

Founded in 1784

CEEB Code 391-648

Fall 2009

Accreditations and Memberships: NAIS, PAIS, ERB, SSATB, CEEB, and MSACS

COLLEGE ADMISSION PROFILE

HEAD OF SCHOOL

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HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

IB DIPLOMA COORDINATOR

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Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest secondary school in the nation under continuous operation. As the only independent preschool-12th grade college preparatory day school in the Harrisburg/Carlisle/Lebanon metropolitan area, we serve a seven-county school population of 283,490 (2007-08 PA Dept. of Ed. statistics). Founded in 1784 by John Harris, Jr., the Academy was originally housed in the John Harris Mansion in Harrisburg, the state capital.

Academy Demographics: Total # students enrolled (September 2009): 414 Upper School: 124 Class of 2009: 35

College Admission Record: Last 15 years: 98% to 4-year colleges (395 students); 2% to 2-year colleges (8 students)

100% of our seniors have reached their desired level of post-graduate education.

Diversity: Harrisburg Academy admits academically qualified students without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin. Financial awards of \$700,000 (2009-2010) help to support the students who attend.

International Students: The Academy welcomes both international students who plan to spend several years and graduate and foreign exchange students. Since 1989, we have hosted more than 90 students from 24 countries. This year, we will have 10 students in grades 9 through 12—from China, Great Britain, Germany, and South Korea.

Curriculum of the Upper School: All courses are college preparatory, equivalent to Honors or Accelerated courses at most public high schools. Our IB HL, Mathematics SL-Year 2, and Advanced Placement courses are college-level courses using college texts. Starting in 2007-08, such courses received 0.333 weight (previous AP courses were weighted 0.5). Each **credit** equals a year-long course meeting five to seven times during a seven-day, rotating cycle.

Graduation Requirements:	English	4 credits
	History	3 credits—including United States and Pennsylvania history
	Mathematics	3 credits—including algebra II and geometry (4 recommended)
	Laboratory Sciences	3 credits—biology, chemistry, and physics required
	World Languages/Latin	3 credits—in one language
	Fine Arts and Skills	1 credit —2 preferred
	Required Minors	0.25 credits each in health, speech, and college prep
		0.25 credits per semester in Physical Education
	Non-credit Enrichment	CAS and Senior Internship

All students must take five major courses and physical education (or play a sport) every semester.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program: This is our third year as an authorized IB World School. Harrisburg Academy applied for and received authorization to offer the Full International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, along with individual IB certificates, starting in 2005; this will be our second graduating class of diploma candidates. Unlike the also esteemed AP courses which are independent of each other, the IB offers a coherent, interrelated, globally integrated program; a variety of assessments other than single final exams; and options to select areas of depth and breadth of concentrations in different subject areas. The IB program is the fastest growing educational program in North America and is increasingly recognized as the strongest possible preparation for college—and lifelong learning—by colleges and universities in the United States and by international institutions.

The Academy has adopted the IB CAS (Creativity, Action, and Service) program in all four grades (see page 2).

We continue to offer AP courses in some subjects for students who prefer a single year of concentrated study in one subject to the 2-year, interdisciplinary, inquiry-based IB courses.



Challenging our students in an environment that nurtures and inspires.

IB Courses Offered

Group 1: First Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Literature HL• Text & Performance SL	Group 2: Second Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• French B SL• Spanish B SL• Spanish ab initio	Group 3: Individual & Society: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• History of the Americas HL• ITGS (Integrated Technology in a Global Society) SL
Group 4: Laboratory Sciences: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biology HL• Chemistry SL• Physics SL	Group 5: Mathematics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mathematics SL• Math Studies SL• Computer Science HL or SL	Group 6: The Arts: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual Arts HL or SL• Music HL or SL

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB and BC, Chemistry, Physics, Latin, and Statistics, as enrollment warrants.

Students may elect an IB or AP course by earning a B- in the preceding course or through teacher recommendation. Students in independent studies take appropriate non-curricular AP exams at their request. All students who take IB or AP courses (except in the case of scheduling conflicts) must take the IB or AP exam in the course.

Special Programs and Activities

Theory of Knowledge

Designed to discover connections among the academic and artistic courses in the Diploma Program, this two-year International Baccalaureate course is also conducted as a seminar, and meets weekly for one double period. Using similar Great Books readings, along with seminal works in major disciplines, the students study and discuss **Areas of Knowledge, Ways of Knowing, and Issues of Knowledge**.

Senior Internship

Our seniors take their final exams in early to mid-May, in conjunction with the International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement Exams, and then spend the final two or three weeks of school in a self-designed senior internship program. The internship may be an exploration of a potential career or a once-in-a-lifetime experience with a new way of working or learning. Working with their academic advisors, seniors plan the program throughout the school year, finding their own sponsors and designing the activities in which they will participate. Each internship entails thirty hours per week of active engagement (no busy-work, clerking duties, etc.) during which students keep a log and a journal. They prepare a presentation for their classmates, sponsors, advisors, and the juniors as a culminating activity. A Senior Internship Committee oversees the entire process, ensuring that the students and sponsors are well prepared for their experience and that the internship activities are meaningful.

CAS: Creativity, Action, and Service

(Inspired by the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program)

Full IB Diploma Candidates are required to spend 50 hours in each category over their two years in the program. The Academy has modified its former 20 hours-per-year community service requirement to offer a similar CAS experience for all students in grades 9 through 12. "School-wide" CAS encourages students to spend at least 20 hours per year participating in **each** category. The activities in these areas are to be new experiences, beneficial to others, with productive consequences. Students keep logs of activities, reflect upon them, and, we hope, make creativity, action, and service part of their lives.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Varsity sports (with a no-cut policy) include girls' tennis, basketball, field hockey, and soccer; and boys' soccer, tennis, basketball, and lacrosse. An agreement with a nearby Catholic school allows students to participate on teams not offered at the home school (for us, football, track and baseball). There are also options for swimming and golf. Clubs include Drama, Mock Trial, Quiz Bowl, Model UN, Outdoor, Diversity Club, SEA (Student Environmental Advocates), Yearbook, Newspaper, Student Council/Student Government, and National Honor Society, along with others.

Class Standing and Transcript Evaluation

Ranking: Because of the size of our graduating classes (20-36) and the variety of individual programs the students elect to take, the Academy does not rank students according to GPA. **In considering an Academy student, colleges should assess each academic course as the equivalent of an Accelerated or Honors course in any public school curriculum.**

Grading System: Please see the Grading Table on transcript for grading system equivalents. **IB HL, and IB Mathematics SL (Year 2) and AP courses are weighted 0.333 per year.**

Grade Distribution Percentages for Class of 2010 (Junior Year) by Semester Grades in Major Subjects

A+	4.8	B+	12.3	C+	7.7	D+	0.4	F	0
A	12.8	B	16.4	C	8.5	D	0.7		
A-	18.8	B-	13.5	C-	3.9	D-	0.0		

Standardized Testing, GPA, and National Merit Records

We do not include international students' scores on SAT or ACT as the TOEFL is their major admissions test.

Mid-fifties: Class of 2009 SAT: Senior Critical Reading = 530-620; Math = 560-610; GPA 2.90 – 3.89; Highest: 4.32

Class of 2010: Junior Mid-fifty CR SAT = 540-670; Math = 540-680; Combined = 1080-1350

Class of 2010: **Cumulative GPA** Mid fifty: 2.72 to 3.53; Average: 3.13; Highest GPA: 4.12

Average Senior SAT Scores by Classes:	Critical Reading	Math	Combined	ACT Composite by Classes Junior Year	National Merit Awards by Classes	
					Finalists/Semifinalists	Commended Scholars
2002	623	628	1251	25	1	2
2003	634	620	1254	25	1	5
2004	620	646	1266	25	3	3
2005	629	628	1257	25	1	0
2006	659	648	1307	25	3	2
2007	605	579	1184	25	2	1
2008	617	605	1222	25	1	2
2009	570	593	1163	26	0	2
Junior year avg. 2002-2009	599*	593*	1192			
2010 as *Juniors	604*	585*	1189	27	2	1

***Our juniors' range of increase in the CR score as seniors is 11 to 43 points, and in Math the range of increase is 9 to 46 points.**

The Academic Program

The table below summarizes current graduation requirements (column one) and the most common courses of study.

Credits Required	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
English: 4 credits	English I— Various Course Titles	English II— Various Course Titles	IB World Literature HL Year 1 IB Text and Performance SL Year 1 or Literature & Composition 11	IB World Literature HL Year 2 IB Text and Performance SL Year 2 or Literature & Composition 12
History: 3 credits (including U.S. History)	World History I	World History II	IB History of the Americas HL Year 1 U.S. History or IB SL ITGS Year 1	IB History of the Americas HL Year 2 IB SL ITGS Year 2 or History Electives (sem.)
Languages: 3 credits of one language; 4 recommended. (2 credits of 2 languages with permission)	Latin, Spanish or French II (Latin, Spanish or French I for new students)	Latin, Spanish or French III or Latin, Spanish or French II	IB French B or Spanish B, SL Year 1 Spanish ab initio, Year 1 Latin, Spanish or French IV or Latin, Spanish or French III	IB French B or Spanish B, SL Year 2 Spanish ab initio, Year 2 Latin, Spanish or French V or Latin, Spanish, or French IV
Mathematics: 3 credits: 4 recommended	Algebra II	Geometry	IB Mathematics SL Year 1 IB Math Studies SL Year 1 Pre-Calculus or College Algebra	IB Mathematics SL Year 2 IB Math Studies SL Year 2 A.P. Calculus AB or BC or Math Electives
Science: 3 credits, each including 1 extra lab period per cycle	Chemistry	Physics	IB Biology HL or SL Year 1 IB Chemistry SL Year 1 IB Physics SL Year 1 AP Physics or AP Chemistry or Biology	IB Science Courses Year 2 (see preceding cell) AP Chemistry or AP Physics or Science semester electives
Students are required to take at least 1 credit in art or music courses. Most take an additional credit in a preferred concentration	Art or Music (Electives in box to far right)	Art or Music (Electives in box to far right)	Electives: Art Studio; Photo/Video Production; Watercolor/Drawing; Architectural Processes I and II; Music Theory and Composition I & II; Advanced Computer Science; Multimedia; MCP Windows XP. Theory of Knowledge (required for IB students)	
Phys. Ed. P/F yearly; Health (11th), College Prep (11th), Public Speaking (12th) each .25 credits	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education, Health College Prep.	Physical Education, Senior Seminar Public Speaking Senior Internship

Faculty and Faculty-Student Ratios

Full-time Faculty of the Upper School: 2 Doctoral Degrees 5 Masters Degrees 4 Bachelors Degrees

Part-time Faculty of the Upper School: 3 Specialist Technology/Art Degrees 6 Masters Degrees 5 Bachelors Degrees

Faculty/Student Ratio: 1 to 7.7