



Lawrence Academy

SCHOOL PROFILE 2017–2018

Lawrence Academy
P.O. Box 992
Groton, MA 01450

The College Counseling Office

978-448-1557
fax 978-448-1558
www.lacademy.edu

CEEB Code 220–940

Dan Scheibe
Head of School

Rachel Culley
Registrar
rculley@lacademy.edu

Sean P. Sheehan
*Director of
College Counseling*
ssheehan@lacademy.edu

Kimberly Bohlin Healy
*Associate Director
of College Counseling*
kbohlin@lacademy.edu

Courtney Cronin
College Counselor
ccronin@lacademy.edu

Christopher Margraf
College Counselor
cmargraf@lacademy.edu

THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1793, Lawrence Academy is an academically rigorous coeducational boarding and day college-preparatory school enrolling 400 students in grades 9–12. The day population draws from eastern Massachusetts and neighboring New Hampshire towns. Fourteen percent of the student population is international, representing twenty different countries, while the remaining boarding students come from eighteen different states. On average, 100 seniors graduate each year, with 100 percent matriculating at a four-year college.

CALENDAR

Lawrence Academy operates on a trimester system, with a required two-week “Winterim” experiential education program at the end of the winter term. The first trimester ends at Thanksgiving recess; the second, approximately March 1.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Year-long courses earn one credit; term-length electives earn one-third credit. Students entering in Grade 9 must earn 18 credits; 17-1/3 credits are required for all others for graduation, including the following distribution requirements:

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years (through Math 3)
Science	3 years of a laboratory science for students entering in Grade 9 (NGP Science, Chemistry, Biology); 2 years for others (Chemistry and Biology)
History	3 years if entering in Grade 9; 2 years for others (U.S. History plus one other)
Language	2 years of one language
Arts	2 years for students entering in Grade 9; 1/3 per year for those entering after Grade 9
Winterim	All students must pass a two-week course each year they are in attendance.
Athletics	Students must participate in an afternoon activity each term they are enrolled.
Community Service	Six hours per year of attendance

CLASS RANK

Lawrence Academy does not provide class rank, an end-of-year average, or a cumulative grade point average.

REPORTING DISCIPLINE

It is expected that students, when asked about discipline, will respond in an honest and forthright manner. If Lawrence Academy discovers that the student has not contacted the college or has not answered the question honestly and in a forthright manner, Lawrence Academy will immediately contact the college directly. If a college asks about a student’s disciplinary procedure, Lawrence Academy will answer the question honestly and in a forthright manner.

ACCREDITATION

New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Memberships are held in the National Association for College Admissions Counseling, the New England Association for College Admissions Counseling, the College Board, and the Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools.

THE CURRICULUM

Year-long classes form the core of the upper class curriculum. The science and history department offer courses that are trimester in length, and in the arts, most of the classes are only one term. Lawrence Academy no longer offers Advanced Placement courses. Our most rigorous courses will be designated “Honors,” and students may only take these courses with the permission of the department chair and/or completion of a qualifying exam. In math and science, there are also courses that have the designation of “Advanced,” and these courses, while less rigorous than an Honors course, proceed at a faster pace and go into greater depth than those without the designation. Please note that arts courses are treated like all others in computing grade point average, as we do not distinguish between “minor” and “major” subjects.

Some special features of our academic program include:

The Ninth Grade Program (NGP)

The NGP is the foundation of a Lawrence Academy education and is required of all ninth grade students. The NGP is a rigorous, skills-based, interdisciplinary study of history, English, science, and the arts. This team-taught program emphasizes the intellectual skills common to these disciplines; writing, reading, reasoning and creativity, listening and speaking, and organization. Students earn credit for one year of each subject: history, English, science, and art. Each student’s average in the skills is converted to a letter grade, which is assigned to each subject. Subject grades on the transcript are therefore identical for history, English, science, and art.

Combined Studies Course (CSC)

All sophomores take the Combined Studies Course (CSC), which combines English and history. The integrated course aims to develop the skills shared by the two disciplines — reading, writing, reasoning, and research — and to coordinate some of the history (world history) and English subject matter. Each section is taught by an English teacher and a history teacher, who work as a team to coordinate teaching methods, content, skills development, and homework.

Mathematics

Rather than the traditional separation of the study of algebra and geometry, Math 1, Math 2, Math 2 Advanced and Honors Math 2 integrate the study of the two subjects. Math 3: Functions and Applications focuses mainly on function families and trigonometry and has three tracks: Math 3, Math 3 Advanced and Honors Math 3. Math 4: Pre-calculus entails the study of traditional pre-calculus topics along with probability, and it also has three tracks: Math 4, Math 4 Advanced and Honors Math 4. The different levels distinguish both the pace of the class and the depth of study of the various mathematics topics. Upper-level math courses include Statistics, Math 5: Calculus, Honors Math 5: Calculus, Honors Computer Science, and Honors Topics in Mathematics which includes the study of linear algebra, advanced statistics and projective geometry.

English as a Second Language

ESL courses are in the English, and history areas only. Students in the ESL program take mainstream math, science and art courses. Study of a foreign language (French, Spanish, Latin, and Chinese) is not permitted while students are in the ESL program. If students enter the mainstream English and history program by the tenth or eleventh grade, they are required to start a foreign language. The ESL program is a writing- and reading-intensive course of study designed to strengthen the proficiency level of those international student who, although highly motivated, still need to focus their English skills within a college preparatory context. Students in this program work with many of the same texts as their mainstream counterparts.

Winterim

A central feature of the Lawrence curriculum, Winterim is a two-week course in March dedicated to experiential learning. Courses are offered both on and off campus. The nature and educational goals of each Winterim course determine the method of evaluation (e.g., a journal, paper, or certification). Students receive grades of Honors, Pass, or Fail.

The Independent Immersion Program (IIP)

The IIP is a specialized, non-graded, independent learning program for highly motivated students. A few juniors and seniors are accepted into the program each year to pursue an intellectual or artistic interest more deeply than is possible in a traditional academic setting. Regular course distribution requirements do not apply to IIP students, and comprehensive written evaluations take the place of letter grades.

Honors Courses Offered in the 2016-2017 School Year (Taken Only With the Permission of the Department Chair and/or the Completion of a Qualifying Exam)

Arts: Honors Dance 1, Honors Dance 2, Honors Lawrence Academy Singers, Honors Lawrence Academy Band, Honors Theater Ensemble 1, Honors Theater Ensemble 2, Honors Music 1, Honors Music 2, Honors Visual Art 1, Honors Visual Art 2

English: Honors Junior English Seminar, Honors Writing, Honors Literature

History: Honors U.S. History, Honors Senior History, Honors U.S. Government and Politics

Language: Honors French 3, Honors French 4, Honors French 5, Honors Latin III, Honors Latin IV, Honors Spanish 3, Honors Spanish 4, Honors Spanish 5, Honors Spanish 6

Mathematics: Honors Math 2, Honors Math 3, Honors Math 4, Honors Calculus, Honors Computer Science (Honors Computer Science is offered every other year), Honors Topics in Mathematics

Science: Honors Chemistry, Honors Biology, Honors Physics, Honors Environmental Science

GRADING

Letter grades A through F are used, and a weighted grade point average is computed each term using a 4.0 scale. (A GPA greater than a 4.0 is possible because of weighting.) First-trimester senior grades are included with applications or sent as soon as available. Second trimester grades are sent for all applicants in early March.

Weighting: For year-long courses, one-third (.33) of a point for each Honors course is added to the total grade points each time grades are computed; .11 is added for a term elective Honors course.

NUMERICAL EQUIVALENTS USED FOR AVERAGING									
A	4.0	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33	F	0.0
A-	3.67	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0		
		B-	2.67	C-	1.67	D-	0.67		

Cum Laude: Top 10 percent of juniors with no grade below a B-

High Honor Roll: Average of 3.50 and above with no grade below B

Honor Roll: Average of 3.00 and above with no grade below B-

SAT SCORES: MIDDLE 50 PERCENT			
	Class of 2017	Class of 2016	Class of 2015
Critical Reading	545-630	490-600	520-620
Mathematics	525-640	510-650	520-650
Writing	29-33	510-610	500-620

ACT COMPOSITE SCORES: MIDDLE 50 PERCENT			
	Class of 2017	Class of 2016	Class of 2015
	21-28	22-27	22-27

Please note: SAT and ACT scores do not appear on a student's transcript. It is the student's responsibility to have official score reports sent to colleges. The College Counseling Office will send or fax an unofficial testing record upon request.

Colleges Attending – Lawrence Academy Graduates 2015-2017

Acadia University	Fordham University (4)	Union College (4)
Adrian College	Franklin Pierce University (3)	United States Military Academy
American University (6)	George Washington University (3)	University of Alabama
Arizona State University	Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Babson College	Gettysburg College (4)	University of the Arts
Bard College (2)	Grinnell College	University of Arizona
Barnard College	Hobart & William Smith Colleges (11)	University of British Columbia
Bates College (6)	Iowa State University	University of California, Berkeley (2)
Bentley University (5)	Ithaca College	University of California, Davis
Boston College (3)	Kenyon College (2)	University of Cincinnati
Boston University (5)	Lafayette College (3)	University of Colorado Boulder (5)
Brandeis University (8)	Lewis & Clark College	University of Connecticut
Bridgewater State University	Loyola University Maryland (4)	University of Delaware
Brown University (3)	Maryville University	University of Hartford (2)
Bryant University	Middlebury College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Bryn Mawr College	Mount Holyoke College	University of Kentucky
Bucknell University	Muhlenberg College	University of Maine (3)
Butler University	New York University (6)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst (2)
Carleton College	Northeastern University (11)	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Chapman University	Penn. State University, Univ. Park	University of Miami (3)
Claremont McKenna College	Providence College (5)	University of Michigan
Clark University (2)	Quinnipiac University (4)	University of New Hampshire (6)
Colby College (5)	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Redlands (2)
Colgate University	Robert Morris University	University of Rochester
College of Charleston (4)	Rochester Institute of Technology (2)	University of Rhode Island
College of the Holy Cross (2)	Roger Williams University (2)	University of South Carolina
College of Wooster	Sacred Heart University (2)	University of Southern California
Columbia University (3)	Saint Anselm College (7)	University of Tampa
Connecticut College (9)	Saint Joseph's College	University of Vermont (5)
Cornell University	Saint Michael's College (6)	University of Washington
Curry College	Santa Clara University	Utah State University
Dartmouth College	Skidmore College (3)	Utica College
Denison University (2)	Smith College	Villanova University
Dickinson College	St. Lawrence University	Wake Forest University
Drew University	Stonehill College	Washington University in St. Louis
East Carolina University	Suffolk University	Wesleyan University (2)
Eckerd College	Syracuse University (5)	Wheaton College (4)
Elmira College	Temple University (2)	Williams College
Elon University (6)	The New School	Worcester Polytechnic Institute (2)
Emory University	Trinity College, CT (9)	
Endicott College (3)	Tufts University (3)	
Fairfield University (5)	Tulane University (3)	