



Upper School

GRADES 9-12

PROGRAMS
2022-23

Information in this brochure represents our program for the previous academic year.
The year your student enrolls, there may be slight changes to the program.

THE HARKER SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

GRADES 9-12 • 2022-23

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*Note: Elective courses rotate, and may not be offered every year.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Harker strives to create lifelong learners. Curious and thoughtful students encounter a multitude of opportunities in and out of the classroom, sparking discovery throughout their time at our upper school. From the basketball court to the debate podium, from the research lab to the stage, and in so many other ways, students discover their unique paths with the opportunity to explore each interest in depth. We advocate for students finding balance among their commitments with our wellness program, advisors, counselors, extensive teacher office hours, and block schedule. Engaging teachers and classmates truly care for each other and create a warm and supportive community. Harker graduates are more than ready to take their place as global citizens and leaders.

These pages are intended to, in one place, convey the vast possibilities to craft an experience unique to you. Enjoy learning about the possibilities!

LIFE AND WELLNESS

PURPOSE

LIFE at Harker stands for Living with Intent, Focus and Enthusiasm, and these tenets inform the skills, attitudes and behaviors necessary to ethically and compassionately respond to everyday decisions and challenges. During these formative years, a student's personal growth happens in relation to others, from teachers and peers to coaches and staff members. LIFE models forming such vital connections through our work with well-established organizations such as Challenge Success, Common Sense Media and Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD).

LIFE SESSIONS

The purpose of LIFE sessions is to designate a time for students at each grade level to engage with professionals and other knowledgeable adults on topics vital to their overall development into healthy, happy and successful adults. Topics vary by grade and from year to year so that students are receiving the most pertinent, up-to-date information. All LIFE sessions are mandatory. General topics include:

- Decision-making
- Sexuality
- Mindfulness
- Substance abuse
- Healthy relationships
- Planning for a positive high school experience
- Alumni Q&A
- Digital awareness
- Distracted driving

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are held periodically for students to join voluntarily. The workshops are typically 30 minutes in length and occur during the days that the student body has an hour and a half lunch break. General topics include:

- Adulthood 101
- Female wellness
- Male wellness
- Self defense
- Mindfulness
- Time management
- College preparation with alumni

EAGLE BUDDIES

Each year grade 10 students are paired with grade 3 students to be Eagle Buddies. These buddies will remain together throughout the following three years. The upper school and lower school Eagle Buddies have three opportunities each year to get together to have lunch, play games and enjoy various activities. The buddies write each other several times each year.

PARENT EDUCATION

One thing is certain in childhood and adolescence: change is constant. As such, the challenge for parents is to continually evolve to meet the unique needs of their child in order to remain supportive of their unique development. At The

Harker School, we believe that parents and teachers are partners in this journey. On our website and in our libraries, we offer parenting resources that could be valuable in meeting typical developmental opportunities. We provide digital family resources and regular presentations from our learning, innovation and design directors about media and digital literacy. We also provide parent presentations regarding normal developmental growth and challenges such as managing stress and current topics of teen culture.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The following is a sampling of the clubs, societies and programs. Lists may vary slightly each year, especially for clubs.

CLUBS

Aerospace Club
 App Development Club
 Applied Tech Club
 Art Club
 Astronomy Club
 Biodiversity Club
 Biotechnology (Biotech) Club
 Book Blog Club
 Business Analytics Club
 Car Club
 Chess Club
 Civic Tech Club
 Civil Discourse Club
 Dance Club
 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
 Book Club
 Dungeons & Dragons Club
 Ethics in Technology Forum
 FEM Club
 Future Problem Solvers (FPS)
 Green Team
 GSA
 Harker C.A.R.E.S. Program
 Harker Eclectic Literature and Media (HELM)

Harker HOSA
 HarkerCTF
 HarkerDev
 Historical Research Club
 IMDO (Medical Olympiad)
 Interact
 International Outlook Foundation
 Investment Club
 Key Club
 Languages and Linguistics Club
 Law Club
 Maker Club
 Marine Sciences Club
 Math Club
 Medical Club
 Model UN
 Multicultural Club
 Multimedia Club
 Music Creation Club
 Nanoseed
 Philosophy Club
 Physical Sciences Club
 Podcast Network
 Power of Words
 Programming Club
 Protecting Animals Worldwide

Psychology Club

PROGRAMS

Career Connect
 DECA
 Economics Program
 Honor Council
 Junior Classical League
 Math Competitions
 Research Program
 Robotics Team
 Spirit Leadership
 TedX Harker School
 Student Council/ASB
 Student Diversity Coalition (SDC)
 Ambassador Program
 Student Activities Board

SOCIETIES

Chinese National Honor Society
 French National Honor Society
 Japanese National Honor Society
 National Honor Society
 Oeconomia
 Spanish National Honor Society
 Tri-M Music Society

COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

Harker students benefit from our talented coaching staff and athletic trainers. We field more than 40 teams in 15 different sports. These are Harker's competitive sports which do earn students .5 credit of P.E. per season. For non-competitive P.E. options, see page 8.

FALL SPORTS

Cheerleading
 Cross country
 Football
 Golf - girls
 Tennis - girls
 Volleyball - girls
 Water polo - boys
 Water polo - girls

WINTER SPORTS

Basketball - boys
 Basketball - girls
 Cheerleading
 Soccer - boys
 Soccer - girls

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball
 Golf - boys
 Lacrosse - girls
 Softball
 Swimming
 Track & field
 Tennis - boys
 Volleyball - boys

SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

A Schedule	B Schedule	C Schedule	D Schedule
Period 1 8:00 AM - 9:25 AM 85 Minutes	Period 5 8:00 AM - 9:25 AM 85 Minutes	Period 1 8:00 AM - 9:25 AM 85 Minutes	Period 5 8:00 AM - 9:25 AM 85 Minutes
Passing 9:25-9:35 AM	Passing 9:25 - 9:35 AM	Passing 9:25-9:35 AM	Passing 9:25 - 9:35 AM
Period 2 9:35 AM - 11:00 AM 85 Minutes	School Meeting 9:35-10:05 AM 30 Minutes	Period 4 9:35 AM - 11:00 AM 85 Minutes	Advisory 9:35-10:05 AM 30 Minutes
Passing 11:00-11:10 AM	Office Hours 10:05-10:35 AM 30 Minutes	Passing 11:00-11:10 AM	Office Hours 10:05-10:35 AM 30 Minutes
Class Mtg 11:10-11:25	Passing 10:35-10:45 AM	Class Mtg 11:10-11:25	Passing 10:35-10:45 AM
Lunch 11:10 AM - 11:55 PM 45 minutes	Period 6 10:45 AM - 12:10 PM 85 Minutes	Lunch 11:10 AM - 11:55 PM 45 minutes	Period 7 10:45 AM - 12:10 PM 85 Minutes
Passing 11:55-12:00	Passing 11:00-11:10 AM	Passing 11:55-12:00	Passing 11:00-11:10 AM
Period 3 12:00 PM - 1:25 PM 85 Minutes	Lunch 12:10- 12:20	Period 2 12:00 PM - 1:25 PM 85 Minutes	Passing 12:10- 12:20
Passing 1:25-1:35 PM	Lunch 12:20 PM - 1:30 PM 70 minutes	Passing 1:25-1:35 PM	Lunch 12:20 PM - 1:30 PM 70 minutes
Period 4 1:35 PM - 3:00 PM 85 Minutes	Passing 12:10- 12:20	Passing 1:25-1:35 PM	Club Leadership 1:00-1:30 PM
Passing 3:00-3:10	Passing 1:30-1:35 PM	Passing 3:00-3:10	Passing 1:30-1:35 PM
See Collaboration Schedule	Period 7 1:35 PM - 3:00 PM 85 Minutes	Period 3 1:35 PM - 3:00 PM 85 Minutes	Period 6 1:35 PM - 3:00 PM 85 Minutes
See Collaboration Schedule	Passing 3:00-3:10	Passing 3:00-3:10	Passing 3:00-3:10
See Collaboration Schedule	See Collaboration Schedule	See Collaboration Schedule	See Collaboration Schedule

School begins every day at 8 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Our block schedule rotates through four different schedules and any schedule can occur on any day of the week. For example, if the week begins with an A schedule it ends on Friday with the A schedule and starts with the B schedule on Monday. Classes meet every other day for 85 minutes each, allowing for in-depth discussion and a variety of teaching methods.

- Great access to teachers and extra help during office hours. Teachers are in their rooms to meet with any students every other day for 30 minutes, after school every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.
- 10-minute passing periods to allow time to relax and refocus for next class.
- Extra period options, such as journalism or orchestra, meet during the school day during a class period.
- Long lunch periods of 70 minutes every other day, which is also a time that clubs meet.
- Advisory is group of 8-10 students who meet during D days with a teacher. The advisory stays together all four years and is great for downtime and developing a close bond with a diverse group.
- School meeting is an opportunity for the whole school to gather as a community to share important news.
- Class meeting offers each grade level a separate opportunity to address matters salient to their smaller community.

AREAS OF STUDY

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Principles of Business and Entrepreneurship
Business Leadership
Honors Entrepreneurship: Startup Incubator I and II
Economics*
Behavioral Economics*
AP Economics (Micro and Macro)
Honors Advanced Topics in Economics: Game Theory*
Honors Advanced Topics in Economics: Econometrics

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Digital World*
Programming*
Advanced Programming*
Robotics Principles: Hardware*
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science with Data Structures
Honors Data Structures*

Honors Advanced Topics in Computer Science*
• Compilers and Interpreters
• Computer Architecture
• Expert Systems
• Neural Networks ♦♦
• Numerical Methods ♦♦
• Programming Languages
• Robot Kinematics Software ♦♦

♦♦ symbol indicates course is calculus intensive

ENGLISH

English 1: The Study of Literary Genres
English 2: A Survey of British Literature
English 3: A Survey of American Literature
Honors English 1: The Study of Literary Genres
Honors English 2: A Survey of British Literature
Honors English 3: A Survey of American Literature

ELECTIVE CLASSES: English senior electives are semester-long classes and rotate each year.

Every elective may not be offered every year.

AP English: Literature and Composition (year-long class)

English 4:

Modern American Drama
Modern American Poetics
Art of Poetry and Fiction
Asian Masterpieces
Black American Literature
Gothic Literature: Vampires and the Macabre
The Graphic Narrative
Great Novels
Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation

Justice in Literature
Literature into Film
Literature of the Holocaust
Madness in Literature
The Modern Essay
Modern European Drama
Mystery and Detective Fiction
Native American Literature
Postmodern Literature
Russian Literature
Satire and Comedy
Shakespeare — Comedies, Tragedies and Romances
Southern Fiction
Speculative Fiction and Society: Science Fiction and Fantasy
A Study of Short Fiction

* = semester-long class

GLOBAL ONLINE ACADEMY

Harker is a member of the Global Online Academic, a nonprofit consortium of more than 85 independent schools representing 20 countries and over 25 states. Membership in GOA allows Harker students to explore electives in an online setting that fosters global collaboration.

YEARLONG (1.0 units):

Arabic Language through Culture I
Arabic Language through Culture II
Arabic Language through Culture III
Japanese Language through Culture I
Japanese Language through Culture II
Japanese Language through Culture III
Multivariable Calculus

SEMESTER-LONG:

Applying Philosophy to Global Issues
Business Problem-Solving
Creative Nonfiction
Filmmaking
International Relations
Introduction to Investments
Introduction to Legal Thinking
Microeconomics
Number Theory
Problem-Solving with Engineering Design
Race & Society
Social Psychology
Bioethics
Computer Science I: Computational Thinking

Global Health
Graphic Design
9/11 in a Global Context
Abnormal Psychology
Architecture
Climate Change & Global Inequality
Computer Science II: Analyzing Data with Python
Computer Science II: Game Design and Development
Computer Science II: Java Cybersecurity
Data Visualization
Digital Photography
Entrepreneurship in a Global Context
Fiction Writing
Game Theory
Gender and Society
Genocide and Human Rights
Linear Algebra
Macroeconomics
Medical Problem-Solving I & II
Neuropsychology
Prisons and Criminal Justice Systems
Personal Finance
Positive Psychology
Arts Entrepreneurship
iOS App Design

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Required Courses - Grade 9

World History 1: Early Civilizations through the Renaissance or World History 1 Honors

Required Courses - Grade 10

World History 2, World History 2 Honors, AP World History, or AP European History

Required Courses - Grade 11

U.S. History, Honors U.S. History, or AP U.S. History

YEARLONG ELECTIVES:

AP Art History
AP Psychology
AP United States Government and Politics

SEMESTER ELECTIVES:

History of the Holocaust and Genocide
Honors Modern International Affairs
Honors Modern International Topics
Psychology
World Religions and Philosophy
Social Psychology
Civics
Intro to Ethnic Studies
Intro to Social Justice

JOURNALISM

Introduction to Journalism
Journalism: Yearbook Concentration
Advanced Journalism: Yearbook Concentration

Journalism: Newspaper Concentration
Advanced Journalism: Newspaper Concentration

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 1
Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Honors Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Geometry
Honors Geometry
Precalculus
Honors Precalculus
Finite Mathematics
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
Honors Calculus C with Multivariable Calculus
AP Calculus BC

AP Statistics
Honors Multivariate Calculus*
Honors Differential Equations*
Honors Linear Algebra*
Honors Discrete Mathematics*
Engineering*
Honors Advanced Topics in Mathematics*
Topics Offered:
• Information Theory I and II*
• Signals and Systems
• Differential Equations II

MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

SPANISH

Spanish 1
Spanish 2
Honors Spanish 2
Spanish 3
Honors Spanish 3
Spanish 4: Advanced Conversation and Composition
Honors Spanish 4
AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP Spanish Literature and Culture
Literature and Film of the Spanish-Speaking World*
Contemporary Issues in the Spanish-Speaking World*
The Latin American Short Story*

FRENCH

French 1**
French 2
French 3
Honors French 3
French 4: Advanced Conversation and Composition
Honors French 4
AP French Language & Culture
French Prose*
French Literature & Film*
Honors Advanced Topics in French: Renaissance & Classical Literature*
Honors Advanced Topics in French: Romantic & Modern Literature*

JAPANESE

Japanese 1**
Japanese 2
Japanese 3
Honors Japanese 3
Japanese 4
Honors Japanese 4
Japanese 5
Contemporary Japan
AP Japanese Language and Culture

LATIN

Latin 1**
Latin 2
Latin 3
Honors Latin 3
Latin 4: Advanced Study of Roman Prose and Poetry
AP Latin
Honors Advanced Latin Literature: Epic*
Honors Advanced Latin Literature: Satire*
Honors Advanced Latin Literature: Prose*
Honors Advanced Latin Literature: Lyric Poetry*

CHINESE

Mandarin 1**
Mandarin 2
Mandarin 3
Honors Mandarin 3
Mandarin 4
Honors Mandarin 4
AP Chinese Language and Culture

* = semester-long class ** = Level 1 offered if enough students enroll

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

NONCOMPETITIVE

Capoeira*
Personal Fitness (P.E. and Weightlifting)*
Yoga*

ACADEMIC COURSES IN P.E.

Kinesiology and Sports Medicine 1
Kinesiology and Sports Medicine 2

SCIENCE

Required Courses - Grade 9
 Physics or Honors Physics
Required Courses - Grade 10
 Chemistry, Honors Chemistry or AP Chemistry
Required Courses - Grade 11
 Biology, Honors Biology or AP Biology

ELECTIVE CLASSES

Honors Analytical Chemistry*
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics 2

AP Physics C
Astronomy*
Biotechnology*
Electronics*
Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology
Honors Nanoscience*
Research Methods
Advanced Research Methods*
The Science of Food*
Seminar in Modern Physics*
Study of Organic Chemistry*
Biomedical Ethics

SPEECH AND DEBATE

Introduction to Speech and Debate
Intermediate & Competitive Speech and Debate
 Lincoln-Douglas

Speech
Public Forum
Congressional

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

PERFORMING ARTS

REQUIRED COURSES
(One of the following full-year courses)
Study of Dance
Study of Music
Study of Theater Arts
Study of Visual Arts
Study of Technical Theater
AP Art History

ELECTIVE COURSES

Advanced Acting*
Scene Study*:
 Advanced Scene Study
 Shakespeare in Performance
Student-Directed Showcase*
Acting for the Camera*
Technical Theater* 2 & 3
AP Music Theory
Bel Canto
Camerata
Cantilena
Downbeat
Conducting Basics*

Arranging and Composing*
Basic Vocal Technique and Collaborative Piano*
Harker Dance Company
Kinetic Krew
Dance Composition*
Choreography*
Lab Band
Jazz Band
Orchestra
Performance Practice for Instrumentalists*
Vocal Interpretation

VISUAL ARTS

Architecture*
Ceramics*
Advanced Ceramics*
Drawing*
Advanced Drawing*
Graphic Design*
Advanced Graphic Design*
Painting*
Advanced Painting*
Photography*
Advanced Photography*

* = semester-long class

Sculpture*
Advanced Sculpture*
Printmaking
Filmmaking

Glass
AP Studio Art (Drawing, 2-D & 3-D)
Honors Art: Directed Portfolio*

CONSERVATORY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Students especially interested in the performing arts may apply for participation in the Harker Conservatory Certificate program in one of the following areas: dance, instrumental music, vocal music, acting, musical theater or technical theater. To receive the certificate, students engage in a rigorous four-year program; they are guided through a comprehensive course of study in all of the performing arts, with special emphasis in the discipline of the student's choice. Program requirements include courses and workshops in disciplines other than the student's emphasis, involvement in productions/ensembles/festivals, sophomore juries and through live performance critiques in a variety of genres, including dramas, musicals and concerts. The program culminates in the senior year with a final presentation to the faculty advisory panel and a formal performance of pieces from the student's portfolio, accompanied by the presentation of the Certificate. Most Conservatory requirements do not appear on the transcript.

ADVANCED CURRICULUM

ADVANCED PLACEMENT™ COURSES

AP English Literature & Composition
AP U.S. History
AP U.S. Government & Politics
AP European History
AP World History
AP Psychology
AP Economics - Macro
AP Economics - Micro
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
AP Spanish Language & Culture
AP Spanish Literature
AP French Language & Culture
AP Japanese Language & Culture
AP Chinese Language & Culture

AP Latin
AP Chemistry*
AP Biology*
AP Physics 2
AP Physics C
 Mechanics
 Electricity & Magnetism
AP Environmental Science
AP Computer Science
AP Art History
AP Music Theory
AP Studio Art
 2-D Design
 3-D Design
 Drawing

** Students who enroll directly into AP Chemistry or AP Biology without previous study of that subject in high school are required to complete a summer course.*

POST-ADVANCED PLACEMENT™ COURSES

These courses require completion of an AP Course as a prerequisite.

Advanced Topics in Computer Science:

Honors Data Structures
Computer Architecture
Compilers and Interpreters
Expert Systems
Robot Kinematics Software
Programming Languages
Numerical Methods
Neural Networks

Honors Multivariable Calculus

Honors Linear Algebra

Honors Differential Equations

Honors Discrete Math

Honors Advanced Topics in Mathematics:

Signal & Systems
Differential Equations II
Information Systems I & II

Honors Advanced Topics in French:

Renaissance & Classical Literature
Romantic & Modern Literature

Honors Advanced Latin Literature:

Epic
Satire
Lyric Poetry
Prose

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

The curriculum at The Harker School is composed of a core of required courses which forms the basis of a strong liberal arts education. A broad array of elective offerings, particularly in the senior year, helps to meet the individual needs and interests of students. As a college preparatory school, Harker provides each student with a personal course of study which is challenging but which also offers extensive extracurricular opportunities. Our extensive offering of clubs, activities, sports and performance opportunities beyond the classroom are critical pieces of the Harker educational experience.

Developing a Curriculum Plan

Students are asked in the freshman year to develop, with the guidance of the academic dean/pre-college counselor, a four-year plan that satisfies the graduation requirements as well as their personal education goals. The purpose of this plan is to ensure that students will think through all elective choices carefully. This use of elective courses will help students explore areas of interest and possibly develop depth in those areas of study which most appeal to them. Careful planning helps students avoid being unable to take desired subjects because they have run out of time in their schedules. Advance planning also allows students to make sure they will be prepared for important college admissions exams. Students will make revisions to their plans in subsequent years, but it is important always to have a realistic plan that extends to graduation.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from The Harker School students must:

- complete at least 22 academic credits which must include all required courses and credit totals within each department;
- complete at least two credits (four semesters or seasons) of physical education credit;
- complete the 30-hour community service requirement described in the student/parent handbook; and
- abide by the behavior expectations described in the Honor Code and the Code of Conduct in the student/parent handbook.

Academic credit is only given for courses taken at Harker.

Academic Planning Chart with Graduation Requirements

The following chart will be used when the students meet with the academic dean/pre-college counselor to create the four-year plan. It graphically shows the requirements as well as the slots available for the required (shaded) and elective (not shaded) courses. Students must take a minimum of five academic classes (always including English) for each of their eight semesters and a maximum of six academic classes. The Extra Period Option courses are not included in this five/six class requirement, but students do earn a grade and one half credit for the year in most (but not all) of these courses. See the upper school course of study in the upper school academic section of our website, including credit information, on the Extra Period Options which include music (Bel Canto, Downbeat, Cantilena, Camerata, Orchestra and Jazz Band), Dance (Harker Dance Company and Kinetic Krew), Journalism (Newspaper and Yearbook), Speech and Debate (Introductory and Competitive), and Business and Entrepreneurship (Principles and Business Leadership). There is no grade for P.E., but students may take a P.E. class during the school day in this Extra Period Option course slot.

		9th	10th	11th	12th	Graduation Requirements
Up to Six Academic Classes	English	English 1: The Study of Literary Genres	English 2: British Lit	English 3: American Lit	English 4: 2 semester courses or AP English Lit	4 years
	Math					3 years 4 recommended
	Science	Physics	Chemistry	Biology		3 years
	History	World 1	World 2, AP World, or AP European	United States		3 years
	Language					Complete Level 3
	Arts / Computer Science	Study of Visual Arts, Technical Theater, Music, Dance or Theater Arts				
Non-Academic Classes or Free Period	Extra Period Option	Your choice				
	Total Credits (min)	6	5–6	5–6	5–6	22 credits minimum

English – 4 years/8 semesters

The first three years have a set curriculum. The senior year students take AP English Literature or choose two semester-long courses from a list with many options.

Mathematics – 3 years/6 semesters

Students must complete a minimum of three years of mathematics in the upper school and have completed the following courses: Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2/Trigonometry. We strongly recommend that students take four years of mathematics.

Science – 3 years/6 semesters

The three years have a set curriculum and order – Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

History – 3 years/6 semesters

The first and third years are set with, respectively, World History 1 and U.S. History. The second year students choose between World History 2, Honors World History 2, AP World History or AP European History.

Foreign Language – completion of level 3

Students must pass a level 3 or higher course and take at least 1 year at the upper school to satisfy this requirement. This does not necessarily require three years of study in the upper school. While we encourage students to continue beyond level 3, and many do, it is not required.

Study of the Arts – 1 year

Students must take a yearlong course in the arts, generally in the freshman year. Students choose between Study of Visual Arts, Study of Theater Arts, Study of Music, Study of Technical Theater and Study of Dance. Students may instead take AP Art History in grades 10-12 if they qualify and are approved; most upperclassmen who enjoy this challenging course take it as an elective in addition to the Study of the Arts course as a freshman.

Computer Science – 1 semester

Students must complete one semester of computer science in a course that emphasizes algorithmic thinking. Most satisfy this requirement with Digital World, Programming or Advanced Programming, but students with significant prior in-class course work may test directly into AP Computer Science or APCS with Data Structures (both yearlong courses).

Electives – as necessary

Students choose electives as desired to ensure a minimum of five and a maximum of six academic courses at all times and a total of 22 credits by graduation.

Physical Education – 4 semesters (or sports seasons)

Though ungraded, students must complete four semester-long P.E. courses or participate in competitive after-school sports for four seasons. Students can take a P.E. class during the day (instead of having a free period), or students can sign up for an after-school P.E. class. At a minimum, one P.E. class or sports season should be completed each year.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Harker's college counseling office helps students and families navigate the college search and admission process. We strive to alleviate some of the stress often associated with college admission and to ensure that each student has options for where to attend. College counseling is available to students all four years. For example, the academic dean meets with freshmen and their families to learn about their interests and craft a four-year academic plan.

PARENT COLLEGE NIGHTS

Several College Nights educate parents of all grade levels about the current college admission scene and keep them informed of the progress of their students.

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS

Beginning in the second semester of the junior year, college counselors meet individually with students and parents. During the family meetings, the student's academic record, interests and goals are discussed. During the individual appointments with students, college counselors seek to learn about the student's personal and academic interests, explore possible college choices, and discuss expectations for the college search and college admission process. Meetings with students and parents continue in the senior year, so we can provide guidance and feedback on applications and help students with their final college decisions.

WEEKLY COLLEGE COUNSELING CLASSES

During the second semester of the junior year and the first semester of the senior year, students meet weekly for College Counseling Class, which introduces all of the important college admissions topics. These include: evaluating colleges; staying calm and organized; early action and early decision; the University of California; writing college essays; and having productive college visits and interviews.

COLLEGE VISITS TO HARKER

The college counseling office welcomes about 100 college admission representatives to the school each year. Seniors are encouraged to attend these presentations to learn more about the colleges and ask general questions of their representatives.



HARKER®