



2023-2024 SCHOOL PROFILE

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ACADEMIC CONTEXT

Middle 50% GPA Range

Class of 2023
3.67 - 3.93

MA does not have a statistically large enough number of students in the class of 2023 who have taken the SAT or ACT to report middle 50% ranges.

Inaccessibility to test sites remains a significant challenge for students in the Bay Area and beyond.

UPDATE ON COVID-19

In March 2020, Marin Academy shifted to an entirely remote learning program for the remainder of the school year. All students maintained a full course load, and our grading policies and practices did not change. In 2020-2021, we adopted a 3x4 block schedule, and in-person learning resumed in November. In the fall of 2022, we resumed instruction on our traditional rotating block schedule.



ABOUT MARIN ACADEMY

Marin Academy (MA) is a co-educational, independent, college preparatory day school located in San Rafael, California, north of San Francisco. Founded in 1971, MA enrolls 440 students in grades 9–12. There are 113 students in the Class of 2024.

OUR MISSION

Marin Academy asks every individual to think, question, and create in an environment of encouragement and compassion, and challenges each person to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society.

CURRICULUM & GRADING

MA is a forward-looking school, committed to progressive, relevant, research-based, and rigorous education. Transdisciplinary experiential learning is central to the MA experience. The curriculum focuses on problems, projects, and questions that cultivate an intentional set of skills linked to our school-wide competencies: Demonstrated Empathy, Imaginative Curiosity, Intellectual Flexibility, Compelling Expression, and Strategic Boldness.

Our curriculum and assessment methods focus on transferable and enduring skills.

We have not offered AP courses since 2016.

We use a letter-based A-F/4.0 grading scale, which is outlined on our transcript. Beginning in fall 2021, 9th graders do not receive grades in the fall semester. We do not offer A+.

We do not weight grades or rank students, nor do we give academic awards.

Reported GPA only reflects courses taken at MA; previous school or semester-away transcripts will be provided.

ADMISSION

Admission is highly selective; a class of 110 is typically drawn from about 500 applicants. Students are admitted on the basis of previous academic work, recommendations, extracurricular talent, and personal interviews. Since 2021-2022, the admission process at MA has been test-free.

STUDENT BODY DEMOGRAPHY



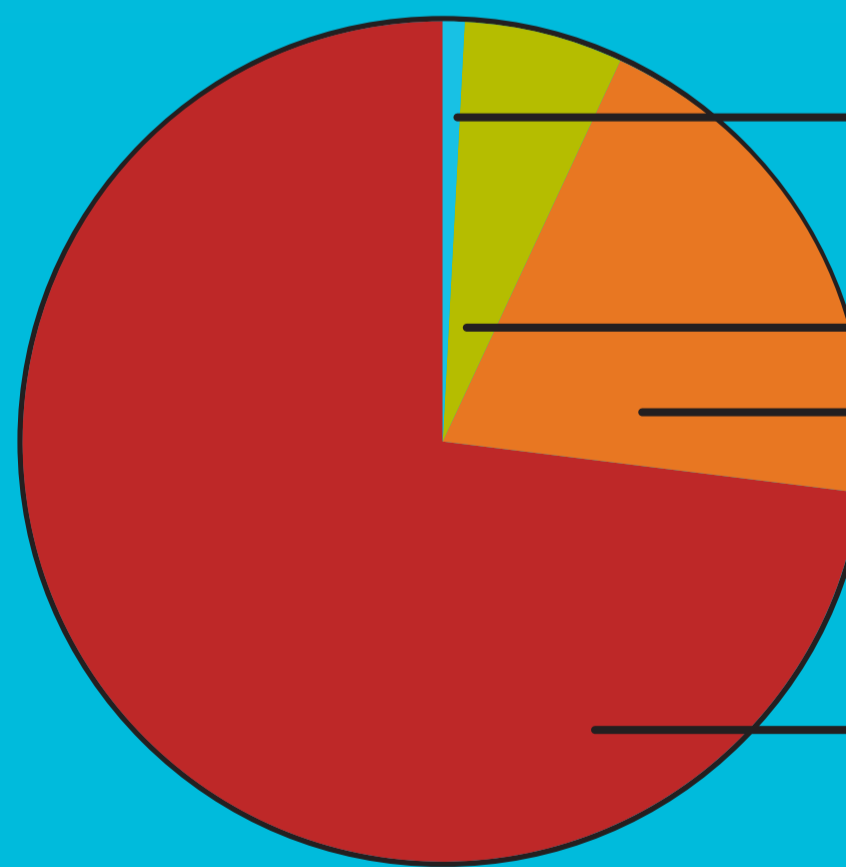
35%

Students of Color



19%

Receive Tuition Assistance



1% from Sonoma

6% from the East Bay

20% from San Francisco

73% from Marin County

COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

We believe that the college search process is an integral component of each student's education. Through the work of deciding what to do after high school, students learn critical information about themselves and their future needs. Lessons gained during this time have a direct correlation to college preparedness and transition, and to the increased freedom and responsibility ahead. We scaffold our program and our definition of success around these core values: Choices, Self-Awareness, Autonomy, and Self-Worth.

ACCREDITATION & MEMBERSHIPS

Marin Academy is fully accredited by WASC/CAIS and is a member of NAIS (National Association of Independent Schools). We hold professional memberships in NACAC, College Board, ACCIS (Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools), CAIS (California Association of Independent Schools), the Bay Area BlendEd Consortium, and the Mastery Transcript Consortium.

COURSE OFFERINGS, PROGRESSION, AND REQUIREMENTS

2023-2024

23 credits are required for graduation. 19.5 of these must be earned in required courses or courses elected from among designated departmental offerings; the other 3.5 may be chosen from any area.

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS (*cross-listing is indicated in parentheses*)

ENGLISH

- 4 years required
- English I (9th)
 - English II (10th)
 - (H) English III (11th)
 - Two semester-long Honors English electives (12th)

- (H) Eng: Asian American Literature
- (H) Eng: Asian American Studies (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Black Liberation (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Belief: Religious Practice, Text, and Tradition (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Climate Justice (TLP)
- (H) Eng: Dream Songs: The Art of Poetry
- (H) Eng: Frames, Metaphors, and Media: Creating Narratives to Change the World (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Freedom, Choice, and Obligation (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: The Future of Cities (TLP)
- (H) Eng: The Golden Gate (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Human Beings and the Problem of Being Human (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Image and Word: Graphic Narrative
- (H) Eng: Islam, Islamophobia, and Military Intervention in the Arab World (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Sci Fi and the Politics of Imagination
- (H) Eng: Social History of Disease (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Truth and Power (*Hist*)
- (H) Eng: Writing for Performance

HISTORY

- 3 years required
- Modern World History I (9th)
 - Modern World History II (10th)
 - (H) US History (11th)

- (H) Hist: American Government and Politics
- (H) Hist: Black Liberation (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Belief: Religious Practice, Text, and Tradition (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Frames, Metaphors, and Media: Creating Narratives to Change the World (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Freedom, Choice, and Obligation (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: The Golden Gate (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: History of American Education (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Human Beings and the Problem of Being Human (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: I.R.: Organizations and Development
- (H) Hist: I.R.: Theory and Conflict
- (H) Hist: Islam, Islamophobia, and Military Intervention in the Arab World (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Justice in America
- (H) Hist: Social History of Disease (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: Truth and Power (*Eng*)
- (H) Hist: World Empires I
- (H) Hist: World Empires II

SCIENCE

- 3 years lab science required
- Biology (9th)
 - Chemistry (10th)
 - Physics Elective (11th or 12th)

- (H) Advanced Biology
- (H) Advanced Chemistry
- (H) Advanced Physics
- (H) Advanced Physics with Calculus
- (H) Physics
- (H) Physics: Astrophysics
- (H) Physics: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- (H) Human Anatomy and Physiology
- (H) Environmental Science
- (H) Neuroscience
- (H) MARC: Independent Research I
- (H) MARC: Independent Research II
- (H) MARC: Exploring Experimental Design
- (H) Sci: Climate Justice (TLP)

MATH

- 3 years required by placement
- Advanced Algebra I
 - Geometry/ (H) Geometry
 - Algebra II/ (H) Algebra II (required terminus)

- Applied Math
- Statistics
- Precalculus
- (H) Precalculus
- (H) Calculus
- (H) Advanced Calculus
- (H) Multivariable Calculus (may be through BlendEd)
- (H) Civic Tech, Data Science, and Design (TLP)
- Computer Science I
- Computer Science II
- Introduction to Economics

WORLD LANGUAGES

- 3 years required by placement
- Completion through Level III in a single language is required

- Mandarin I
- Mandarin II
- (H) Mandarin III
- (H) Mandarin IV
- (H) Mandarin V
- French I
- French II
- (H) French III
- (H) French IV
- (H) French V
- (H) French VI
- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III / (H) Spanish III
- Spanish IV / (H) Spanish IV
- Spanish V / (H) Spanish V
- (H) Spanish VI

ARTS

2 years required

- Taiko Ensemble
- Stagecraft
- Dance I/II: Company
- Dance III/IV: Advanced Company
- Introduction to Design and Build
- Theater I: Improvisation
- Theater II: Text
- Theater III/IV: Company
- Foundations of Music Performance
- Musicianship: Rhythm and Groove
- Musicianship: Harmony
- Advanced Band
- Visual Arts I
- Visual Arts II: Ceramics
- Visual Arts II: Photography
- Visual Arts II: Drawing and Painting
- Visual Arts II: Photography
- Visual Arts III: Ceramics
- Visual Arts III: Photography
- Visual Arts III: Drawing and Painting
- Visual Arts IV: Drawing and Painting
- Visual Arts IV: Ceramics
- Visual Arts IV: Photography
- Three-Dimensional Thinking
- Three-Dimensional Thinking II
- Advanced Three-Dimensional Thinking

BAY AREA BlendED

Not required

- Applied AI in Python
- Bay Area Cinema and Filmmaking
- Digital Music Production
- Financial Literacy
- Food: A History
- Gender Studies
- Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies
- (H) Multivariable Calculus
- Public Health and Vulnerable Populations
- Social History of Disease
- Social Psychology
- San Francisco History and Art

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Human Development I (Fall 9th grade)
- Human Development II (Spring 10th grade)
- Introduction to Ethnic Studies (Spring 9th grade)
- Annual Culminating Project
- Senior speech or performance
- 4 years of Minicourse (week-long intensives)
- 3.5 Physical Education points through outings, independent studies, athletic teams, Minicourse, or other activities

MARIN ACADEMY SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Outings

The Marin Academy Outings Program includes rural and urban adventures large and small and has been central to the school's identity from the beginning. MA students are grounded to place, possess ecological knowledge, develop a sense of self through nature, and are responsible stewards of the environment.



BlendEd

Founded in 2013 by Marin Academy and four other Bay Area Independent Schools (BAIS), the BlendED consortium now includes seven schools and combines face-to-face and online instruction to bring a new dimension of engaging curriculum to our students. Classes are taught by full-time faculty at one of the consortium schools and include regular virtual meetings in addition to 3–5 in-person experiences. BlendEd allows Marin Academy students to connect with students and teachers from across the Bay Area and offers students access to an even wider variety of elective courses.



Marin Academy Research Collaborative (MARC)

Specifically designed to engage a diverse group of students in cutting-edge science and engineering research at the level of college-level courses, the Marin Academy Research Collaborative (MARC) is a two-year multidisciplinary program that partners MA students with members of the scientific community to explore an individually-designed research project that culminates in publication in a peer-reviewed journal. For more information about MARC, visit www.ma.org/MARC.



Identity & Equity (IDEQ) Leaders

Marin Academy has long modeled student-led diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts by creating space, understanding, and education in support of people of all identities. To become an Identity & Equity Leader, students undergo training on belonging, leadership, and facilitation techniques throughout the year, including retreats, feedback meetings, and weekend commitments. Leaders apply their skills to developing a comprehensive curriculum for affinity and open meetings throughout the year.



Transdisciplinary Leadership Program (TLP)

The Transdisciplinary Leadership Program (TLP) is an innovative, application-based program for 12th graders. The heart of TLP is a two-block course, fulfilling semester credits in English and either math or science. Students explore the nuances and perspectives of a social issue and then respond to it in partnership with community organizations. In 2023-24, TLP students develop leadership skills through practicing Strategic Boldness in either (H) English: The Future of Cities and (H) Mathematics: Civic Tech, Data Science, and Design, or (H) English and (H) Science: Climate Justice.



Human Development TA

An integral part of the Human Development curriculum is peer-to-peer education. Juniors and seniors apply and are selected to act as Teaching Assistants. TAs facilitate discussions, lead activities, and help keep discussions relevant and meaningful. The TA Program is an important opportunity for leadership on campus, involving rigorous training, regular meetings, and giving up a free block. Generally, this is a two-year commitment that starts in 11th grade. TAs represent the Human Development program at Open Houses, Welcome Day, and other events throughout the year.



Annual Culminating Projects

In place of traditional finals, MA engages each class in a week-long, transdisciplinary exploration:

- 9th - 11th graders participate in a variety of theme-based workshops and interact with guest speakers who are experts in their fields. The week includes peer-to-peer learning, academic department-driven learning, and experiential learning.
- 12th graders devote three weeks to an individually-designed project such as an internship, service learning, or design/creation.



Minicourse

Each year, regular classes pause in order for students and faculty to immerse themselves fully in a week-long, experience-based study of broad educational value. Minicourses vary in content and may include environmental stewardship, community service, academic and/or artistic enrichment, wilderness skills, and physical activity. Each one challenges students and presents opportunities beyond what is possible in our regular schedule.



COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

CLASSES OF 2021–2023

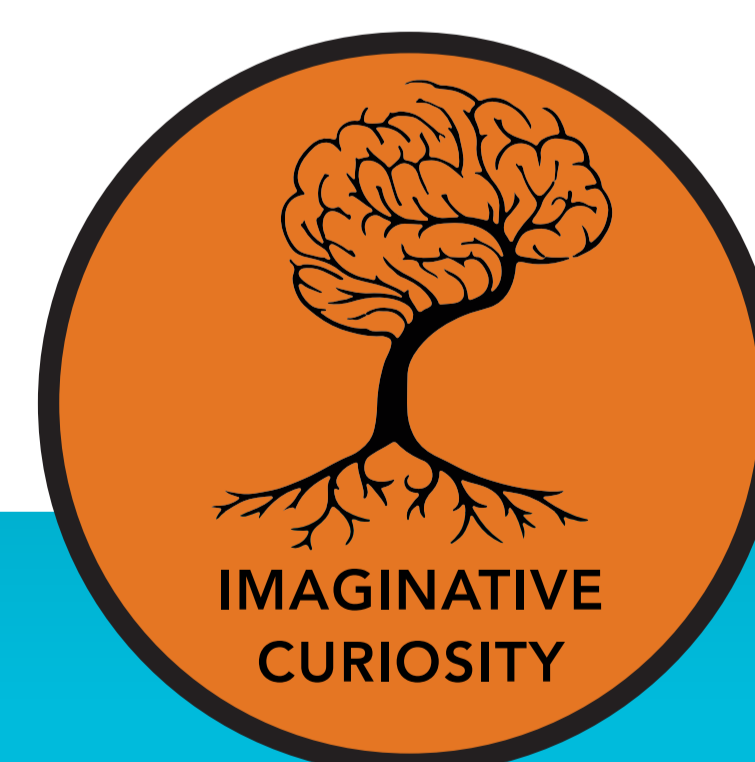
American U. (2)
Amherst College (1)
Arizona State U. (1)
Babson College (1)
Barnard College (5)
Bates College (1)
Boston College (6)
Boston U. (3)
Bowdoin College (3)
Brown U. (12)
Bryn Mawr College (1)
Cal Poly (Pomona) (1)
Cal Poly (San Luis Obispo) (15)
Carleton College (1)
Carnegie Mellon U. (1)
Case Western Reserve U. (2)
Chapman U. (6)
Colby College (2)
Colgate U. (3)
College of Marin (2)
Colorado College (8)
Cornell U. (1)
Dartmouth College (3)
Davidson College (1)
Duke U. (5)
Eckerd College (1)
Emory U. (2)

Fordham U. (2)
George Washington U. (2)
Georgetown U. (5)
Hamilton College (3)
Harvard U. (1)
Haverford College (1)
Johns Hopkins U. (1)
Kenyon College (2)
Lafayette College (1)
Lehigh U. (2)
Lewis & Clark College (1)
Macalester College (2)
Middlebury College (5)
New York U. (8)
Northeastern U. (6)
Northwestern U. (4)
Oberlin College (2)
Occidental College (8)
Oregon State U. (2)
Oxford College of Emory U. (1)
Pepperdine U. (2)
Pitzer College (5)
Pomona College (2)
Princeton U. (1)
Providence College (1)
Reed College (1)
Rochester Inst. of Tech (1)

San Diego State U. (2)
Santa Clara U. (1)
Sarah Lawrence College (1)
Scripps College (4)
Skidmore College (1)
Smith College (2)
Southern Methodist U. (2)
Stanford U. (3)
Swarthmore College (1)
Syracuse U. (3)
The New School (1)
Trinity College Dublin (1)
Trinity U. (Texas) (1)
Tufts U. (5)
Tulane U. (10)
U. British Columbia (1)
U. California (Berkeley) (6)
U. California (Irvine) (3)
U. California (Los Angeles) (4)
U. California (Merced) (1)
U. California (San Diego) (2)
U. California (Santa Barbara) (5)
U. California (Santa Cruz) (3)
U. Chicago (2)
U. Colorado Boulder (7)
U. Miami (5)
U. Michigan (8)

U. Notre Dame (1)
U. Oregon (8)
U. Pennsylvania (3)
U. Puget Sound (1)
U. Redlands (1)
U. Rochester (1)
U. San Diego (1)
U. South Carolina (1)
U. Southern California (6)
U. St Andrews (Scotland) (7)
U. Texas (Austin) (1)
U. Virginia (4)
U. Washington (Seattle) (3)
U. Wisconsin (Madison) (2)
Vanderbilt U. (6)
Vassar College (2)
Villanova U. (2)
Wake Forest U. (4)
Washington and Lee U. (1)
Washington U. in St Louis (8)
Wellesley College (2)
Wesleyan U. (3)
Western Washington U. (1)
Whitman College (1)
Whittier College (1)
Willamette U. (1)
Yale U. (2)

At Marin Academy we create a learning community that enables learners to develop these core competencies to lead and thrive during their time in school and throughout their lives.



**Think.
Question.
Create.**