

The Cambridge School 2025-2026 Profile

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



The Cambridge School is pleased to announce its ninth graduating class—the Class of 2026!

The Cambridge School is a K-12 school in the classical, Christian tradition, and a model school within our peer association, serving over 400 culturally and socio-economically diverse students in North County San Diego. Founded in 2006, we are now an established institution celebrating our 20th year of uniquely combining classical education principles with a Christian worldview, receiving the **No. 1 Christian School in California** ranking from Niche.

CEEB Code: 054785

Administration

Jean Chung Kim
Founder and Head of School

Dr. Melissa Gingrich
Upper School Principal

Director of College Counseling

Becky Priest
bpriest@cambridgeclassical.org

Accredited by WASC

Members of SCL, NACAC,
WACAC

Test Scores

(Among the highest in our county)

SAT Mean: 1440

ACT Mean: 33

Admission

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

The classical curriculum is carefully sequenced and begins in 7th grade. Therefore, **no new students are admitted after 9th grade.**

33% of families receive tuition assistance.

More than 50% of our parent population have advanced degrees.

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.

CURRICULAR & PEDAGOGICAL DISTINCTIVES:

- **All students complete the SAME, REQUIRED, CORE of six subject area courses through ALL of HIGH SCHOOL**, with no elective choice in the core subjects, and with intentionally cumulative, cross-disciplinary integration (e.g., everyone takes Calculus, etc.). Our curriculum is **ambitious** with **advanced coursework** across all disciplines.
- **Students are required to carry a 7-credit (9 class) load each year** which includes the standard five disciplines (Literature, History, Science, Math, Foreign Language) plus half-credit classes in Rhetoric and Christian Studies, plus two half-credit elective classes.
- **All students are required to complete a year-long senior thesis** which asks them to interact with their readings during high school, draw from their interdisciplinary training, and engage with the enduring ideas and timeless questions that the liberal arts have always explored (e.g., *What is the nature of man? What is truth?*) Students write a 10-page paper, give a 10-minute presentation, then interact with peers and faculty in a 30-minute conversation around these ideas in front of the entire school community.
- All humanities courses include **extensive primary source reading**, Socratic discussion, critical analysis, Toulmin argumentation, oral and written exams (never multiple choice or scanned), frequent 5-page essays, and class presentations.
- **All students are required to take math through Calculus and the following science courses: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics**—all of which focus on careful scientific argumentation in lab reports, frequent presentation and writing opportunities, and historical context for scientific and mathematical ideas.

Note: We intentionally do not offer many AP courses, with none in the Humanities, because our History, Rhetoric, and Literature classes are **more intellectually complex than the AP curriculum**. These courses are fully integrated and students read primary sources and Great Books (closer to IB than AP.) The rigor of our honors curriculum (defined as cognitive complexity and student autonomy) is 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 Faculty.**

The Cambridge School 2025-2026 Profile

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



National Merit Recognition

2 Semi-Finalists
1 Commended Scholar

Class Size: 19

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

Class Rank and GPA

Highest possible 9-12th weighted GPA is 4.87 on a 4.0 scale.
Top 10% GPA is 4.86+.
With only 19 students in the class, full GPA distribution nor class rank are provided.

Three AP Classes Offered

Biology: 10th-12th Grade
Calculus AB: 11th Grade
Chemistry: 11th Grade
AP class participation only with teacher approval.

Accomplished Faculty

90% of our teachers hold a Masters or PhD in the discipline they teach.

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: *(Continued)*

- Students are required to **complete Latin to Level IV** (by 10th grade) so that they are translating Vergil and other classical authors with ease.
- 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. We have no early graduation and no early dismissal.

CLASS OF 2025 CURRICULAR CHOICES: *(See chart on fourth page)*

- For 11th grade math, students had a choice between AP Calculus AB or non-AP Calculus AB. For 11th grade science, students had a choice between Honors Physics or Physics.
- For 12th grade math, students chose between Statistics, Honors Statistics, or Honors Statistics with Advanced Calculus Principles (preparing them for optional AP exams in 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.)
- We offer dual enrollment credit through Colorado Christian University for our Greek III course.

CO-CURRICULAR DISTINCTIVES:

- **Required Athletics participation.** Two seasons of interscholastic competitive, team 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.
- **Advisory Program.** Students work closely with a faculty mentor twice weekly on a variety of endeavors—special study topics, hands-on projects, fellowship—including explicit intellectual virtue education modeled after the *Framework for Character Education in Schools* published by the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues.
- 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.
- For our students who are **House Leaders**, weekly responsibilities rise above 15 hours per week, making participation in outside ECs more difficult.
- **Few organized 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.

The Cambridge School 2025-2026 Profile

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



99% College Matriculation and 99% College Graduation

63%

Percentage of alumni who are attending college out of state

24%

Percentage of alumni who received full-tuition merit or college's top merit scholarship

29%

Percentage of alumni who are part of an Honors College/Program

COLLEGES OF ATTENDANCE FOR 2018-2025—123 TOTAL ALUMNI

Arizona State University	George Washington University [^]	Rose Hulman Institute of Technology (2)	UC Santa Barbara (2)
Arizona State University, Barrett Honors College [^]	Georgetown University (2)	Rutgers University, Business School Honors	UC Santa Cruz [^]
Baylor University, Honors College [^] (7)	Gordon College, Honors Program [^] (5)	San Diego City College	University of Chicago (2)
Belmont University, Honors College [^]	Grand Canyon University, Honors College [^]	San Diego State University, Weber Honors College [^] (2)	University of Notre Dame
Biola University, Torrey Honors College [^] (4)	Grove City College [^] (3)	St. John's College, Annapolis [^]	University of Pittsburgh
Bowdoin College	Harvey Mudd College	Stanford University (4)	University of Portland [^]
Brigham Young University	Hillsdale College [^] (7)	Texas A&M University, Honors Program	University of Puget Sound [^]
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo (2)	Indiana University, Kelley School of Business	Texas Christian University, Honors Program	University of Richmond [^]
CSU, Long Beach	John Cabot University	US Coast Guard Academy	University of Tulsa [^]
Calvin University [^]	Johns Hopkins University (2)	University of Alabama, Huntsville	University of Utah
Chapman University [^]	Kansas State University [^] (2)	University of Arizona, Honors Program [^]	Wellesley College
Clark University	Lehigh University	UC Berkeley+ [^] (5)	Wesleyan University
Claremont McKenna College	Loyola University, Chicago [^] (2)	UC Irvine+ [^] (2)	Westmont College
College of William & Mary [^]	Northeastern University	UC Los Angeles (9)	Westmont College, Augustinian Scholars Program [^] (3)
Colorado State University, Fort Collins (3)	Northern Arizona University, Honors Program [^]	UC Merced	Whitworth University [^] (2)
Creighton University	Olivet Nazarene University	UC San Diego+ [^] (4)	
DePaul University, Theater School [^]	Patrick Henry College [^]		
Duke University	Pitzer College [^]		
	Princeton University		

(+) Denotes UC Regents and Chancellors Scholarship/ UC Honors College
 (^) Denotes significant Merit Scholarship or Honors College

COLLEGES OF ACCEPTANCE FOR 2021-2025 (PARTIAL LIST)

Amherst College	Kenyon College [^]	Southern Methodist University [^]	University of Michigan
Boston College	Lafayette College	St. John's College	University of New Mexico [^]
Brown University	Loyola Marymount University	St. John's University, NYC [^]	University of Pennsylvania
California Baptist University [^]	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	St. Mary's College of California [^]	University of Pittsburgh [^]
CSU, Fullerton	Northwestern University	Steven's Institute of Technology [^]	University of Southern California
Carnegie Mellon University [^]	Oregon State University	Swarthmore College	University of Texas, Austin, Honors College [^]
Case Western Reserve University [^]	Pepperdine University	US Military Academy at West Point	University of Washington
Concordia University, Irvine [^]	Point Loma Nazarene University [^]	UC Davis	Vanderbilt University
Cornell University	Pratt Institute	UC Merced [^]	Villanova University
Davidson College	Reed College	University of Colorado, Boulder	Washington & Lee University
Emory University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute [^]	University of Dallas	Washington University in St. Louis
Fordham University [^]	Rice University [^]	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	Wheaton College [^]
Georgia Institute of Technology	Samford University [^]	University of MD, College Park	Williams College
Gonzaga University [^]	Santa Clara University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Honors College [^]	Worcester Polytechnic Institute [^]
Grinnell College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago		Yale University
Hope College [^]			

The Cambridge School 2025-2026 Profile

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



UPPER SCHOOL REQUIRED COURSES

	Humanities (Lit & History)	Christian Studies	Liberal Arts (English)	Math	Science	Foreign Language	Fine Arts/ Electives
9th	<i>Honors Medieval (European and Arabic)</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>Honors Biology</i>	<i>Honors Latin III (Latin I and II, 7th/8th)</i>	Required for 9th: <i>Novice Debate Visual Art I</i>
10th	<i>Honors Modern European</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> AP Biology as a 10th or 12th elective option	<i>Honors Latin IV (final year of 4 years of required language)</i>	10th-12th Main Elective Options: (Graded) <i>Adv. Latin Reading AP Biology House Leadership (by application) JV or Varsity Debate Visual Art II, III, IV</i>
11th	<i>Honors American</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>	AP Chemistry or Honors Greek I/II or Late Start	
12th	<i>Honors World Literature; Economics; Government</i>	<i>Honors Ethics and Aesthetics</i>	<i>Honors Senior Thesis</i>	<i>Honors Statistics and Advanced Calculus Principles, or Honors Statistics, or Statistics</i>	<i>Honors Neuroscience Seminar</i>	Honors Computer Science: Principles and Practice or Honors Greek III or Late Start	10th-12th Fine Arts Elective Options: (Pass/Fail) <i>Creative Writing Latin Poetry & Prose Photography I, II, III Mixed Media Art Speech Living Well</i>
Required Credits	8	2	2	3	3	2	1
Credits Earned by Most Students	8	2	2	4	4	4	2

THE CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL GRADING SCALE

Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Numerical Grade (Percentile)	Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Numerical Grade (Percentile)	Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Unweighted Value (Regular Course)	Grading Scale (Letter Grade)	Unweighted Value (Regular Course)
A+	98-100	B-	80-82	A+	4.00	B-	2.67
A	93-97	C+	77-79	A	4.00	C+	2.33
A-	90-92	C	73-76	A-	3.67	C	2.00
B+	87-89	C-	70-72	B+	3.33	C-	1.67
B	83-86	F	0-69	B	3.00	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.

GRADE INFLATION: Grade inflation is minimized because of evaluation through the Apprentice/Journeyman/Master rubric, translated to letter grades for purposes of transcript. If an A is reported, it means the student has done more than turn in assignments. It means they have met high expectations to master the material and express it well, both orally and in writing.