

# The Cambridge School 2020-2021 Profile

12855 Black Mountain Road, San Diego, CA 92129 | 858.484.3488 | cambridgeclassical.org



## The Cambridge School is pleased to announce its fourth graduating class—the Class of 2021!

The Cambridge School is a K-12 school in the classical, Christian tradition, and a model school within our peer association, serving over 365 ethnically and socio-economically diverse students in North County San Diego. We began in 2006 with nine students in K-1st grades. By adding one new grade each year since then, we are now an established institution that uniquely combines classical education principles with a Christian worldview.

**CEEB Code: 054785**

### Administration

Jean Chung Kim  
*Founder and Head of School*

Russ Kapusinski  
*Assistant Head of School*

Dr. Melissa Gingrich  
*Upper School Principal*

### College Counselor

Becky Priest  
*bpriest@cambridgeclassical.org*

### Accredited by WASC

Members of NACAC,  
WACAC, ACCS, SCL

### Mission Statement: Think Well, Love Rightly, Live Wisely™

The Cambridge School seeks to provide a distinctly Christian education in the classical tradition which equips students to know, love, and practice that which is true, good, and beautiful and thus prepares them to live purposefully and intelligently in service of God and neighbor.

### OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**Spring 2020 Semester:** We ceased in-person instruction on 3/13/2020 and transitioned to a daily synchronous on-line learning environment on 3/18/2020. During distance learning, the school day was 9:00am-3:00pm with 45-minute classes and the addition of small-group, teacher-led conferences that allowed class discussions to thrive. Students were expected to participate actively in classes and absences were rare. Students earned letter grades under normal expectations with the exception of their 8th period elective classes like Art, Debate and Choir which changed to P/F (the 9th period already being P/F), due to inability to replicate normal activities.

**Fall 2020 Semester:** Students alternate attendance between one week fully on-campus with the normal block class schedule, and a one week, on-line, synchronous schedule. Our small group conferences that were initiated during the spring semester (for engagement, maintaining relationships with faculty, and student care) proved to be so successful that we kept them for the fall, making time by shortening elective classes to once a week. Our 7 core discipline areas continue to be taught under our normal, all-Honors curriculum.

### Graduation Requirements

**Humanities: 10 credits**  
*Rhetoric, Literature, History, Senior Thesis*

**Math: 3 credits**  
*Including Calculus*

**Science: 3 credits**  
*Including Chemistry, Biology*

**Latin: 2 credits**

**Christian Studies: 2 credits**

**Fine Arts: .5 credit**

**Athletics: .5 credit**  
*Two sports seasons*

**Electives: 1 credit (.5/year)**

**Total Minimum: 25 credits**

### CURRICULAR & PEDAGOGICAL DISTINCTIVES:

- **All students complete the same all-honors classes through all of high school**, with no elective choice in the core subjects, and with intentional, cross-disciplinary integration.
- **Students are required to carry a 7-credit (9 class) load each year** which includes the standard five disciplines (English, History, Science, Math, Foreign Language) plus half-credit classes in Rhetoric and Christian Studies, plus two half-credit elective classes. Art and Debate fulfill the electives in 9th grade.
- **All students are required to complete a year-long senior thesis** which includes a 15-page written research paper and a 30-minute oral presentation and defense.
- Students are required to **complete Latin to Level IV** (in 10th grade) so that they are translating Vergil and other classical authors with ease.
- All humanities courses include **extensive primary source reading**, socratic discussion, critical analysis, Toulmin argumentation, oral exams, frequent 5-page essays, and class presentations.
- **All students are required to take math through Calculus and the following science courses: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Neuroscience**, all of which focus on careful scientific argumentation in lab reports, frequent presentation and writing opportunities, and historical context for scientific and mathematical ideas.
- Classes are taught by enthusiastic scholar-teachers, **almost 90% of whom have Masters or PhDs in the discipline they teach.**

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## A Note on Honors and AP Classes

We intentionally do not offer many AP courses because our honors classes are carefully integrated with other disciplines in our set curriculum and rigorous (defined as cognitive complexity and student autonomy) as confirmed by college professors in our community, at the colleges attended by alumni, and by our students' strong performance on AP exams in spite of not taking the corresponding AP class. **All of our honors classes have been approved as honors by the University of California system.**

### Test Scores

Total Median SAT: 1375

Median EBRW: 708

Median Math: 660

Median ACT: 31

Median CLT: 98

### National Merit Recognition

2 Semi-finalists

4 Commended Scholars

### Class Size: 21

100% of the class is four-year college-bound.

### Class Rank and GPA

Highest possible 9-12th weighted GPA is 4.83 on a 4.0 scale.

*With only 21 students in the class, GPA distribution nor class rank are provided.*

### Three AP Classes Offered

Biology – 9th Grade

Calculus AB – 11th Grade

Chemistry – 11th Grade

*AP class participation only with teacher approval.*

### Admission

Our admissions process is selective and based on the candidate's academic record, teacher recommendations, standardized test scores, pre-admission assessments, and student/family interviews. 33% of families receive tuition assistance.

- With **an academic course load that is quantitatively and qualitatively heavier than most schools for all four years**, students must develop perseverance and excellent time management skills to fulfill their academic and co-curricular responsibilities.
- Students are expected to become masters of the written and spoken word and to participate in discussions with an eye towards thoughtful, winsome civil discourse, and nuanced integration across disciplines.
- Each summer, students are given reading/writing assignments on books like *The Aeneid* and *Paradise Lost* to prepare them for the upcoming year.
- Assessment takes place primarily via short and long written answers or oral exams/presentations (never via scanned multiple choice) for deeper understanding.

### CO-CURRICULAR DISTINCTIVES:

- **Required Athletics participation.** Two seasons of interscholastic athletics (CA CIF) for Physical Education credit.
- **Required Debate Team participation.** All students participate in competitive Public Forum Debate with a choice to continue as an elective after the first year.
- **Required participation in the House Program.** Our House Program intentionally fosters community across 7th-12th grades. House life encompasses all aspects of student culture with entirely student-led weekly assemblies, retreats, service days, academic and athletic competitions, and social events.
- Our **House Leadership Program** allows students to focus on administrative and strategic planning skills, creating healthy culture and teams, and mentoring and nurturing relationships across grades.

### CLASS OF 2021 DISTINCTIVES:

- For 11th grade math, students had a choice between AP Calculus AB or regular Calculus AB. For 11th grade science, students had a choice between Honors Physics or Physics.
- For 12th grade math, students could choose between Statistics, Honors Statistics, or Honors Statistics with Advanced Calculus Principles (preparing them for the AP exams for Statistics and/or Calc BC.)
- In 11th grade, after completing 4 years of Latin, students could choose to continue the next two years either with another language (Honors Greek I/II & III or Honors Spanish I/II) or additional science (AP Chemistry in 11th and Honors Computer Science: Principles & Practice in 12th.)
- Few organized community volunteer/service options have existed through the school in these early years. All class members have heavily and selflessly volunteered and served as student ambassadors who were critical to the growth of our young school, dedicating themselves to building school culture and laboring to establish traditions.
- Students who completed studies through 7th grade at The Cambridge School received Mandarin Chinese instruction for grades K-7.
- Class was given one general elective choice in 10th-12th grades, and one fine arts elective choice in 11th-12th grades.

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## The Cambridge School Grading Scale

Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Numerical Grade (Percentile)
A+	98-100
A	93-97
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
F	0-69

Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Unweighted Value (Regular Course)
A+	4.00
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
F	0.00**

\*\* Please note that anything below a C- is considered failing. There are no Ds.

AP and Honors courses are weighted by one point.

**Bold** Denotes college of matriculation

(+) Denotes UC Regents and Chancellors Scholarship/ UC Honors College

(^) Denotes significant Merit Scholarship or Honors College

## College Acceptances and Matriculations for 2018, 2019, and 2020 (27 Alumni with 100% College Matriculation)

- Albion College^
- Aquinas College, Michigan^
- Baylor University**^
- Biola University^
- Boston College
- Brown University
- Cal Poly, Pomona
- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
- Cal State University, Channel Islands
- Cal State University, Chico
- Cal State University, Monterey Bay
- Calvin University**^
- Carnegie Mellon University^
- Case Western Reserve University^
- Champlain College^
- Claremont McKenna College**
- College of St. Benedict^
- College of William and Mary
- College of Wooster^
- Colorado State University, Fort Collins
- Concordia University, Irvine^
- Cornell University
- Davidson College
- DePaul University^
- Drexel University^
- Eastern University^
- Flagler College
- Fordham University^
- George Mason University^
- George Washington University^
- Georgetown University
- Gonzaga University^
- Gordon College**^
- Grand Canyon University
- Grinnell College
- Grove City College**^
- Hillsdale College**^
- Hope College^
- Humboldt State University
- Illinois Institute of Technology^
- Johns Hopkins University**
- Kenyon College^
- Lafayette College
- Lewis & Clark College^
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University, Chicago**^
- Macalester College
- Miami University, Ohio^
- Montana State University^
- Pepperdine University
- Pitzer College**^
- Point Loma Nazarene University^
- Princeton University**
- Providence Christian College^
- Reed College
- Regent University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute^
- Rhodes College^
- Rice University^
- San Diego State University
- San Francisco State University
- Santa Clara University
- Sarah Lawrence College^
- Seattle Pacific University^
- St. John's University, New York City^
- Stanford University**
- Swarthmore College
- The King's College^
- United States Military Academy at West Point
- University of California, Berkeley**++
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine+^
- University of California, Los Angeles**
- University of California, Merced^
- University of California, Riverside+
- University of California, San Diego^
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of California, Santa Cruz**^
- University of Chicago**
- University of Dallas^
- University of Hawaii, Manoa^
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- University of Kentucky^
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- University of Missouri, Columbia^
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh^
- University of Puget Sound^
- University of Richmond**^
- University of Southern California^
- University of Tulsa^
- University of Utah
- University of Washington
- Utah Valley University
- Villanova University
- Washington & Lee University
- Washington University, St. Louis
- Westmont College**^
- Wheaton College^
- Whitman University
- Whitworth University**^

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## UPPER SCHOOL REQUIRED COURSES

	Humanities (Lit & History)	Foreign Language	Christian Studies	Liberal Arts (English)	Math	Science	Fine Arts/ Electives
<b>9th</b>	<i>Honors Medieval (European and Arabic)</i>	<i>Honors Latin III (Latin I and II, 7th/8th)</i>	<i>Honors Systematic Theology</i>	<i>Honors Rhetoric I: Speaking and Writing Rhetorically (Informal &amp; Formal Logic, 7th/8th)</i>	<i>Honors Algebra II (Geometry, 8th)</i>	<i>AP Biology or Biology</i>	<b>Required for 9th:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Novice Debate (Competitive)</li> <li>Visual Art I</li> </ul>
<b>10th</b>	<i>Honors Modern European</i>	<i>Honors Latin IV (final year of required language)</i>	<i>Honors Church History</i>	<i>Honors Rhetoric II: Rhetoric in History</i>	<i>Honors Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry</i>	<i>Honors Chemistry</i>	<b>10th-12th Electives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual Art II, III, IV</li> <li>Photography I, II</li> <li>Choral Music</li> <li>Creative Writing</li> <li>Varsity Debate (Competitive)</li> <li>Advanced Latin Reading</li> <li>House Leadership (by application)</li> <li>Yearbook</li> <li>Studio Art</li> <li>Tutoring Outreach</li> </ul>
<b>11th</b>	<i>Honors American</i>	<i>Honors Spanish I/II or Honors Greek I/II (or AP Chemistry)</i>	<i>Honors Apologetics</i>	<i>Honors Rhetoric III: Contemporary Rhetoric</i>	<i>AP Calculus AB or Calculus AB</i>	<i>Honors Physics or Physics</i> <i>AP Chemistry (or a language)</i>	
<b>12th</b>	<i>Honors World Literature; Economics; Government</i>	<i>Honors Greek III (or Computer Science)</i>	<i>Honors Ethics and Aesthetics</i>	<i>Honors Rhetoric IV: Senior Thesis</i>	<i>Honors Statistics and Advanced Calculus Principles, or Honors Statistics, or Statistics</i>	<i>Honors Neuroscience Seminar</i> <i>Honors Computer Science: Principles and Practice (or Greek III)</i>	
<b>Required Credits</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

## SELECTIONS FROM GRADE LEVEL READING LISTS

### Ninth Grade

*Systematic Theology* by Louis Berkhof  
*Confessions* by St. Augustine  
*The Consolation of Philosophy* by Boethius  
*Inferno* by Dante Alighieri  
*Institutes of the Christian Religion* by John Calvin  
*Pilgrim Theology* by Michael Horton  
 Letters by Charles the Great  
 Feudal Documents  
 Song of Roland  
 Magna Carta  
*Crusaders* by Dan Jones  
*Reformations* by Carlos Eire  
*Summa Theologica* by St. Thomas Aquinas  
*The Prince* by Niccolo Machiavelli  
*Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student* by Edward Corbett and Robert Conners  
*Aeneid* by Virgil  
*Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin

### Tenth Grade

*The Church History* by Eusebius  
*The Existence of God* by Descartes  
*Proofs for the Existence of God* by Blaise Pascal  
*Hamlet, Macbeth* by Shakespeare  
*Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift  
*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville  
*Housekeeping* by Marilynne Robinson  
*Fathers and Sons* by Ivan Turgenev  
*Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens  
*Paradise Lost* by John Milton  
*Complete Poems and Selected Letters of John Keats* by John Keats  
*Two Treatises of Government* by John Locke  
*On the Social Contract* by Rousseau  
*The Communist Manifesto* by Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx  
 "Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina" by Galileo Galilei  
*French Revolution* by Ian Davidson  
*Pursuit of Power* by Richard Evans

### Eleventh Grade

*Christian Apologetics* by Cornelius Van Til  
*The Crucible* by Arthur Miller  
*Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut  
*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley  
*The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair  
*Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe  
*A Rhetoric of Motives* by Kenneth Burke  
*The Landmark Thucydides* by Thucydides  
*Pro Archia Poeta Oratio* by M. Tullius Cicero  
*Metamorphoses* by P. Ovidius Naso  
 Selections from "Principia Mathematica" by Isaac Newton  
 "On the electrodynamics of moving bodies" by Albert Einstein  
*Presidents of Power* by Michael Beschloss  
*American Dreams* by H. W. Brands

### Twelfth Grade

*The Federalist Papers* (selections) by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay  
 The Articles of Confederation  
 US Constitution & Amendments  
*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
 1984 by George Orwell  
*The Stranger* by Albert Camus  
*Notes from Underground* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
*The Death of Ivan Ilyich* by Leo Tolstoy  
*Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka  
*Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi  
*The Company We Keep: An Ethics of Fiction* by Wayne C. Booth  
*A Simple Heart* by Gustave Flaubert  
*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce  
*My Life with Autism* by Temple Grandin and Oliver Sacks  
 Senior Thesis Writing Documents