves and the world around us. Stories affirm who we are, where we have been, and allow us to experience the similarities and differences between ourselves and others. This course will examine how we choose to tell stories, whose stories get told, and the impact of these decisions on how we learn history. This course will first focus on the art of storytelling, looking at the building blocks of what makes a strong narrative. Students will then study different vehicles for storytelling—primarily centering on literature, film, and television, but also exploring oral traditions, art, animation, radio, and newer digital platforms. We will use experts from the field to deepen our understanding of the elements of compelling storytelling. The course will draw from both past and contemporary history as its source material, with broad topic areas to include stories of war and conflict, migration, social upheaval, discovery and innovation, and cultural clash. In addition, students will experiment with a range of mediums to tell their own stories, those of others and those of history. This course will be largely student-driven and project based, providing class members the opportunity to pursue content that is interesting and exciting to them. This course will emphasize and develop students' analytic, research, communicative, creative, and collaborative skills.

The State of Black America: History and Literature of Race Relations in America  
**Grades 11–12**  
*May also be taken as a literature elective*

Through a survey connecting history, literature, and the arts, students grapple with the defining features of the African American experience. Curriculum includes:

- Close reading of canonical and non-canonical writers,
- Analysis of political movements including slave revolts, American Reconstruction, Harlem Renaissance, American Civil Rights Movement, Black Power, Hurricane Katrina, Black Lives Matter, and current events
- Discussion of recurring themes such as the Great Migration, art and music, lynching and racial violence, racial passing, etc.

From Douglass to Baldwin to Tupac, students draw upon primary sources (film, print, and other art mediums), scholarly articles, and YouTube videos to enrich discussions. Students engage in class discussions, write essays, and produce a variety of projects, including a three-month long capstone research poster project on race relations.

Topics in Psychology  
**Grades 11–12**

- What type of learner am I?  
- What motivates me?  
- How does my brain influence my behavior?  
- How do I better use my memory and intelligence to improve my performance for that next test?  
- What type of personality do I have?  
- How do social interactions affect my individual decision making?

Students ponder these and other questions about the human mind, the individual, and real-world behavior. They seek to understand the mind’s capacities and limitations in biological, cognitive, developmental, and sociocultural senses as well as how individual minds vary.

The course balances inquiry and story to engage students in discussion- and activities-based approaches and examinations of topics including:

- Biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, and consciousness
- Learning and human development
- Memory and language
- Thinking and intelligence
• Motivation and emotion
• Stress and health
• Gender and sexuality
• Personality and psychological disorders, and their treatments
• Social cognition, influence, and interactions

Students also learn to apply psychological knowledge by exploring case studies, developing observational skills, creating and administering surveys, and running small experiments. They select topics for independent research and presentation such as how psychology affects and is affected by class status, gender, sexuality, race, and ethnicity; work environments; sports and entertainment; schools and prisons; health; driving and traffic; evolution; religions; social media, etc. Students design and report on their own experiment for the Maret Humanities Capstone event.

Texts:
Branagh, Shakespeare’s Hamlet with Screenplay, Introduction and Film Diary
Licht, Hull, and Ballantyne, Scientific American: Psychology, 2nd Edition (rental available; required with LaunchPad access)
Marcus, The Norton Psychology Reader

Film:
Branagh (dir.), Hamlet (1996)

LITERATURE ELECTIVES

American Voice, American Speech: Word as Action from Anne Bradstreet to Donald Trump (MSON)
Spring; Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: US History (prior or concurrent)
Teacher: Sharon Louise Howell, Indian Springs School

Students listen across history to the American voice—from Bradstreet and John Winthrop, through Franklin, Thoreau, Whitman, Dickinson, Jacobs, Douglass, Twain, Cole Porter, James Baldwin, and Gertrude Stein, to MLK, Dylan, Steinem, and Obama. We listen to music, look at art and film, and consider the more tangled “voice” of advertising, television, and political theater. Even as it has proliferated and transformed, the American voice has maintained an urgent ambivalence about what it means to speak the truth, who should speak it, and to what end. Some of our guiding questions are: What does it mean to speak as an American—to have an “American” voice? Does it have a distinctive character? Does it want to cause trouble, or solve problems, or both? Does it need to interact with history? We look at the ongoing, central tension in much of American speech between the individual and the democratic collective, and also consider the related tension between reflection and action as conditions of possibility. We also investigate what forms of speech are surrounding our students and how we might replicate them in order to understand them. Among other writing assignments, students maintain an ongoing analytical blog and submit a final paper on a topic of choice in consultation with the teacher.

Comedy and Satire
Grades 11–12

In addition to making people laugh, comedies and satires often raise provocative questions about society and its treatment of individuals. In this course, students learn and use theories of humor to explore classic and contemporary comedic works and their own senses of humor. Students interrogate whether humorists challenge or reinforce societal values relating to gender, race, sexuality, and social class. As they investigate the often-controversial nature of comedy and satire, students consider whether there are lines that these works should not cross. Units often team older and newer works, such as Shakespeare’s original romantic comedy Much Ado About Nothing with contemporary film rom-coms, Plautus’s plays with modern films involving stock characters, and Lorraine Hansberry’s drama A Raisin in the Sun with the satire Clybourne Park that picks up where Hansberry’s play ends. Students write both analytically and imaginatively, honing their powers of persuasion in formal essays and developing their creative flair in comedic pieces. Students engage actively with one another through in-class discussions, online discussion forums, peer feedback, formal presentations, and debates.

Coming of Age in the Modern World
Grades 11–12

In coming of age stories, characters encounter internal and external challenges as they leave a state of innocence (childhood) and transition into a state of knowing (adulthood). This course examines novels written from the 1950s to the present, as well as short stories, essays, and films that complement core texts. Students analyze works from multiple perspectives to understand how factors of environment—race, culture, school, historical era, class, religion, and gender—dictate, provoke, complicate, or demand a particular character’s progress. They also look at how families (traditional and nontraditional models along with mentor or friend groups), schools, the nature of the individual, and times of crisis influence a character’s evolution. Students write in class (journals and quotation analyses), present well-crafted and supported analytical essays (culminating with a year-end essay presentation and defense), and complete creative and personal work.
Texts:
Akhtar, American Dervish
Carr, The Liar's Club
Kincaid, Annie John
Knowles, A Separate Peace
Morrison, The Bluest Eye
Smith, Ordinary Light
Excerpts from:
Beatty, The Sellout
Equiano, The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, Or Gustavu Vassa, The African

Comparative Literature
Grades 11–12
May also be taken as a Spanish elective
Students connect contemporary Spanish-speaking authors with international counterparts through a comparative study of their works that isolates and explores common literary and philosophical concepts. Literary works are grouped by theme and studied concurrently. Selected units explore the topics of tension between individual and society; narrative ambiguity; tension between individual and family; the nature of reality; the role of mathematics in literature; and Cain and Abel's allegory in literature and film. Class discussions are in Spanish. Spanish works can be read in English translation. Papers are written in English.

Texts:
Borges, Fictions
Camus, The Plague
García Márquez, Chronicle of a Death Foretold
García Márquez, Eyes of a Blue Dog
Kafka, The Trial
Kafka, The Metamorphosis
Unamuno, Abel Sánchez
Unamuno, Don Manuel Bueno Mártir

Viewings:
Abre Los Ojos
Amadeus

Summer Reading:
García Márquez, One Hundred Years of Solitude

Contemporary American Literature
Grades 11–12
Students consider how authors interrogate the “politics of identity” in order to make their works compelling, effective, and critical. Through study of form and content, students explore how writers encounter boundaries and use their characters as vehicles to reconcile the limitations imposed on them as authors. Throughout the course, students discuss how and why marginalized writers create, collapse, and capitalize on hybridized identities to enrich their writing. The texts scrutinize various versions of “Americanness” and explore racism, privilege, and power. The coursework includes expository and creative writing assignments, oral presentations, interviews, and play-acting. Students practice defining and shaping workable, original, and complex thesis statements. Emphasis is on constructing strong, well-supported, and compelling arguments that join social theory with original thought and careful analysis. All the while, students explore their own identities and how they intersect with those identities explored in books.

Texts:
Lahiri, The Namesake
Bulter, Kindred
Díaz, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
Dillard, Teaching a Stone to Talk
Wolfe, The Colored Museum
Lorde, Zami: A New Spelling of My Name
Wallace, Consider the Lobster

Summer Reading:
Alexie, Flight

Creative Long Fiction Writing
Spring; Grades 11–12
As creators of fiction, students approach novel writing from a critical and exploratory lens. They read Philip Roth, Toni Morrison, William Faulkner, Zadie Smith, Anne Lamont, Elena Ferrante, and others to explore the question, “Where does the magic happen?” Students write scenes, create dialogue, draw setting, build character, time pacing, and fine-tune voice and other elements of their craft. They explore daily writing strategies and other habits necessary to grow as writers. Students complete the first chapter of their own book-length work and a portfolio of shorter works.

Creative Non-Fiction Writing Workshop:
If Only You Could See this Place (MSON)
Spring; Grades 11–12
Teacher: Susan Conley, Waynflete School
How do we write great non-fiction (and this includes all flavors of essays—college essays, literary journalism, memoir, and more), so that our stories have an injection of narrative tension that invites the reader to sit down inside our stories and stay a while? This workshop helps you become a better writer so that your stories contain an electrical charge that starts at the sentence level and travels through the entire piece. This tension, or electrical charge, is the engine that great non-fiction runs on. Students search the places in one's life that have mattered most, and using a series of fun writing prompts, generate new writing, using place as a portal to help land on the
life stories that students’ most want to tell. Later, the class moves into workshops of each student’s work. Each session also looks at other specific craft aspects: primarily beginnings, endings, and the weaving of multiple story lines in one essay.

Creative Short Fiction Writing  
*Fall; Grades 11–12*  
Teacher: David Seward, Winchester Thurston School  
Students discover how writers such as Phillip Lopate, Natalia Ginsburg, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and James Baldwin explore huge moments with relatively few words. They read works by Ray Bradbury, Alice Walker, Lydia Davis, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Edwidge Danticat, and Ken Liu and study the concepts of “flash fiction” and coming-of-age stories. Students write daily short pieces of fiction as they work on character building, setting, shaping a short narrative, and other elements of the craft. Ultimately, students produce a completed short story.

Creative Writing in the Digital Age (MSON)  
*Fall; Grades 11–12*  
Teacher: Julia Maxey, Severn School  
Storytelling is as important today as it was hundreds of years ago. What has changed, in many cases, is the media through which writers tell their stories. Today’s literary artists take advantage of digital tools to spread their messages and tell their stories in new ways that combine narrative and contemporary form. Students begin with the traditional forms of poetry, short prose, and literary non-fiction and then go beyond those forms to explore how contemporary tools can enhance expression. Students study master writers in each of the traditional forms and are inspired by their examples. Then, they look at how communication in the 21st century has provided us with even more ways to share our thoughts and to be creative. Possible explorations include hyperlinked narratives, social media as inspiration and tool, animated text, audio, videos, and all manner of non-linear narrative. The class asks an essential question: What happens when communication becomes wider and has an instant audience? The class routine, based around writing, reading, and discussion, includes weekly critiques of student work and required writing, including in some non-traditional, contemporary formats.

Etymology of Scientific Terms (MSON)  
*Fall; Grades 11–12*  
Teacher: David Seward, Winchester Thurston School  
The purpose of the course is, to quote the textbook, “By teaching … the root elements of medical terminology—the prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms of Greek and Latin … not only to teach students modern medical terminology, but to give them the ability to decipher the evolving language of medicine throughout their careers.” This is in many ways a language course, and deals with elements that are used to create terms to meet the specific needs of medical scientists. As material is introduced, students complete practice exercises during each class meeting, as well as complete approximately one quiz per week. Outside of class, students are expected to analyze and define fifty terms each week. Additional material deals with especially complex etymologies, the history of our understanding of certain aspects of medical science, and relevant material from Greek and Latin texts.

Law, Culture, and Society  
*Grades 11–12*  
*May also be taken as a history and social science elective*  
Debate over the role of law in our society is not limited to courtrooms and newspapers; it is waged in literature, on stage, in movie theaters, on radio and television, and online. This course explores the nexus of law, society, and culture. Students study how cultural expression influences public perceptions of the law and justice. Students examine the meaning of justice, the relationship between law and morality, the difference between justice and revenge, and the proper aims of the criminal justice system, while digging into legal controversies around race, gender, social class, and sexuality. They work as historians and as cultural critics, analyzing a wide range of works such as Bryan Stevenson’s memoir *Just Mercy*, the play *The Laramie Project*, the paired novels *The Stranger* and *The Meursault Investigation*, Michelle Alexander’s *The New Jim Crow*, the documentary *Making a Murderer*, the TV series *Orange is the New Black*, and the classic legal film *The Verdict*. Students will hone their research and writing skills through literary and cultural analyses, creative projects, position papers, closing statements, document investigations, essays, and op-eds. The class is highly interactive, with discussions, debates, oral and media projects, and Socratic seminars.

Literature and Theories of Knowledge  
*Grades 11–12*  
In this philosophy-based literature course, students develop a coherent approach to learning and understanding through thoughtful inquiry into different ways of knowing and different types of knowledge. They focus on how reality is perceived, with emphases on Plato and Aristotle’s doctrines. Students question their assumptions about reality through diverse philosophical and literary texts, and try to answer this seminal question: *What level of certainty, if any, can I assign to a
given assertion of knowledge? Through diverse readings in various genres, students reflect on their own experiences as learners and discover how different academic disciplines are interconnected. They read literary works that explore realms of knowledge spanning the arts to mathematics, and make connections between and across ways of knowing and areas of knowledge. They read a combination of excerpts from philosophical works and complete works from various literary genres, including Aristotle, Cantor, Descartes, Frege, Gödel, Heidegger, Hume, Kierkegaard, Kant, Leibniz, Locke, Machiavelli, Maimonides, Nietzsche, Pascal, Plato, Rousseau, Russell, Sartre, and Wittgenstein.

Summer Reading:
Read: Pirsig, Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance
Watch: Andy and Lana Wachowski, The Matrix Nolan, Inception

Texts:
Carroll, Through The Looking Glass
Doxiadis, Logicomix: Epic Search for Truth
Hesse, Narcissus and Goldmund
Mann, Death in Venice
Murakami, Hard-Boiled Wonderland and the End of the World

Media and Literature: Critical Approaches to MEdia, MEssages, and ME

Spring
Students examines the relationships between the various mass media which flood their daily lives, the messages that they intend as opposed to the message actually received, and their effects on us as we attempt to make sense of them all. Studying the evolving ethical dilemmas society faces as more media technologies and media cultures are developed, students debate questions such as:
- Why, over time, have television shows tended to be so similar?
- Should the difference between reality and media simulations matter to consumers?
- How has the Swoosh, the trademark of the Nike Corporation, become so important in many people’s lives?
- Why has social media become the driving force in most people’s day?
- Does reality television do more harm than good for its audience?
- How does the choice of media affect or reflect the intended message?

Students write in class and prepare longer, well-crafted and supported analytical essays. They also engage in several creative writing projects and presentations, including the creation of an advertising campaign.

- Huxley, Brave New World
- Media, Ethics, and Literature packet (TBD)
- Ott and Mack, Critical Media Studies (2nd Edition)
- Wilson, The Story

Film:
Terms and Conditions May Apply
The Truman Show

Philosophy in Pop Culture (MSON)

Spring
No prerequisite, but some familiarity/experience with logic helpful
Teacher: Joyce Lazier, Canterbury School

Have you ever had a realistic dream that you were sure was true and then woke up confused? How do you know that you are not in the Matrix? What is real and what is not? This course investigates the nature of existence. It combines classic philosophic works, like Descartes, with contemporary movies like The Matrix and Inception, to contemplate what it is to exist and what the meaning of life is or should be.

Materials required:
Netflix subscription.

The Power of Story

Grades 11–12
May also be taken as a history and social science elective

“The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon.” Brandon Sanderson, The Way of Kings

Stories are essential ways we come to know ourselves and the world around us. Stories affirm who we are, where we have been, and allow us to experience the similarities and differences between ourselves and others. This course examines how we choose to tell stories, whose stories get told, and the impact of these decisions on how we learn history. The first focus is on the art of storytelling, looking at the building blocks of what makes a strong narrative. Students then study different vehicles for storytelling—primarily centering on literature, film, and television, but also exploring oral traditions, art, animation, radio, and newer digital platforms. Experts from the field deepen the students’ understanding of the elements of compelling storytelling. The course draws from both past and contemporary history as its source material, with broad topic areas including stories of war and conflict, migration, social upheaval, discovery and innovation,
and cultural clash. Students experiment with a range of mediums to tell their own stories, those of others, and those of history. The course is largely student-driven and project based, providing class members the opportunity to pursue content that is interesting and exciting to them. Students’ analytic, research, communicative, creative, and collaborative skills are emphasized and developed.

Religion and Literature

Grades 11-12

Students explore some ways in which religious faith—both inside and outside of organized religion—has shaped writers and their literary works in different times and places. Some texts celebrate orthodox viewpoints, others critique them, and still others offer complex perspectives on how religion can interact with race, gender, sexuality, and other cultural markers to influence identity and expression. Students explore stories in which characters grow out of and into belief, as well as those that raise questions about how religion helps—or hinders—those seeking to make sense of our challenging world. Along with analytical essays and research projects, students have opportunities to explore their own religious (or secular) perspectives and to write personally and creatively about their views.

Texts (subject to change):
- Baldwin, Go Tell It on the Mountain
- Adichie, Purple Hibiscus
- Akhtar, The Who and the What
- Atwood, The Handmaid’s Tale
- Narayan (tr), Ramayana
- Ozeki, The Face
- Sidhwa, Cracking India
- Potok, The Chosen

Speech Matters: Public Speaking in Everyday Life

Fall

“Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel.” —Ralph Waldo Emerson

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” —Dr. Maya Angelou

Students examine the significance of public speaking throughout history and in our contemporary world. Students also study the art and craft of speech as the coalescing of words, voice, and body to create a powerfully unique connection to the audience. The course guides students to intentionally develop public speaking skills that will give them advantages in communications and leadership throughout their lives.

Students discuss rhetoric and public discourse by reading, watching, and studying historic speeches from world figures like Pericles, Queen Elizabeth, Sojourner Truth, Adolf Hitler, Angela Davis, Lou Gehrig, Barry Goldwater, Benazir Bhutto, Nelson Mandela, Angela Merkel, and Emmanuel Macron. Students also focus on delivery of informative speeches, persuasive speeches, and speeches for special occasions. Studying various prepared and extemporaneous delivery styles, including TED Talks, toasts, inaugurations, debate, and storytelling, students practice speechmaking in different real-world situations. They also engage in exercises where improvisation, taking risks, and messing up help build their confidence before an audience. Throughout the course, students reflect on their growth as speakers, listeners, readers, and learners. As writers, they craft creative composition, face personal fears of public speaking, and develop stronger voices. Students conclude the course with a culminating speech performance of presentation.

Texts:
- Fraleigh and Truman, Speak Up!: An Illustrated Guide to Public Speaking (4th edition)
- Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

Course packet, selected readings and speeches

Film:
- Hooper (dir.), The King’s Speech
- Washington (dir.), The Great Debaters

The State of Black America: History and Literature of Race Relations in America

Grades 11-12

May also be taken as a history and social science elective

Though a survey connecting history, literature, and the arts, students grapple with the defining features of the African American experience. Curriculum includes:

- Close reading of canonical and non-canonical writers,
- Analysis of political movements including slave revolts, American Reconstruction, Harlem Renaissance, American Civil Rights Movement, Black Power, Hurricane Katrina, and current events
- Discussion of recurring themes such as the Great Migration, art and music, lynching and racial violence, racial passing, etc.

From Douglass to Baldwin to Tupac, students draw upon primary sources (film, print, and other art mediums), scholarly articles, and YouTube videos to enrich discussions. Students engage in class discussions, write essays, and produce a variety of projects, including a three-month long capstone research poster project on race relations.
World Literature
Grades 11–12
Students explore fiction, poetry, and essays from England, Pakistan, Mexico, Iceland, Japan, Nigeria, Columbia, and the United States to consider literature and its significance in various cultural contexts. The course focuses on the power of imaginative literature to challenge the status quo. Students read a variety of classic and contemporary works, learning how authors from different times and places have portrayed the relationship between fiction and reality, and how stories can contribute to social and historical change. The course also emphasizes collaborative learning; along with traditional assignments (reading, quizzes, informal journal entries, analytical essays), students participate in activities aimed at constructing shared knowledge about why humans read and write stories.

Texts:
- Achebe, Things Fall Apart
- Akutagawa, Rashomon
- Bennett, History Boys
- Dangarembga, Nervous Conditions
- García Marquez, Chronicle of a Death Foretold
- Hamid, Exit West
- Shelley, Frankenstein
- Sjon, The Blue Fox
- Turgenev, First Love
- Urrea, Into the Beautiful North

MATHEMATICS
Requirements: Completion of the math progression through Precalculus or four years of mathematics
Chair: Susan Lenane
See chart on page 35 for sequence of math courses.

Mathematics at Maret is innovative, exciting, rigorous, and challenging. Students at all levels grapple with complex problems, work collaboratively, and present solutions. They acquire content, practice skills, think creatively, synthesize ideas, and master a range of problem-solving techniques. Throughout the program, students utilize technological resources appropriately to explore real data, model natural phenomena, and solve complex equations.

The mathematics program reflects a range of abilities, learning styles, and interests. The department offers regular, advanced, and accelerated courses; placement is made through consultation with students, families, and teachers. The program is flexible; students choose an appropriately challenging schedule each year and are not locked into a specific math track. Most Maret students take four years of high school mathematics.

Geometry
Students learn about the patterns and shapes that form the foundation of the physical world. They explore two- and three-dimensional shapes and participate in inquiry-based activities that require a synthesis of ideas. Traditional two-column proof is deemphasized; students make conjectures and prove theorems using algebra and coordinate geometry. They practice skills while studying:
- Patterns
- Points
- Lines and angles
- Triangles
- Trigonometry
- Quadrilaterals
- Polygons
- Circle
- Solids
- Non-Euclidean geometry

During the second semester, students broaden computational and design-thinking skills through a weekly programming class. They gain a basic understanding of how to create a program using Python, test code, and project revision.

Advanced Geometry
Students are challenged with problems that require creative thought and a willingness to persevere when solutions are not apparent. They focus on the development of algebraic and geometric problem-solving strategies, and effectively and efficiently communicate through oral presentation of their work. During the second semester, students broaden computational and design-thinking skills through a weekly programming class. They gain basic understanding of creating a program using Python, test code, and project revision. Geometer’s Sketchpad software is used as an exploratory and problem-solving tool.

Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Students explore families of functions: characteristics, graphs, and real-world applications. They review operations with rational numbers and study rational functions, asymptotes, and graphs. With the aid of a graphing calculator, students represent functions graphically, numerically, and algebraically. They examine the applications of function using hands-on labs, videos, and interactive websites.
Advanced Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Students explore a variety of functions—exponential, polynomial, rational, and trigonometric—with a focus on the patterns in function behavior. Students apply their knowledge to unique problems that do not lend themselves to an algorithm. They develop learning strategies, critical-thinking skills, and problem-solving techniques vital in a data-driven world.

Accelerated Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Students take part in a rigorous, enriched survey of advanced algebra concepts, skills, and applications. They undertake an in-depth study of functions—exponential, polynomial, rational, and trigonometric. Students analyze the graphs of functions as visualizations of mathematical models. They are challenged to stretch their mastery of skills by applying knowledge to novel situations.

Precalculus
Students reinforce and extend their problem-solving and analytical skills. They continue to explore families of functions, focusing on the relationships between functions and their inverses. They study probability and statistics and the fundamental ideas of calculus. Students work with Maret lower school students as Math Buddies, reinforcing their own understanding of mathematics concepts by explaining them to young children.

Advanced Precalculus
Students gain a deep understanding of the fundamental concepts and applications of functions. Students build upon their knowledge to creatively incorporate algebraic and geometric concepts when solving novel problems.

Accelerated Elementary Functions
Using a problem-solving format, students work on challenging multistep problems, utilizing geometry, trigonometry, and algebraic skills. They learn about vectors, parametric equations, and polar coordinates as they explore new ways to convey mathematical ideas. Students engage in lively dialogue and exhibit conceptual understanding.

Calculus
Students explore the fundamental concepts and problem-solving techniques of calculus and study limits and derivatives in depth. Students are introduced to the basic mechanics and applications of integration. Using a conceptual approach to calculus, students review prerequisite mathematics and problem-solving strategies. Successful students will be prepared for introductory college calculus.

AB Calculus
The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, “The only constant is change.” Students learn the basic mathematical methods used to analyze phenomena that change. Through the study of limits, derivatives, integrals, and differential equations, students model population growth, profit maximization, and dynamic motion. Successful students may take the AP Calculus AB Exam.

BC Calculus
This college-level course is a study in single-variable calculus. Students explore differentiation and its applications; integration techniques and problems utilizing the integral; differential equations; and infinite sequences and series. They also study the history of calculus. Successful students may take the AP Calculus BC Exam.

Multivariable Calculus (MSON)
Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: BC Calculus
Teacher: Joshua Link, Maret School
The mathematics of three dimensions is the emphasis of this college-level course. Multivariable Calculus explores the geometry of three-dimensional space, including vector arithmetic. It also explores three-dimensional surfaces, using the tools of derivatives and integrals expanded into multiple dimensions. A robust unit on differential equations allows students to review the topics of single-variable calculus. The emphasis throughout the course is on problem solving and on real-world applications of the tools students learn in fields such as economics, astronomy, physics, engineering, and medicine.

Advanced Applied Math Through Finance (MSON)
Spring; Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: Algebra II
Teacher: Julien H. Meyer III, Severn School
Students explore a mathematical and conceptual framework with which to make important personal financial decisions using algebraic tools. Specifically, the class will investigate i) the time value of money (i.e., interest rates, compounding, saving and borrowing) using exponential functions; and ii) the characteristics and risk/reward tradeoff of different financial instruments/investments, such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, using algebra, probability, and statistics. Other financial algebra topics selected with student input may include financial accounting, depreciation methods, and foreign currency exchange. The course will stress use of the
TI-83/84 calculator, Excel spreadsheets, and iPad apps. Students should be comfortable with exponential growth models and, preferably, the concept of the number e for continuous compounding. They should exhibit an interest in mathematical reasoning and display a hefty dose of curiosity about the language and problem-solving nature of personal finance.

Advanced Statistics: Microeconomic Theory and Econometrics

**Prerequisite: Precalculus (concurrent or prior)**

Students learn basic microeconomic theory including:

- Concepts of opportunity cost
- Comparative advantage
- Supply and demand
- Elasticities
- Theory of the firm
- Short and long run equilibrium models of perfect competition
- Imperfect competition
- Strategic interactions in pricing and product differentiation

Students also study the statistical tools used to test the empirical validity of economic theories: descriptive statistics, univariate and multivariate linear regression, non-linear logistic regression, probability, hypothesis testing, survey design, and the software tools necessary to execute these techniques. Students read published journal articles utilizing these methods, design and execute their own empirical research projects, and learn how entrepreneurs use statistics and economic theory to produce business plans and break-even analyses. Where appropriate, students who have completed single or multivariable calculus will be offered optional extensions of the materials.

PERFORMING ARTS

**Requirements:** ½ credit in performing arts, plus one additional credit in either advanced art or music.

**Chair:** Eser Ozdeger

The Performing Arts Department develops self-expression through theatrical and musical arts. By creating, performing, analyzing, and critiquing dramatic and musical performances, students broaden their view of the world.

Through music, students develop vocal, compositional, and instrumental technique. They also examine the basic elements of music: melody, harmony, form, rhythm, texture, and timbre. Participating in performing arts ensembles, students develop aesthetic sensitivity, advance their vocal and instrumental skill, and experience success in a group structure.

In drama, students view and construct dramatic works and study performance techniques in large group settings. Maret’s theatrical productions introduce students to acting technique, dancing, and singing, set building and design, and aspects of life set in historical periods.

Accomplished students may also choose to study music or drama on an independent basis.

INTRODUCTORY LEVEL COURSES

½ credit

**Band 9/Symphonic Orchestra**

**Prerequisites:** Two or more years experience playing a standard orchestral wind or percussion instrument (or department approval)

Students develop their playing skills through the rehearsal of scales, etudes, and standard band repertoire. They practice correct posture, breathing, sight-reading, form, historical periods, and musicianship. Students perform at several school concerts and one off-campus concert.

**Basic Acting Technique**

Students acquire basic acting techniques and terms through performance exercises that acquaint them with the fundamental tools of acting: voice and body. Students learn how to analyze a script as an actor, identify the circumstances of a scene, and develop a character's physical actions. They perform monologues and scenes for the class and finish the year with a performance in front of a small audience.
Croakers
Male students develop singing skills, focusing on healthy vocal technique. They explore a wide variety of choral literature, including combined repertoire with the Woodley Singers. Performances are given both on and off campus throughout the year.

Woodley Singers
Female students develop singing skills, focusing on healthy vocal technique. They explore a wide variety of choral literature, including combined repertoire with the Croakers. Performances are given both on and off campus throughout the year.

Introduction to Technical Theatre
Students gain introductory technical experience in stage carpentry, lighting, and sound. They learn the skills necessary to work backstage for a live production and are encouraged, but not required, to work on the fall and/or spring tech crew for a Maret theatrical production.

ADVANCED COURSES

Advanced Music Theory
Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: Basic performance skills in voice or instrument.
In this college-level course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand, and describe basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. They study aspects of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition, as well as music history and style. Students work on musicianship skills: dictation and listening, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony. Successful students may take the AP Music Theory Exam.

Concert Choir
Grades 10–12
Students in this advanced, selective singing ensemble refine their vocal ability and enhance their sense of style. They study sight-reading, solo singing, and performance technique and explore a varied repertoire in accompanied and a cappella works. They participate in two major on-campus concerts, numerous off-campus performances, and a short tour during ISW.

Film Production
Grades 10–12
Students acquire technical, creative, artistic, and historical background in the fields of video, broadcasting, and film production, as well as an understanding of the essential elements for a live production and how content is consumed by contemporary viewers. They gain experience in audio production, lighting technique, video editing, story development, special effects, and production management while learning to operate a variety of camera systems. Students produce films in several categories including documentary, commercial, and traditional film styles.

Musical Theatre Seminar
Grades 10–12
Students explore the repertoire and history of the American musical theatre and develop performance skills through collaborative participation. Using films, images, recordings, libretti, and musical scores, students consider the musical as a reflection of American popular culture. Students analyze, prepare, and perform material from a range of musicals. After completing this course, students will be able to interpret and perform a song from the American musical theatre, taking into consideration character, context, and performance practice; analyze and break down a song into text, rhythm, and notes; understand the history and leading figures in American musical theatre; and relate the development of musical theatre to its social and political context. Field trips may include outings to view musical theatre productions.

Symphonic Orchestra
Grades 10–12
Prerequisites: Two or more years experience playing a standard orchestral wind or percussion instrument (or department approval)
Students develop their playing skills through the rehearsal of scales, etudes, and standard band repertoire. They practice correct posture, breathing, sight-reading, form, historical periods, and musicianship. Students perform at several school concerts and one off-campus concert.

Technical Theatre
Grades 10–12
Students with an interest in technical theatre learn all major facets of stagecraft. They take part in hands-on class projects, work on Maret productions during class time, and are encouraged, but not required, to spend time outside of class working on Maret productions.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETICS

Chair: Liz Hall

OVERVIEW
Maret’s physical education and athletics programs center on student achievement and enjoyment. Through a variety of team and individual physical activities, students learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. Students develop skills, learn basic rules and strategies, and gain an understanding of the importance of lifelong physical fitness.

The school year is divided into three athletic seasons. Students partake in a combination of physical education and/or interscholastic team sports 11 of the 12 seasons between Grades 9 and 12. Students who successfully complete 11 seasons may choose a one-season exemption during senior year. An exception is made to this requirement for students who participate in two team sports in one year: They have the option of taking the third season off.

Interscholastic Team Sports
Thirty Maret junior varsity and varsity teams participate in interscholastic competition:

Fall
Cross Country, Coed Varsity
Football, Boys Varsity
Golf, Coed Varsity
Soccer, Boys JV and Varsity
Soccer, Girls JV and Varsity
Tennis, Girls Varsity (boys in spring)
Volleyball, Girls JV and Varsity

Winter
Basketball, Boys JV and Varsity
Basketball, Girls JV and Varsity
Club Ice Hockey, Boys Varsity
Swimming, Coed Varsity

Spring
Baseball, Boys JV and Varsity
Lacrosse, Boys Varsity
Lacrosse, Girls JV and Varsity
Softball, Girls Varsity
Tennis, Boys Varsity (Girls in fall)
Track and Field, Coed Varsity
Ultimate Frisbee, Coed Varsity

Girls compete in the Independent School League (ISL) and boys compete in the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC). Participation on interscholastic teams is encouraged. Tryouts are required for team sports; selection is based on ability.

Physical Education and Lifetime Activities
Students choose activities that promote lifelong physical fitness and pleasure. All activities are held after school and include:

Fall
Strength and conditioning
Yoga

Winter
Dance
Running
Step Team (student run group)
Strength and conditioning
Yoga

Spring
Step team (student run group)
Strength and Conditioning

Independent Physical Education
Prerequisites: Department approval
Students who wish to pursue an activity not offered at Maret may apply for an independent P.E. program, including verification of time fulfilled and instruction received. Three hours of supervised instruction per week are required.

Recent independent P.E. programs include horseback riding, crew, dance (jazz, ballet, and modern), martial arts, and rock climbing.

SCIENCE

Requirements: 3 credits; at least one credit in each discipline of biology, chemistry, and physics
Chair: Reyna Pratt

See chart on page 36 for sequence of science courses.

Maret’s upper school science program includes a wide selection of courses in each discipline, geared to a range of scientific abilities and interest. Students have several options for progressing through the program; see the accompanying sequence chart for possible scenarios.

The Science Department provides students with
challenging hands-on experience and instruction. Three years of science are required; most students complete four or more courses. Some juniors and seniors take two sciences concurrently. Students are required to take a course in biology, chemistry, and physics. Some courses develop the advanced knowledge and laboratory techniques needed to excel in college science; others provide students with the breadth of scientific knowledge and problem-solving skills needed in real world situations.

Maret has three fully equipped upper school science labs. Every science course is laboratory-based and designed to encourage critical analysis and the application of mathematics at a level appropriate to the course. Technology is used to enhance data collection and analysis.

**BIOLOGY**

**Biology**

**Grade 9**

Students develop the scientific writing, research, and analytical thinking skills required to succeed in numerous disciplines. Students engage in activities, laboratory investigations, and discussions to develop their understanding of the unifying themes of modern biology. Topics include:

- Ecology
- Evolution
- Cells
- Microbiology
- Genetics
- Plant biology and photosynthesis
- Cellular respiration
- Human biology and reproduction

Students collect and analyze data using a variety of tools, including computer-based lab probes, spreadsheets, and graphing software. Lab exploration includes basic microscopy, dissection, and models of biological processes. Students demonstrate their understanding of the material with research-based lab reports, models, and other projects.

**Advanced Biology**

**Prerequisites: Biology, Chem Study**

Students come to understand biology in the context of evolution and homeostasis from the molecular to the organismal levels; develop their analytical thinking skills as biologists; and prepare for college-level biology. This comprehensive, college-level survey of general biology covers:

- Evolution/speciation/origins of life
- Biomolecules
- Cellular biology
- Metabolism
- Molecular genetics and heredity
- Molecular biology
- Biodiversity structure and function of organisms
- Ecology
- Organ systems of Homo sapiens

Students acquire laboratory skills such as experimental design, instrument use, technique, data collection and interpretation, analysis, and writing experimental conclusions. Six weeks of lab are devoted to *Drosophila melanogaster* crosses and the interpretation of the results.

**CHEMISTRY**

**Chem Com (Chemistry in the Community)**

This course emphasizes the everyday impact of chemistry as students explore the important role that it will play in their personal and professional lives. Class discussions, laboratory activities, and exercises in decision making and problem solving develop students’ aptitude in understanding major chemistry concepts and applying important scientific skills. Units include water, chemical resources, petroleum, food, nuclear chemistry, air and climate, and health. The approach is less quantitative and is more application-based than the Chem Study course. The course integrates a service-learning component.

**Chem Study**

**Prerequisite: Current science teacher recommendation**

Students engage in a quantitative approach to chemistry. Emphasis is on the scientific method and a careful development of the theoretical aspects of chemistry from an experimental viewpoint. Students acquire problem-solving skills and the ability to deal mathematically with the theoretical material. Topics may include:

- Basic stoichiometric relationships
- Thermochemistry
- Gases and their ideal behavior
- Development of modern atomic theory from a historical perspective
- Periodic table
• Bonding and kinetics
• Equilibrium
• Acid-base reactions
• Oxidation-reduction reactions

Students use laboratory experiments to draw inferences from their data and to deduce principles of chemistry. Lab work counts for about 25 percent of the grade each marking period. Students considering enrolling in Advanced Biology or Advanced Chemistry should take Chem Study.

Advanced Chemistry
Prerequisites: Biology, Chem Study

Taught at the college level, this course covers topics included on the AP Chemistry Exam. Students learn essential lab techniques necessary for college science. They work independently, in small groups, and with lab partners. Lab work constitutes about 35 percent of the course. Topics covered include an in-depth study of equilibrium, thermodynamics, kinetics and bonding, quantum mechanics, acid base chemistry, and electrochemistry, as well as some nuclear and organic chemistry. College-level lab experiments involve acid base titrations, qualitative analysis, a variety of separation techniques, gravimetric analysis, redox titrations, spectrophotometry, and synthesis reactions. Students may take the AP Chemistry Exam, but it is not required.

PHYSICS

Physics with Algebra

Students develop a strong understanding of fundamental physics topics and their applications to everyday science through hands-on laboratory exercises and activities, problem solving using algebra, and group discussions of concepts seen in action. They delve into many branches of classical physics, including motion and energy, the nature of waves, light and sound phenomena, and electricity. Students receive ongoing support in note taking and organization as well as a great deal of practice in solving multistep problems.

Physics A
Co-requisite: Precalculus, Calculus, or AB Calculus

Students explore the theory and application of classical mechanics, energy, electrostatics, and circuits. Equal emphasis is placed on studying the concepts of physics, problem solving, and applications to the real world. Students learn to recognize both explicit and implicit information and they use graphical techniques and vector analysis to more deeply understand physical situations.

Advanced Physics B
Co-requisite: Advanced Precalculus, Accelerated Elementary Functions, or AB Calculus

Students are exposed to classical mechanics, electrostatics, and circuits on a level similar to that presented in an introductory college physics course. Study of the underlying concepts of physics, multistep problem solving, and applications to the real world are emphasized. Students will learn to use graphical and algebraic representations of functions to model the physical world, make predictions, and discover patterns. Labs and lecture demonstrations occur throughout the course and involve qualitative and quantitative analysis of experimental results. Topics covered include the graphical description of motion, constant acceleration, two-dimensional motion, forces and Newton’s Laws of motion, conservation of energy, electrostatics, and circuits.

Accelerated Physics C: Mechanics
Co-requisite: AB Calculus or BC Calculus or beyond

This mathematically rigorous college-level introduction to physics is intended for students likely to pursue college science or engineering. Students study classical mechanics, the analysis of motion, Newton’s laws, projectiles, momentum, friction, springs, energy, gravity, and rotational motion. They demonstrate their understanding by making predictions, solving problems, and performing labs. Labs occur every two weeks and emphasize finding and analyzing patterns in data. Second semester tests are cumulative to help students prepare for the AP Physics C: Mechanics Exam.

ELECTIVES

Advanced Environmental Science
Prerequisites: Biology and either Chem Study or Chem Comm

Using a systems approach, students study the ways in which humans impact and are impacted by the environment. They explore the science behind major environmental issues and ask how humans can live more sustainably. Students review ecology and evolution as well as:

• Human population
• Environmental health
• Energy (including fossil fuels, nuclear, and alternative sources)
• Urbanization
• Water resources and their pollution
• Soil and agriculture
- Air pollution
- Global climate change

Students achieve a deeper understanding of current environmental issues and improve their ability to rationally judge environmental arguments. Students may choose to take the AP Environmental Science Exam.

**Advanced Topics in Chemistry (MSON)**

*Spring; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisite:** Chem Study

**Teacher:** David Walker, Maret School

Students explore real-world applications to chemistry that are often skimmed over or omitted in most chemistry courses. Possible topics include nuclear, medical, atmospheric, industrial, food, water, and consumer product chemistry. Students learn how a nuclear power plant works, how fuels are chemically altered for vehicles, and what chemicals are added to drinking water. The class explores the history and life events of scientists who discovered the chemical elements and have impacted the history of the world through chemistry. This course will be heavy in applications and theory, leaving out much of the problem-solving found in other courses. Students will explore the periodic table for daily applications and technologies, from cell phones to photovoltaic cells to medical treatments. Students will create presentations for their classmates on nuclear and chemical topics of interest, and these presentations will be the major assessments for the course.

**Astronomy (MSON)**

*Fall; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisite:** any upper school physics course

**Teacher:** Kalee Tock, Stanford Online High School

Students are introduced to historical and modern astronomy. Topics include the nature of light, the atom, telescopes, and orbits. In addition, students learn about the life cycles of stars, including an introduction to dark matter and black holes. Through various activities and experiments, students explore our place in the universe as well as the relative scales of astronomical objects. Engaging with current research, students examine the modern astronomical data used to search for and categorize the thousands of planets outside our solar system, and the considerations involved in the ongoing search for extra-terrestrial life.

**Materials required:**
- Lab kit

**Astronomy Research Seminar (MSON)**

*Spring; Grades 11–12 (priority to Grade 11)*

**Prerequisite:** any upper school physics course

**Teacher:** Kalee Tock, Stanford Online High School

Students are introduced to modern research in astronomy by performing actual research. After learning about binary stars, teams of students will select a binary system, take images of it using the SkyNet robotic telescope network, analyze the images in the context of past observations of the system, and write a paper for the *Journal of Double Star Observations*. Once their paper has been through a process of peer review by the journal editors, the data point will be added to the Washington Double Star Catalogue.

**Materials required:**
- Access to an Apple computer with Python installed

**Biotechnology: Techniques and Applications**

*Fall*

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chem Study (or Chem Com and instructor’s permission)

Students explore the many techniques used in a biotechnology setting and develop an understanding of how these techniques are used in scientific research. Students must be able to function relatively independently in the laboratory (after directions and demonstrations are provided) and to complete independent follow-up. Students perform hands-on techniques including the extraction and electrophoresis of DNA and proteins; restriction digestion of DNA; amplification of DNA using the polymerase chain reaction; and the cloning of DNA. They share their study of fluorescence and its many applications (e.g., microscopy, DNA sequencing, and microarrays) in oral presentations. Students discuss how these techniques help solve real-world problems. They also learn how to use the biomedical research bibliographic database PubMed and begin the transition from using online resources to primary scientific literature. Students choose a final research paper or project accompanied by an oral presentation.

**Comparative Ecosystems (MSON)**

*Spring; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Teacher:** Marks S. McWhorter, St. Andrews Episcopal School

Students study and understand large-scale interactions between biological communities and their physical environments on a global scale. Students study geological processes, soils, and nutrient availability, analyze how these characteristics shape environments, and examine nutrient cycling, weather and climate, water cycles, and organismal interactions among these systems. Students engage in interactive lab-based projects examining
ecosystems within their own environments, and compare these results with their peers, as well as data from ecosystems around the globe. This style of analysis creates an opportunity for students to compare and contrast data and understand how statistics and collection methods are used to appropriately study communities and ecosystem processes. Students also collect data on the environment in which they live. By studying material in an immersive setting, students see how ecological interactions occur and appreciate how climate systems connect these habitats on a global scale.

**Materials required:**
- Lab kit

**CSI: MSON Forensic Science (MSON)**

*Spring; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisites:** Completion or concurrent enrollment in Chem Study or Biology and Algebra II

**Teacher:** Carrie Lopez, Trinity Preparatory School

This course is designed for those interested in learning the discipline of forensic science and crime scene investigation. Students are introduced to some of the specialized fields of forensic science and topics include blood spatter and pattern analysis, death, ballistics, trace and glass evidence, toxicology, entomology, anthropology, serology, and DNA fingerprinting. Students explore the forensic analysis of substances such as glass, soil, hair, bullets, gunpowder, blood, and drugs. This class includes a mixture of laboratory experiments, demonstrations, and expert speakers.

**Materials required:**
- Lab kit

**Genetics And Genomics: Diving Into The Gene Pool (MSON)**

*Fall; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisites:** Chem Study and Biology

**Teacher:** Paula Phillips, Trinity Preparatory School

This course emphasizes classic Mendelian genetics, molecular genetics, and population and evolutionary genetics. Topics include structure and function of genes (and the genome), biological variation, and gene regulations. Subsequently, the course explores what experimental research has taught us about genome analysis methods, and our use of this information in society. Topics include recombinant DNA technology, mathematical models, and statistical methods for data analysis. Papers from current and classic literature will supplement lecture materials.

**Materials required:**
- Access to compound microscope, slide of onion root tip mitosis, laptop

**Gravitational Astrophysics**

*Spring; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 & Trigonometry and any physics course (concurrent or prior)

Students delve into the concepts and mathematics of Newton’s Law of Universal Gravitation within the context of astrophysics. Topics include orbital motion of satellites and planets, the structure of the sun, escape speed, black holes, the search for exoplanets, and ocean tides on Earth. Students will engage in periodic physics lab experiments, virtual labs on the computer, and independent projects.

**Introduction to Organic Chemistry (MSON)**

*Fall; Grades 11–12*

**Prerequisite:** Chem Study

**Teacher:** David Walker, Maret School

This course provides useful background information in organic chemistry by covering topics not typically found in high school chemistry courses. Students gain insight into the importance of the chemistry of carbon compounds to our daily lives. Topics covered include organic nomenclature, structural formulas, stereochemistry, bonding, reaction mechanisms, and chemical transformations of functional groups. Completion of the course should make students more confident in their chemical background when entering college biology or chemistry courses. Much of the content learning occurs outside of class through online videos. Class time is used to review material and to answer homework questions.

**Lab Research in Biology**

*Spring semester*

**Prerequisites:** Biology and Chem Study required. Advanced Biology (fall semester) or Biotechnology recommended.

In this laboratory-based class, students learn the practical implementation of the scientific method as applied to an experiment of their own design. They use two invertebrates: *Caenorhabditis elegans* and *Drosophila melanogaster* as model eukaryotic organisms for study. An introduction to PubMed and the critical reading of primary literature assist the students’ developing understanding of the importance of a sound hypothesis. Students design an appropriately controlled experiment, preferably using one of the model organisms. They utilize the same processes used by working scientists to conduct a valid study. Students produce data that can
be quantitatively analyzed for its biological implications rather than a demonstration of a fundamental principle. Self-motivated students will take instruction, stay organized, and maintain an accurate record of their laboratory experience.

**Waves, Optics, and Sound**  
*Fall; Grade 11–12*  
**Prerequisites: Algebra 2 & Trigonometry and any physics course (concurrent or prior)**  
Students examine the theory and applications of waves, sound, and optics. They use the theory of longitudinal and standing waves to study the properties of sound waves and their relationship to the Doppler effect and to musical instruments. Students explore the nature of light along with everyday examples of physical optics such as polarizing sunglasses and soap bubbles. They use the ray model of light, the foundation of geometrical optics, to explain the physics of mirrors and lenses. Labs involving quantitative data analysis are a significant component of this course; students work independently on research projects throughout the semester.

**SUMMER ELECTIVE**

**Subtropical Zone Ecology**  
*Grades 10–12*  
**Sanibel Island and Florida Keys, Florida**

Students take advantage of the unique ecological characteristic of Sanibel Island and the Florida Keys during this five-week course. They study the marine subtropical ecology of the intertidal and neritic zones, with additional investigations of dune, mangrove, mud flat, and grass flat ecosystems. Students snorkel in order to directly examine marine flora and fauna, which is followed by thorough analysis in the laboratory. They also prepare and submit a field research project. Extensive reading and discussions of environmental literature, as well as visits by guest speakers enrich the experience.

**Technology**

Chair: Martha Cunningham

Technology education at Maret teaches students to use computers to improve academic writing and research skills, develop and reinforce programming aptitude, and express creativity. Students also develop computer skills necessary for coursework in other departments.

Students achieve competence in word processing, spreadsheet calculations, multimedia, web-based research, and presentation software. They study programming, understand a computer’s strengths and limitations, and learn technology skills for college and beyond.

Maret has a fully equipped computer laboratory and campus-wide wireless network. Computers are also available in the library, science lab, and many locations around campus; several laptop and tablet carts support computer use in the classroom. Students use their own Maret email accounts, accessible on and off campus.

**Programming and Design Fundamentals**  
*Fall*

Students new to computer programming explore the design process from concept through software creation. They study simple and complex system designs and learn fundamental concepts of programming using various coding methods. Students create their own games and programs, incorporating object-oriented programming skills, such as defining parameters and variables, if/then statements, looped processes, and recursive statements.

**Computer Science and Programming in Java**

Students study the syntax and organization of Java, the use of object-oriented programming concepts, and the standard constructs of arrays, recursion, searching, and sorting. They write many small programs and proceed to larger projects, such as graphical games through applets, small database applications, graphing calculators, web-based email, and calendar checkers. Students learn through a self-paced online course (open courseware) with seminar-style classroom support. They program independently and work in small groups to practice techniques and to build a code portfolio. Successful students may opt to take the AP Computer Science A Exam.

**Computer Science:**
Beyond the Graphical User Interface  (MSON)
Fall; Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: Programming experience in a structured language, such as Python or Java
Teacher: Siffat Hingorani, University School of Nashville
A project-based course in which students will spend the semester learning and thinking about a new paradigm in user interfaces: voice. Students design and build an application of their choosing for a voice-operated assistant service, like Google Home or Alexa. Students are exposed to the software development life cycle, with an emphasis on design, and learn how to collaborate with classmates on a code base. Students should be comfortable working individually with limited assistance on projects. Coursework includes individual lab and homework assignments, as well as group projects.
Materials required:
Computer; Apple preferred

Data Structures and Design Patterns  (MSON)
Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: AP Computer Science or equivalent
Teacher: J.D. DeVauhn-Brown, Chadwick School
This course gives advanced students the strong foundation needed to build complex applications using object-oriented principles. It covers the design and implementation of data structures including arrays, stacks, queues, linked lists, binary trees, heaps, balanced trees (e.g. AVL-trees), and graphs. It also serves as an introduction to software design patterns. Each pattern represents a best practice solution to a software problem in a specific context. The course covers the rationale and benefits of object-oriented software design patterns. Numerous problems are studied to investigate the implementation of good design patterns.

Visual Art
Requirements:
Grade 9: ½ credit
Grades 10-12: one additional credit in an advanced art or performing arts
Chair: Cynthia Hutnyan
Students broaden their understanding of visual art and their ability to think creatively by studying specific art disciplines. They are encouraged to express themselves in their preferred medium and to take on challenges that extend their artistic talent. Students appreciate the historical, technical, and aesthetic aspects of artistic expression through visits to the Washington area’s many museums and galleries.

Independent Study:
Special Topics in Computer Science
Students with exceptional talent in computer science may submit a proposal for independent study in computer science for approval by the department chair and a faculty sponsor.

GRADE 9 CORE COURSES
½ credit

Clay Core
Students explore the various uses of clay as an art medium. They learn the fundamentals of working with clay from functional and sculptural approaches. Students study the hands-on techniques of coil, slab, press molds, modeling, and the potter’s wheel. They develop a strong sense of design and craftsmanship and a personal direction in clay.

Drawing and Painting Core
Students master the basic techniques of drawing and painting in acrylic, pastel, pencil, ink, charcoal, and watercolor media. They hone their observation skills and work from life, still life, landscape, and abstraction.

Mixed Media Core
Students work with a broad range of techniques and materials, including two- and three-dimensional projects. They explore simple construction methods using wood, foam, wire, celluclay, plaster, and found objects; they also experiment with painting, drawing, printing, transfer, and collage. Students study technical and conceptual concerns and develop a personal artistic vision.
Photography Core
Students study black-and-white film photography as both an art and a craft and express their ideas with imagination and clarity. They master camera controls and basic darkroom techniques, study lighting and composition, and investigate portraiture, landscape, and still life photography. This course requires the use of 35mm cameras with manual controls. Cameras are available to students on loan for the duration of the year.

Sculpture Core
Students express themselves through a variety of sculpture materials and techniques. They learn carving, modeling, casting, and fabrication using materials that may include plaster, clay, wood, and stone.

ADVANCED COURSES
1 credit

Advanced Clay
Students embark on an in-depth study of the technical and conceptual aspects of clay work. They develop fundamental skills and explore both functional and sculptural approaches. Students are introduced to various clays, glazes, and finishing techniques. They use plaster molds, coil, slab, modeling, extruded, and potters’ wheel methods of clay construction. Students develop a personal direction in clay, acquire a strong sense of design and craftsmanship, and understand and appreciate the expressive potential of clay.

Advanced Computer Graphics
Students examine methods of creating computer art. They learn basic principles of art and design—such as composition and use of text—as well as the fundamentals of color, optics, and resolution for printing. Students use a variety of software including Photoshop, Illustrator, 3-D design, and InDesign. They generate original images for drawn graphics, scanned objects, digital photos and the 3-D printer. Students produce print and online portfolios.

Advanced Drawing and Painting
Students build skills while exploring ideas in a variety of drawing and painting media. Subject matter ranges from landscapes to still life, the figure, and abstract work. Students visit DC-area galleries and museums for inspiration.

Advanced Mixed Media
Students explore the expressive possibilities of resists, textural techniques, printmaking, encaustic, and three-dimensional assemblage. They create observational drawings from the figure, still life objects, and the real world and use these drawings as a springboard for their creativity. Students maintain a sketchbook as a source of inspiration.

Advanced Photography
Students learn the art and craft of black-and-white film photography. They master basic camera and darkroom techniques so that they can express their ideas and begin to develop a personal style and vision. Students study composition, design, natural light portraits, landscape, and photo essays. This course requires the use of 35mm cameras with manual controls. Cameras are available to students on loan for the duration of the year.

Advanced Sculpture
Students translate ideas three-dimensionally, using traditional sculpture techniques such as carving, fabrication, mold making, and casting. They experiment with stone, wood, plaster, clay, and cement to acquire a strong sense of design and craftsmanship. Inspired by the work of various artists, students develop a personal vision for their work.

Advanced Art Seminar: Studio
Prerequisite: Two or more classes in a given art discipline
This course is for students who are ready for a more rigorous and demanding studio art curriculum. The seminar format of the class focuses on ideas and group dynamics. Students generate a conceptually coherent body of artwork based on personal inquiry and self-reflection. They develop a fluent, art-based vocabulary and participate in group critiques and discussions.

Advanced Art Seminar: Photography
Prerequisite: Two or more classes in photography
This course is for students who are ready for a more rigorous and demanding photography curriculum. The seminar format of the class focuses on ideas and group dynamics. Students work in their choice of photographic format(s), honing their creative vision through personal inquiry and self-reflection. They develop a fluent, art-based vocabulary and participate in group critiques and discussions.
Advanced Art Courses: Levels II and III  
**Prerequisite:** One year of advanced-level art

These courses feature greater individualized attention and increasingly rigorous expectations as students build on their experience. Students pursuing a third year of study in a chosen medium produce a coherent body of work demonstrating personal expression, quality of ideas, conceptual ability, and technical mastery.

World Languages  
**Requirements:** 3 credits of one language or 2 credits of two languages  
**Chair:** Jaime Estrada  
*See charts on pages 37–40 for sequence of world language courses.*

OVERVIEW  
Maret requires three language credits for graduation; however, many students study language all four years. Class placement is based on individual learning style, skill development, level of interest, and performance in a current language course (for returning Maret students) or on placement tests and data in the admissions files (for students new to Maret).

CLASSICS  
Students of Latin examine the language, culture, and ideas of some of the earliest architects of Western civilization and consider their influence on modern language, culture, literature, and philosophy. Learning ancient languages helps cultivate attention to detail, memory, logic, and critical reasoning. Maret’s Latin courses elicit an appreciation of the subtlety and power of language. Students learn to analyze ancient prose and poetry through a variety of literary and linguistic techniques, improving their ability to read, write, and think critically.

Intermediate Latin  
Intermediate Latin students prepare to read original Latin texts by expanding their knowledge of Latin vocabulary, grammar, and idiom while honing their reading skills. In addition to grammar lessons, they read stories of increasing difficulty set during the first-century Flavian dynasty. Students master the fundamentals of Latin grammar while encountering the nuances of more complex syntactical structure. Latin readings are supplemented by translations of contemporary Roman authors, lectures, films, and projects that increase students’ familiarity with Roman culture, institutions, and history.

Advanced Latin Literature  
*This course can be taken as either a pre-Vergil or a post-Vergil class*

Students expand their classical repertoire by reading substantial prose and poetry passages by authors in several genres: history (Julius Caesar); oratory (Cicero); short poems and invective (Catullus); and mythological tales in their original form (Ovid). In addition to the Latin readings, students consider the why and how of a translator’s work as they analyze contemporary translations of several original works. Students examine style, diction, rhetorical devices, metrical patterns, and overall approach as they consider the political, historical, and cultural milieu in which each was composed.

Vergil and Caesar  
Through an intensive study of Vergil’s epic poem, *The Aeneid*, students appreciate poetic modes of expression, including use of imagery, figures of speech, sound, and metrical devices. Students learn about the life, historical context, and poetic tradition of Rome’s most influential poet. Students will:

- Acquire the ability to read Latin poetry in its original form
- Develop a familiarity with the lives, historical context, and poetic tradition of the Augustan Age
- Cultivate an appreciation of the characteristic features of Vergil’s modes of expression
- Practice discussing orally and in written form particular motifs or general themes suggested by the passages studied
- Learn to mark the scansion of studied poems

Superior mastery of these skills readies students for the AP Latin Exam.

Ancient Greek 1 (Language and Literature) (MSON)  
**Teacher:** David Harpin, Hopkins School

This is a beginning course for students who have not studied ancient Greek before or whose background in Greek is not sufficient for more advanced work. Students proceed through a study of grammar and vocabulary to the reading and writing of sentences and short narratives in the language of Athens of the fifth century B.C.E. Selected topics in Greek history and art are also considered.
MODERN LANGUAGES

Students develop effective communicative skills and acquire a general understanding of some of the cultures that speak those languages. Specifically, students learn to:

- Understand the language when spoken at a normal speed on a topic within the range of the student’s experience
- Communicate efficiently with a native speaker on a topic within the range of the student’s experience
- Write using authentic patterns of the language and appropriate registers of speech
- Read and understand materials on general-interest topics without recourse to translation or dictionary

Advanced-level courses provide an introduction and exploration of literary analysis in a modern language. For students who wish to study abroad, Maret offers summer programs in Spain (Spanish), Taiwan (Chinese), and France (French).

ARABIC

Arabic 1 (MSON)

Grades 9–12 (juniors receive priority)
Teacher, Section 1: Farha Mohamed, Hopkins School
Teacher, Section 2: Kaveh Niazi, Stanford Online High School

This course is an introduction to Modern Standard Arabic, the language of formal speech and most printed materials in the Arab-speaking world. Students learn to read and write the Arabic alphabet and develop beginning proficiency in the language. Through frequent oral and written drills, students develop their basic communication skills.

Arabic 2 (MSON)

Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: Arabic 1
Teacher: Farha Mohamed, Hopkins School

This course is a continuation of the introduction to Modern Standard Arabic, the language of formal speech and most printed materials in the Arab-speaking world. Students learn to read and write the Arabic alphabet and develop beginning proficiency in the language. Through frequent oral and written drills, students develop their basic communication skills.

CHINESE

Chinese 1: Elementary Chinese

Beginning students are introduced to Mandarin Chinese using the Pinyin system of Romanization and simplified characters. They learn standard Mandarin pronunciation, tones, and basic grammatical structures through oral/aural and written exercises. Substantial use of audiotapes and internet-based materials are required. Units on Chinese culture and customs complement the language instruction.

Chinese 2: Elementary Chinese

Building on their foundation, students accelerate acquisition of characters. There is further emphasis on Mandarin pronunciation and tones as well as consistent review of grammatical structures. Units on Chinese culture and customs complement the language instruction.

Chinese 3: Intermediate Chinese

Students continue to expand their vocabulary, study and review grammar, and gain increased language fluency through classroom activities and reading and discussing simple texts and articles. Increased emphasis on writing, with frequent, short writing assignments such as reports and correspondence. Readings and assignments based on Chinese history and culture are an integral part of the course.

Chinese 4: Advanced Intermediate Chinese

Students continue to study grammar and broaden their vocabulary through intermediate textbook readings and authentic materials—including articles on current social topics, plays, and short stories—of increasing complexity. Students improve their listening comprehension skills and understanding of Chinese culture by watching a Chinese television series. They participate in class discussions and prepare written assignments. Students may have the opportunity to use their language skills by helping recent immigrants from China navigate life in their new community. This course requires a significant time commitment outside of class.

Chinese 5 (MSON)

Grades 11–12
Prerequisite: Chinese 4 or honors level
Teacher: Lan Lin, Hopkins School, New Haven, CT

This intermediate-level course, conducted entirely in Chinese, involves reading authentic texts of modern Chinese society and culture. Students explore current cultural topics through stories, dialogues, and documentaries using multimedia materials ranging from the internet, television, and films to traditional textbooks.
Throughout the year, students write papers, critique films, and participate in oral discussion and debates.

**FRENCH**

**French 3**
Students consolidate and integrate high-intermediate second-language skills. Students develop significant accuracy in reading, writing, and spoken communication and receive a sound linguistic base for further study of advanced concepts. They discuss short stories, magazine articles, video news clips, and internet sources and engage in an intensive review of grammar. Students are introduced to contemporary topics in French culture with opportunities for enjoyment, creativity, and intellectual stimulation.

**French 4**
This class anchors advanced French skills. Students study the intricacies of French grammar through extensive oral and written practice to improve accuracy and enhance understanding of French language structure. Students read literary and journalistic texts in French as a basis for literary analysis and as models for writing assignments that demand stylistic skill and sophistication. These assignments include compositions and critical essays.

**Advanced French Grammar**
Students consolidate and integrate advanced skills. In addition to completing an extensive grammar review, students develop significant accuracy in their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Materials include audio-visual reports, documentaries, and newspaper articles covering current events. Students actively participate in class discussions and prepare a number of special presentations.

**Francophone Cultures**
*Grades 11–12*
Students develop high proficiency in speaking, reading, listening, and writing. They improve their ability to understand spoken French in various contexts and express themselves coherently, resourcefully, and with reasonable fluency and accuracy. They develop a sufficiently ample vocabulary for reading newspapers, magazine articles, and literary texts. This course emphasizes a better understanding of the civilizations and cultures of the Francophone world. Successful students are prepared to take the AP French Language and Culture Exam.

**Modern French Literature**
*Grades 11–12*
In this study of French literature, students become adept in literary criticism in a foreign language. Students develop their proficiency in fundamental literary analysis in order to read and understand prose and verse of moderate difficulty and mature content. They analyze the themes and styles that appear in the texts and express critical opinions in correct oral and written French.

*Texts:*
- Vian, Les Fourmis
- Sartre, Huis-Clos
- Anouilh, Antigone
- Ionesco, La Leçon
- Maupassant, Le Horla
- Voltaire, Candide
- Saint-Exupéry, Le Petit Prince
- Beaudelaire, Les Fleurs du Mal
- Rimbaud, Une Saison en Enfer
- Apollinaire, Alcools

*Viewings:*
- La Reine Margot

*Summer Reading:*
- Camus, La Peste

**SPANISH**

**Spanish 1**
Students focus on fundamental spoken and written Spanish. Intensive classroom discussions are conducted almost exclusively in Spanish. Students use the Descubre textbook and multimedia program in conjunction with other audio-visual materials. They read short stories and simple magazine articles, and complete writing exercises on topical subjects.

**Spanish 2**
Continuing on work begun in Spanish 1, students build their mastery of oral and written language and learn about issues of current interest in the Hispanic world. Reading and writing activities are more complex and sophisticated. Consistent vocabulary and grammar review, verb formation and use, and word building are integral to this course. A comprehensive multimedia program complements the course work.
Spanish 3
Students consolidate and integrate high-intermediate second-language skills. They develop significant accuracy in reading, writing, and speaking as they read and discuss short stories, magazine articles, video news clips, and internet sources. Students review grammar intensively and learn about contemporary topics in Latin American culture.

Spanish 4
A sound understanding of standard Spanish grammar that facilitates creativity and clarity of expressions helps develop students’ writing skills in Spanish. They achieve extensive vocabulary acquisition and are expected to recall and apply the grammatical rules in context. In addition, students are introduced to Hispanic literature and study the fundamentals of advanced composition.

Comparative Literature
Grades 11–12
May also be taken as a humanities credit
Students connect contemporary Spanish-speaking authors with international counterparts through a comparative study of their works that isolates and explores common literary and philosophical concepts. Literary works are grouped by theme and studied concurrently. Selected units explore the topics of tension between individual and society; narrative ambiguity; tension between individual and family; the nature of reality; the role of mathematics in literature; and Cain and Abel’s allegory in literature and film. Student papers and class discussions are in Spanish. Spanish works are read in the original Spanish text.

Texts:
- Borges, Ficciones
- Camus, The Plague
- García Márquez, Crónica de una Muerte Anunciada
- García Márquez, Ojos de Perro Azul
- Kafka, The Trial
- Kafka, The Metamorphosis
- Unamuno, Abel Sánchez
- Unamuno, Don Manuel Bueno Mártir

Viewings:
- Abre Los Ojos
- Amadeus

Summer Reading:
- García Márquez, Cien Años de Soledad

Hispanic Cultures
Students significantly increase their vocabulary and strengthen their advanced grammar skills. Regular oral presentations and frequent essays help students attain fluency. Readings include newspaper editorials and literary selections. Successful students may take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam.

Hispanic Literature
Grade 12
Students survey Spanish-speaking world literature from the Siglo de Oro to the present, with an emphasis on short stories and poetry. They read such authors as Quevedo, Quiroga, Borges, García Márquez, and others. Students become well versed in literary analysis in a foreign language while they explore Spanish and Latin American narratives.

Spanish in Film
Students in this intermediate-level Spanish course develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills by examining cultural and historical issues depicted in Latin American and Spanish films. In addition to analyzing and discussing films shown in class, students read and write reviews, critiques, and essays.

Survey of Hispanic Literature
Students acquire comfort and fluency at a sophisticated and conceptual level by becoming immersed in a fast-paced, Spanish-speaking environment. Students develop significant accuracy in their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the incorporation of new materials and are evaluated on their spontaneous class participation as well as extensive reading and writing assignments. Students read two novels, write well-constructed essays on abstract topics, and complete an overview of Spanish and Latin American literature.

Topics in Afro-Hispanic Cultures
Students in this intermediate-level Spanish course acquire language proficiency through the exploration of the African diaspora and its cultural legacy in Spanish-speaking America and the Caribbean. This course concentrates on contemporary topics. Students develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills by examining written, visual, and musical samples.
SUMMER ELECTIVES

Maret in Spain
Students acquire language through linguistic and cultural immersion in this one-month program. Maret students experience a full-immersion environment, learning Spanish in context through daily life, interactive lessons, and cultural experiences. They reside in two renovated farmhouses near Burgos and Granada. The morning and evening lessons interact with the environment and setting. Students also learn the language through activities and field trips, communicating solely in Spanish. Activities include cooking lessons; learning from local cheese makers, potters, and olive growers; hiking and other outdoor activities; and numerous cultural field trips.

Maret in France
During this four-week linguo-cultural immersion experience, students focus on language acquisition. They live together in a rural house in Poitou-Charentes, about two hours from Bordeaux, with the presence of French students and assistant staff. Students participate in numerous day and overnight excursions to interact with local people and explore the history and culture of France from its “Gaulois” roots to modern times.
Statistics courses are available to seniors. Some students elect to take both a statistics course and a calculus course during senior year.
Three upper school science credits are required for graduation. One course each in biology, chemistry, and physics is required. Most Maret students take four years of upper school science, and some juniors and seniors take two science courses concurrently.

**Middle School and Upper School Science Sequence**

- **Math and Science 5**
- **Life Science 6**
- **Physical Science 7**
- **Chemistry 8**
- **Physics with Algebra (Grade 9)**
- **Biology (9th grade)**
- **Chemistry in the Community**
- **Chem Study**
- **Biology (Grades 11–12)**
- **Physics A**
- **Adv. Biology**
  - Adv. Chemistry
  - Adv. Environmental Science
  - Adv. Physics B
  - Accelerated Physics C: Mechanics
- **SEMESTER ELECTIVES:**
  - Adv. Topics in Chemistry (MSON)
  - Astronomy (MSON)
  - Astronomy Research Seminar (MSON)
  - Biotechnology
  - Comparative Ecosystems (MSON)
  - Forensic Science (MSON)
  - Genetics and Genomics (MSON)
  - Gravitational Astrophysics
  - Intro. to Organic Chemistry (MSON)
  - Lab Research in Biology
  - Waves, Optics, and Sound
- **Summer program (grades 10–12):**
  - Sanibel Subtropical Marine Ecology

**Life Science 6**
**Physical Science 7**
**Chemistry 8**
**Adv. Biology**
**Adv. Topics in Chemistry (MSON)**
**Astronomy (MSON)**
**Astronomy Research Seminar (MSON)**
**Biotechnology**
**Comparative Ecosystems (MSON)**
**Forensic Science (MSON)**
**Genetics and Genomics (MSON)**
**Gravitational Astrophysics**
**Intro. to Organic Chemistry (MSON)**
**Lab Research in Biology**
**Waves, Optics, and Sound**
WORLD LANGUAGES
CLASSICS SEQUENCE

Language placement for students is reassessed at the end of each academic year.
WORLD LANGUAGES
ARABIC SEQUENCE
Language placement for students is reassessed at the end of each academic year.

Arabic 1 (MSON)

Arabic 2 (MSON)

WORLD LANGUAGES
CHINESE SEQUENCE

Chinese 1: Elementary Chinese

Chinese 2: Elementary Chinese

Chinese 3: Intermediate Chinese

Chinese 4: Advanced Intermediate Chinese

Chinese 5: Language & Literature (MSON)

Summer program: Maret in Taiwan
Typically students participate after ninth or tenth grade.
WORLD LANGUAGES
FRENCH SEQUENCE

Language placement for students is reassessed at the end of each academic year.

Middle School

Sixth Grade French

Seventh Grade French

Eighth Grade French

Upper School

French 3

French 4

Advanced French Grammar

Francophone Culture

Modern French Literature

Summer program: Maret in France
Typically students participate after ninth or tenth grade.
WORLD LANGUAGES
SPANISH SEQUENCE

Language placement for students is reassessed at the end of each academic year.

- Fifth Grade Spanish
- Sixth Grade Spanish
- Seventh Grade Spanish Beginner
- Eighth Grade Spanish Beginner
- Eighth Grade Spanish

Middle School

Upper School

Spanish 1 → Spanish 2 → Spanish 3 → Spanish 4

- Topics in Afro-Hispanic Cultures
- Spanish in Film
- Survey of Hispanic Literature
- Hispanic Literature
- Hispanic Cultures
- Comparative Literature

Summer program: Maret in Spain
Typically students participate after ninth or tenth grade.
The School attracts a committed, highly responsive faculty of lifelong learners. Most Maret teachers hold master degrees, and many have more than one advanced degree. Art and music teachers bring a special dimension to their commitment because of their active involvement in their professions outside of Maret. A number of our teachers have won national fellowships and awards. Beyond their academic qualifications, Maret teachers foster both an enthusiasm for learning and a capacity for intellectual rigor within each student. They genuinely care about their students.

Recognizing the strength of different perspectives, we emphasize both faculty individuality and widespread collaboration. Respect and a general collegial spirit lead to a high degree of cross-disciplinary integration at all levels. Maret teachers enjoy teaching across division lines.

Most middle and upper school teachers are advisors who link home with school and provide enormous personal and academic support for students. Maret’s teachers volunteer numerous evening and weekend hours to supervise extracurricular and community service programs. Teachers also work with students during Maret’s varied summer programs, including campus classes; study programs in Taiwan, France, Spain, and India; and a six-week marine biology course on Sanibel Island, Florida.

Achtmeyer, Rob
Humanities
Union College, B.A. Political Science

Aikens, Felicia
Humanities
University of Pennsylvania, B.A. Diplomatic History

Alemayehu, Berook
Science; Mathematics
University of Pittsburgh, Ph.D. Bioengineering
University of Maryland, B.S. Computer Engineering

Alexander, Eliza*
Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships; World Languages
Maret Fellow 2014
George Washington University, M.A. Latin American Studies
Smith College, B.A. American Studies

Aljami, Kalif
Performing Arts
DePaul University, B.F.A. Scenic Design, Marketing

Appleby, Christin ’80*
Director of Lower School
Maret Fellow 2006
University of Maryland, B.S. Chemistry

Beizer, Chloe ’03
Humanities; Physical Education/ Athletics
Yale University, B.A. American Studies

Bey, Jah Jah
Technology; Athletics
University of Connecticut, B.A. History
Bravman, Bill*
Humanities
Stanford University, Ph.D.
African History
Stanford University, M.A.
British History
Cornell University, B.A. History

Cahn, Aaron
Middle School Learning Coordinator
Chestnut Hill College, M.Ed.
University of Maryland, B.A.
Government and Politics

Carbone, Mary*
Science
Johns Hopkins University, M.A.T.
Gettysburg College, B.A. Biology

Castro, Javier
World Languages
Catholic University, Ph.D.
Catholic University, M.A.
St. Tomas Aquinas University,
Bogota-Colombia, B.A.

Cosh, Nigel*
Mathematics; Technology; Eighth Grade Dean
Maret Fellow 2015
Bristol University, B.S. Physics

Crandall, Bill
Visual Art
American University, Visual Media

Curwin, Alison
Physical Education/Athletics
James Madison University, M.Ed.
James Madison University, B.S. Mathematics

De Jerusalem, Betina*
World Languages
Universidad de Buenos Aires,
Argentina, B.S. Sociology

Delgado, Erika
World Languages
Farmingham College, M.A.
University of Puerto Rico, B.S.

Deslich, Jeanne
Science
Wayne State University, Ph.D.
Biochemistry
Northern Michigan University, B.S.
Biochemistry

Diamond, Marie-Elise*
World Languages
New York University, M.A. French
University of Illinois, B.A. Latin

Driesell, Chuck
Physical Education/Athletics
Marymount University, M.S.
Education
University of Maryland, B.S.

Eason, Erika*
Director of Academic Technology
Cornell University, B.A. Spanish

Easterling, LaNaadrian
Director of Counseling
CSPP at Alliant International
University, Psy.D. Clinical Psychology, Emphasis in Multicultural Community Psychology
CSPP at Alliant International University, M.A. Clinical Psychology
Loyola Marymount University, B.A. Psychology

Egan, Matt
Humanities
Johns Hopkins University, M.S.
Education
Wheaton College, B.A. Economics and History

Epis, Susan*
Assistant Head of School
Georgetown Law Center, J.D.
University of California—Berkeley,
M.A. African Diaspora Studies
Wellesley College, B.A. African-American Studies, Psychology

Epstein, Rachel
Upper School Learning Support Coordinator
American University, M.A. Special Education: Learning Disabilities
Syracuse University, B.A.
Advertising Design

Estrada, Jaime*
Chair, World Languages Department
Maret Fellow 2012
Université Paul Valéry, M.A.
Hispanic Literature/Civilization
Université Paul Valéry, B.A.
Hispanic Literature/Civilization

Fenderson, Leesa
Humanities
Columbia University, M.F.A.
Creative Writing
Brooklyn Law School, Juris Doctor
Temple University, B.A.
Political Science

Fenner, Courtney
Third Grade
Brooklyn College, M.A. English
Virginia Commonwealth University,
M.F.A. Creative Writing, Fiction/NonFiction
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Harvard University, Ed.M. Teaching and Curriculum
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Affiliation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Director of Middle School Harvard University, M.Ed. Teaching and Curriculum</td>
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