

The Cambridge School 2021-2022 Profile

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



The Cambridge School is pleased to announce its fifth graduating class—the Class of 2022!

The Cambridge School is a K-12 school in the classical, Christian tradition, and a model school within our peer association, serving 381 ethnically and socio-economically diverse students in North County San Diego. We began in 2006 with nine students in kindergarten and first grade. By adding one new grade each year, 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 daily, synchronous on-line learning on 3/18/2020. The school day and class periods were shortened, and small-group, teacher-led conferences that allowed class discussions to thrive were added. 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.

2020-2021 School Year:

Students alternated attendance between one week fully on-campus with the normal block class schedule, and a one week, on-line, synchronous schedule. Our seven core discipline areas continued to be taught under our normal, all-Honors curriculum and grading. In February 2021, we returned to 100% on-campus instruction. Extracurriculars and Athletics returned for the last two months of the school year.

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 SAT Mean: 1300

EBRW Mean: 678

Math Mean: 622

ACT Mean: 33

Majority of Class - No Test

National Merit Recognition

2 Semi-finalists

3 Commended Scholars

1 CB Hispanic Recognition

Class Size: 15

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 15 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 2022 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 optional AP exams for Statistics and/or Calc BC.)
- In 11th grade, after completing 4 years of Latin, students choose to continue the next two years either with another language (Honors Greek I/II & III) or additional science (AP Chemistry in 11th and Honors Computer Science: Principles & Practice in 12th.)
- Few organized community volunteer/service options or clubs exist through the school. All class members have heavily and selflessly volunteered and served as student ambassadors who were critical to the growth of our young school.
- Students who completed studies through the 6th grade at The Cambridge School received Mandarin Chinese instruction for grades K-6.
- 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, 2020, and 2021 (48 Alumni with 100% College Matriculation)

Amherst College	Hope College^	University of Arizona, Honors College ^
Arizona State University,	Humboldt State University	University of California, Berkeley + ^
Barrett Honors College^	Illinois Institute of Technology^	UC Davis
Baylor University, Honors College ^	Johns Hopkins University	UC Irvine + ^
Biola University, Torrey Honors College ^	Kansas State University, College of Architecture ^	University of California, Los Angeles
Boise State University	Kenyon College^	UC Merced^
Boston College	Lafayette College	UC Riverside+
Brown University	Lewis & Clark College^	UC San Diego^
California Baptist University^	Loyola Marymount University	UC Santa Barbara
Cal Poly, Pomona	Loyola University, Chicago ^	University of California, Santa Cruz ^
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	Macalester College	University of Chicago
CSU, Fullerton	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of Dallas.
CSU, Long Beach	Miami University, Ohio^	University of Hawaii, Manoa^
CSU, Los Angeles	Montana State University^	University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Honors College^
CSU, Maritime	Northern Arizona University	University of Michigan
CSU, Monterey Bay	Northwestern University	University of Missouri, Columbia^
CSU, San Marcos	Ohio State University	University of New Mexico^
Calvin University ^	Otis College of Art & Design	University of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Mellon University^	Pepperdine University	University of Pittsburgh^
Case Western Reserve University^	Pitzer College ^	University of Puget Sound ^
Chapman University	Point Loma Nazarene University^	University of Richmond ^
Claremont McKenna College	Pratt Institute	University of Southern California
College of St. Benedict^	Princeton University	University of Texas, Austin, Honors College^
College of William and Mary	Providence Christian College^	University of Tulsa^
College of Wooster^	Reed College	University of Utah
Colorado School of Mines	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.	University of Washington
Colorado State University, Fort Collins	Rhodes College^	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Concordia University, Irvine^	Rice University^	Vanderbilt University
Cornell University	San Diego State University	Vassar College
Davidson College	San Francisco State University	Villanova University
DePaul University, Theater School ^	Santa Clara University	Washington & Lee University
DePaul University^	Sarah Lawrence College^	Washington University, St. Louis
Drexel University^	Savannah College of Art & Design	Wesleyan University
Eastern University^	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Western Washington University
Emory University	Scripps College	Westmont College ^
Flagler College	Seattle University	Wheaton College^
Fordham University^	Seattle Pacific University^	Whitman University
George Mason University^	St. John's College	Whitworth University ^
George Washington University^	St. John's University, NYC^	Williams College
Georgetown University	Saint Mary's College of California^	Yale University
Gonzaga University^	Stanford University	
Gordon College ^	Swarthmore College	
Grand Canyon University	The King's College^	
Grinnell College	Union College^	
Grove City College ^	United States Coast Guard Academy	
Hillsdale College ^	United States Military Academy at West Point	

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UPPER SCHOOL REQUIRED COURSES

	Humanities (Lit & History)	Foreign Language	Christian Studies	Liberal Arts (English)	Math	Science	Fine Arts/ Electives
9th	<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 & Formal Logic, 7th/8th)</i>	<i>Honors Algebra II (Geometry, 8th)</i>	<i>AP Biology or Biology</i>	Required for 9th: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Novice Debate (Competitive) Visual Art I
10th	<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>	10th-12th Electives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual Art II, III, IV Photography I, II Choral Music Creative Writing Varsity Debate (Competitive) Advanced Latin Reading House Leadership (by application) Journalism Studio Art Tutoring Outreach
11th	<i>Honors American</i>	<i>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 (all)</i> <i>AP Chemistry (or Greek I/II)</i>	
12th	<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 (all)</i> <i>Honors Computer Science: Principles and Practice (or Greek III)</i>	
Required Credits	8	2	2	2	3	3	1

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