

2024-25 School Profile

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The School

Deerfield Academy was chartered in 1797 to serve the local population of a rural village in Western Massachusetts. Since the 1920s, it has been wholly independent and committed to excellence in a full liberal arts curriculum and wholesome community life for young people from throughout the United States and around the world in grades nine through postgraduate. Deerfield's Core Values include citizenship, face-to-face interactions, connectedness, reflection and balance, pursuit of mastery, and shared experiences.

School Code: 220685

Enrollment

The 2024-25 enrollment of 649 students includes 71 day students and 578 boarding students from 34 states and the District of Columbia, and 44 foreign countries represented; 42% are students of color and 13% are international; 39% of current students receive financial aid. There are 209 seniors in the class of 2025.

Cocurricular Activities

Each student spends approximately two hours every weekday afternoon in a required faculty-supervised activity. For most students, this is an athletic commitment at the varsity, junior varsity, or recreational level. For others, this time is spent in dance classes or theater rehearsals or pursuing volunteer work through our community service program. A few students receive permission to engage in special projects in art, music, or an academic field.

Academic Calendar

Deerfield uses a trimester calendar and, as such, we do not have typical first quarter or midyear grades. Fall Term grades are available after Thanksgiving. Colleges will receive Fall Term grades for all senior applicants and those should be used as a student's "midyear" grades.

Starting with the 2021-2022 academic year to present, Deerfield adopted a six-period rotating block schedule that features three 90-minute classes per day.

Academic Program

Deerfield students engage in five seminar-style classes (average size: 12 students) each term; many classes are year-long, while others are one- or two-trimester electives. In some cases, an advanced student may be granted permission to take a sixth graded class. Any student can choose to take a fine or performing arts course as a sixth pass/fail class.

Academic work at Deerfield is evaluated on a numerical scale (0-100) where the minimum passing grade is 60. Qualifying cumulative grade averages for the term of 93.0 or above garner High Honors distinction and 90.0 or above garner Honors distinction. One hundred percent of our graduates ultimately attend four-year colleges and universities.

Curriculum

All of Deerfield's courses should be viewed as challenging and college preparatory. Many classes use college level texts and match the pace of an undergraduate college course; others are post-AP level and the Honors or AP-course is the prerequisite. Over the past several years, Deerfield has moved away from teaching AP courses, and we currently only offer official AP courses in math and the arts along with an AP Seminar. All world language courses, except those in Latin and Arabic, are conducted exclusively in the target language. As a result, some students find the adjustment to language classes at Deerfield to be difficult, and our placement of new students may reflect that.

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Course Numbering Changes at Deerfield Academy Beginning 2023-24

Deerfield completely rehauled the course numbering system in the Fall of 2023 and one should not try to compare nor align it to the prior system. We have provided this additional information to give context to the changes that will be seen on our students' transcripts, and we hope it will help you better understand the nature of the total overhaul of our new course numbering system. The chart below outlines our graduation requirements, most advanced courses, and course abbreviation notes as they pertain to our new system. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

New Course Numbering Rubric:

100-level typically for 9th and 10th graders or courses that are the first in a leveled sequence
200-level typically for 10th graders or courses that are the second in a leveled sequence
300-level typically for 10th - 12th graders or courses that are the third in a leveled sequence
400-level typically for 11th and 12th graders or courses that are the fourth in a leveled sequence
500- and 600-level courses that are the fifth or sixth in a leveled sequence

Accelerated and Honors Courses

XX**5** are **accelerated** courses, moving students through additional material at a faster pace XX**9** are **honors** courses that encompass materials with greater depth and breadth

SUBJECT	GRADUATION REQUIREMENT+	MOST ADVANCED COURSE(S) & NOTES	
English	4 years	All 12th-grade English courses are equally rigorous and considered post-AP level. Note: Course abbreviations include ENG and IDE.	
Mathematics	3 years through Algebra II	AP Calculus AB/BC, AP Statistics, Advanced Calculus with Intro to Multivariable, Multivariable Calculus & Diff Equations, Linear Algebra, and Special Topics.	
History & Social Sciences	2 years, including a year of U.S. History or American Studies	Honors European History, AP Seminar, Honors United States History, American Studies, Honors Economics. All 12th-grade History/Social Sciences courses are equally rigorous and considered post-AP level. Note: Course abbreviations include HIS, ECN, IDH, LAW, POL, PSY, and SOC.	
Science & Computer Science	2 years of laboratory science	Honors Biology 1, Honors Biology 2, Honors Chemistry 2, Honors Environmental Science, Honors Physics 2, Honors Computer Science, Data Structures & Algorithms, Digital Logic & Computer Architecture. Note: Course abbreviations include BIO, CHE, COM, PHY, and SCI.	
Foreign Language *	3 years of one language or equivalent	Courses designated at Level 500 and beyond.	
Visual & Performing Arts	2 trimesters	AP Studio Art, Post-AP Studio, Honors Studio Art, Honors Dance Ensemble, Honors Vocal Ensemble, Honors Band, Honors Chamber Music, Honors Music Composition & Analysis, Advanced Acting. Note: Course abbreviations include ART, DAN, MUS, and THE.	
Philosophy & Religion	1 trimester	All 11th- and 12th-grade Philosophy and Religion courses are equally rigorous. Note: Course abbreviations include PHI and REL.	
Health	1 trimester in 9th grade and 1 trimester in 10th grade		

^{*}Students for whom English is a second language may request to satisfy this requirement with their native language.

⁺These requirements are for our three- and four-year students. Visit https://deerfield.edu/students/academics/graduation-requirements/ to learn more about graduation requirements for new juniors, new seniors, and PGs.

Prior to the 2023-24 school year our course numbering system was as follows:

100 level = introductory (9th grade)

200 level = intermediate (9th/10th grade)

300 level = advanced intermediate (10th/11th grade)

400 level = advanced (11th/12th grade)

500 level = AP level/1st semester college level

600 level = post-AP/2nd semester college level

700-800 level = second year of college +

xx3 = Honors level (includes Accelerated, Advanced) for some courses

Please visit https://deerfield.edu/students/course-planning for a more complete look at our curriculum.

Grade Distribution Chart

Deerfield Academy does not rank its students or report a cumulative GPA.

Unweighted annual GPAs appear on the transcript at the end of each school year.

GPAs earned by the classes of 2021 through 2025 in *the junior year only:*

Grade	Number of students	% of class
95.00 and above	22	2.1%
93.00 to 94.99	138	13.6%
91.00 to 92.99	295	29.2%
89.00 to 90.99	216	21.3%
87.00 to 88.99	138	13.6%
86.99 or below	76	7.5%
No Deerfield GPA (SYA Juniors/new Seniors or PGs)	125	12.3%

Standardized Testing

Testing profile for the last graduating class (2024):

SAT	Middle 50%	Mean
EBRW	640-750	692
Math	645-770	692
Total	1270-1515	1384

ACT	Middle 50%	Mean
English	29-35	32
Math	27-34	30
Reading	27-36	32
Science	27-34	30
Composite	28-34	31

Advanced Placement Examinations

Students can choose to take an AP exam to demonstrate proficiency in a subject, even without officially taking an AP course. In the 2023-24 school year, 293 students sat for 688 AP exams. 94% of AP exams earned scores of 3 or higher:

Scores of 3 = 20%

Scores of 4 = 38%

Scores of 5 = 36%

Classical Studies Program (CSP) & Music Distinction Programs

The CSP is a distinction students can earn with the fulfillment of specific classics coursework (Latin Concentration or Classical Studies Concentration with Latin & Greek) along with a series of extracurricular commitments with the Classics Club. In meeting these requirements, a student has participated in a coherent academic experience that provides perspective and depth in the study of ancient literature and material culture.

The Music Distinction Program recognizes students who have shown an exceptional dedication to the art of music making during their time at Deerfield Academy. Students earn this distinction with enrollment in music class all terms from 10th - 12th grade and the completion of a Senior Capstone Music Project (e.g., recital, lecture, commercial EP release, composition portfolio, etc.)

Disciplinary Disclosure Policy

Deerfield Academy's disciplinary system reflects the purposefully high behavioral and academic standards to which we hold our students. There are two components to reporting discipline—the institution and the student. Deerfield Academy has updated its institutional policy to the following: For as long as Deerfield Students are enrolled at the Academy, Deerfield will consider them in good standing and will not report internal disciplinary action to colleges, universities, and scholarship programs. If students withdraw pending discipline, are required to withdraw by the school, or otherwise officially separate from the school, Deerfield will communicate that change in status in a timely manner. As for the individual student, when an application asks whether a student has a disciplinary or academic infraction at any time during their high school career, the student will answer the question honestly.

Deerfield Academy maintains and benefits from a relationship with colleges, universities, and other educational programs that is based on openness and trust. For serious infractions, we reserve the right to communicate with colleges or other programs regardless of the particular application's requirements.

College Matriculation

Colleges attended by three or more students in the last five graduating classes (2020-2024) *by 10 or more students / **by 20 or more students / **by 30 or more students

Amherst College*
Babson College
Bates College
Bentley University
Boston College*
Boston University*
Bowdoin College*
Brown University***
Bucknell University
Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University

Colby College*
Colgate University*
College of the Holy Cross

Colorado College Columbia University** Connecticut College Cornell University** Dartmouth College* Denison University Dickinson College Duke University*

Georgetown University***

Hamilton College*
Harvard University**

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Howard University IE University - Madrid Johns Hopkins University*

Lehigh University

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University
Middlebury College**
Morehouse College
Mount Holyoke College
New York University*
Northeastern University*
Northwestern University*
Occidental College

Pennsylvania State University

Pomona College
Princeton University**
Providence College
Purdue University

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rice University

Rochester Institute of Technology

Santa Clara University* Skidmore College

Southern Methodist University*

St. Lawrence University Stanford University Syracuse University

The George Washington University

The New School Trinity College* Tufts University*

Tulane University of Louisiana

Union College

United States Military Academy United States Naval Academy University College London University of California, Berkeley University of California, Los Angeles University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara

University of Chicago* University of Denver

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign University of Massachusetts, Amherst University of Michigan, Ann Arbor* University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

University of Notre Dame University of Pennsylvania** University of Rochester

University of Southern California*

University of St. Andrews*
University of Texas at Austin
University of Toronto

University of Vermont University of Virginia**

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Vanderbilt University*
Villanova University
Wake Forest University*
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
William & Mary
Williams College*

Yale University***