



THE WILBERFORCE SCHOOL 2023-2024 PROFILE

75 Mapleton Road, Princeton, NJ 08540 | 609.924.6111 | wilberforceschool.org

The Wilberforce School seeks to cultivate whole persons: intellectually, socially, physically, and spiritually. Knowing that our students are stewards of their minds and hearts, we invite them to engage in the Great Conversation; they study written texts, musical scores, paintings, and sculpture to ask and answer questions, to provide springboards for creativity, and to set standards for excellence. Learning in community, whether around the seminar table or in the laboratory, is a hallmark of our classes. In every class at Wilberforce, students not only analyze and evaluate but also reflect and respond. They apply habits of responsible stewardship, gentle justice, and self-discipline to their scholarship, their sports, and their service.

We provide an Honors/AP level curriculum for all students. Every course offering - from Humane Letters starting in Grade 9 to multivariable calculus taught in Grade 12 - represents academic depth and challenge. Though we operate according to a different educational philosophy than AP or IB, the courses compare favorably in terms of rigor.

CEEB Code:
311264

Administration

Howe Whitman, Jr.
Head of School

Leo Yoon
Head of Upper School

College Admissions

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609-454-3137

John Moscatiello
College Admissions Director

Susan Antlitz
College Admissions Counselor

Accredited By

The Middle States Association
Trinity Member School

CURRICULAR DISTINCTIVES

Each student who completes our curriculum has done the following:

Humanities

- Written at least 30 analytical essays and three substantial research papers.
- Mastered the art of disciplined discussion through participation in seminar classes that met 10 hours per week for four years.
- Read many of the greatest literary and philosophical works in the Western canon.

Math/Science

- Learned the topics covered in single and multivariable calculus, in addition to linear algebra, Newtonian mechanics and electromagnetism. Seniors have the option to take statistics instead of multivariable calculus.
- Used calculus and physics to write graphical user interfaces (GUIs) with MATLAB, modeling physical phenomena and solving complex problems.
- Investigated science through 100+ hours of hands on laboratory work.

Fine Arts

- Studied fundamentals of acting and the technical aspects of staging a performance. The student has acted and helped put on a one-act play and a full-length production.
- Studied two years of vocal music and theory. Performed in four public formal choral concerts.
- Analyzed art works, ranging from pre-historical to contemporary, and learned to produce art in a spectrum of styles and media.

Junior Project

- All juniors design an independent inquiry-wonder project, focusing on an area of personal interest or passion. Students work with a faculty advisor to design and pursue their project, bring it to completion, and defend their project before a panel of judges. Examples include a full-length musical, facial recognition software, and published novel.

Latin and Foreign Languages

- Students complete Latin in 9th grade, with the ability to translate Cicero and Vergil. They then complete three years of either Spanish or Mandarin, developing proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking.

The Wilberforce School was founded to provide a distinctively Christian education marked by academic excellence and joyful discovery within a classical framework.



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TEST SCORES

SAT: Class of 2019-2023 Averages:

Reading & Writing: 677

Math: 695

Total: 1371

ACT: Class of 2019-2023

English: 32

Math: 29

Reading: 31

Science: 28

Composite: 30

2022 National Merit Recognition

1 Semi Finalist

5 Commended Scholars

2024 Class Size: 20

Class Rank and G.P.A.

With only twenty students in the class, neither G.P.A. distribution nor class rank is provided.

School Community

Wilberforce is a unique, JK-12, multi-ethnic community, with families from five continents, and a broad array of socio-economic backgrounds in and around Princeton, New Jersey.

Student Body:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Total Students | 355 |
| Upper School (9th-12th grade) | 90 |
| 12th Grade Class | 20 |

Upper School Faculty:

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Full-Time | 19 |
| Part-Time | 8 |

Faculty Degrees:

82% of faculty hold advanced degrees

CO-CURRICULAR DISTINCTIVES

House System and Leadership

The Wilberforce School has four “houses” to which all 6-12th grade students belong, with four leaders selected to head each house. House prioritizes a format for competition, service, and camaraderie across grades, serving as a small family within the school. House Leaders are called to demonstrate sacrificial leadership for their school and peers.

Arts

Tuesday afternoon is “Arts Day”. No athletic practices or competitions are held on Tuesday to allow athletes to participate in choirs, the school musical, chamber orchestra and visual arts. We value giving all students time in the schedule to participate in the arts.

WILBERFORCE CURRICULUM

These courses serve as the backbone of The Wilberforce School curriculum.

Humane Letters Seminar

In the Humane Letters Seminar, students conduct an integrated study of literature, history, philosophy and theology by reading and discussing original texts and source documents and by writing essays about issues which emerge from their study. Historical lectures supplement the discussions. Humane Letters is held for two hours a day and fulfills both the English and History requirements. It is the equivalent of two courses. (See Humane Letters Reading List.)

Mathematics

The goal is proficiency in both the theoretical understanding and the practical use of mathematics. The curriculum equips students to use mathematics effectively as a tool in understanding other disciplines, brings them to a comprehension of the substance and structure of mathematics, and prepares them for further study at a higher level. The program emphasizes advanced algebra, trigonometry, precalculus and calculus. Seniors study advanced topics in single- and multi-variable calculus, linear algebra, and discrete mathematics. Beginning calculus in junior year allows students to apply calculus to physics. Rather than seeing math as a hoop to jump through, we hope our students come to see the beauty of mathematics and find inspiration leading to a lifetime love of mathematics and its applications. During their senior year, students have the option to either take Statistics or Multivariable Calculus. Both sections will be taught at an AP level of rigor.

Science

Our object is to cultivate a mindset of wonder and inquiry into how the universe works, and to equip students with foundational disciplines of biological, chemical, and physical science. Freshmen study biology, and sophomores learn the principles of organic and inorganic chemistry. The program culminates with two years of physics, which integrates calculus and MATLAB programming into the course. First-semester juniors take a course in MATLAB, a first-year college engineering programming language, in which they learn to create graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that solve particular classes of problems in science or mathematics. Second-semester juniors take a course focused on the fundamentals of Newtonian mechanics. Covering heat, electromagnetism, light, relativity and quantum physics, the senior physics course builds on junior physics, math and computing. The integration of physics, calculus and MATLAB is a hallmark of our program, which equips them both with a way of thinking, and with a toolkit for competent work in college and graduate level STEM disciplines.



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UPPER SCHOOL REQUIRED COURSES

| | Humane Letters 2 hours / day | Math | Science & Technology | Foreign Language | Fine Arts | Theology Seminar |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9th | American History & Literature | Geometry Pre-Calculus | Biology | Advanced Latin or Classical Roots of the English Language | Art I Choral Music | History & Creeds of the Church |
| 10th | European History & Literature | Pre-Calculus AB or BC | Chemistry | Spanish I or Mandarin I | Art II Choral Music | Old Testament |
| 11th | Ancient and Early Church Studies | Calculus A or Calculus AB | Physics I and MATLAB | Spanish II or Mandarin II | Choral Music or Art III Theater I | New Testament |
| 12th | Western Literature, Political Theory and Philosophy | Multivariable Calculus or Statistics | Physics II or Chemistry II | Spanish III or Mandarin III | Choral Music or Art IV Theater II | Theology Seminar (Apologetics) |
| Credits | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |

HUMANE LETTERS READING LIST

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Documents in American History <i>The Federalist Papers</i> Selections from the writings of Thomas Jefferson Selections from The Lincoln- Douglas debates Crane, <i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> Thoreau, <i>Walden, Civil Disobedience</i> Twain, <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> Douglass, <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave</i> Cather, <i>My Antonia</i> Sinclair, <i>The Jungle</i> Hemingway, <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> Lee, <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> Short Stories of Crane, Cather, O'Connor Wilder, <i>Our Town</i> American Poetry | Documents in European History Dickens, <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> Bolt, <i>A Man for All Seasons</i> Eliot, <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i> Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> Rousseau, <i>Discourse on the Origin of Inequality</i> Burke, <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> Lock, <i>Of Civil Government</i> Austen, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Marx, <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> Dostoyevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> British and European Poetry | Homer, <i>Iliad, Odyssey</i> Aeschylus, <i>Oresteia</i> Sophocles, <i>Theban Plays</i> Thucydides, <i>Peloponnesian War</i> Plato, <i>Meno, Crito, Phaedo, Apology, Euthyphro, Gorgias, Republic</i> Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i> Augustine, <i>The Confessions</i> | Augustine, <i>The Spirit and the Letter</i> Aquinas, <i>Treatise on Law</i> Paul, Letter to the Romans Luther, <i>Commentary on Galatians</i> Dante, <i>Inferno</i> Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth, Hamlet</i> Descartes, <i>Meditations</i> Montaigne, <i>In Defense of Raymond Sebond</i> Rousseau, <i>The Social Contract</i> Locke, <i>Of Civil Government</i> Hegel, <i>Reason in History</i> Marx, <i>Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844</i> Mill, <i>On Liberty</i> Dostoyevsky, <i>The Brothers Karamazov</i> O'Connor, "Parker's Back" Agee, "A Death in the Family" Carver, "A Small, Good Thing" Canin, "The Palace Thief" |



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The Wilberforce School Grading Scale

| Grading Scale (Letter Grade) | Unweighted Value (4.0 System) |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A+ | 4.33 |
| A | 4.00 |
| A- | 3.67 |
| B+ | 3.33 |
| B | 3.00 |
| B- | 2.67 |
| C+ | 2.33 |
| C | 2.00 |
| C- | 1.67 |
| D | 1.00 |
| F | 0.00 |

Special Features

Wilberforce seeks to focus students on learning as priority over grades. All students receive extensive narrative evaluations each semester, participate in formal oral exams, and in person academic reviews, in addition to letter grades.

All students take the same core curriculum, except for modern languages and some options in math, science, and the arts during junior and senior year.

Students are expected to become masters of the written and spoken word and to participate in discussion with an eye towards thoughtful, winsome civil discourse, and integration across disciplines.

William Wilberforce was a leading member of the British Parliament in the early 1800's who, prompted by his faith, led the campaign to abolish the slave trade in the British Colonies and led countless other reforms of conditions for the poor, hospital care, asylums, refugees, penitentiaries, and schools.

Class of 2019 - 2023 College Acceptances (Colleges where students have matriculated are in gold)

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Amherst College | Princeton University |
| American University | Point Loma Nazarene University |
| Baylor University, Honors College | Purdue University, Honors College |
| Belmont University | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute |
| Boston College | Rice University |
| Boston University | Rider University |
| Cairn University | Rose-Hulman Institute of |
| Calvin University | Technology |
| Carnegie Mellon University | Rowan University, Engineering |
| Case Western Reserve University | Honors Program |
| Chapman University | Rutgers University, Honors College |
| Christopher Newport University | St. John's College |
| College of William & Mary, James | Stanford University |
| Monroe Scholars | Stony Brook University |
| Columbia University | Syracuse University |
| Connecticut College | Temple University |
| Covenant College | The College of New Jersey |
| Davidson College | Tufts University |
| Dartmouth University | University of Dallas |
| Dickinson College | University of Delaware |
| Drexel University | University of Maryland |
| Eastern University, Templeton | University of Miami |
| Honors Program | University of Michigan |
| Emory University | University of North Carolina, |
| Fordham University | Chapel Hill |
| Franciscan University | University of Notre Dame |
| Furman University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Georgia Institute of Technology | University of Pittsburgh |
| Georgetown University | University of Richmond |
| Gordon College, A.J. Gordon | University of Rochester |
| Scholars Program | University of Virginia, Echols |
| Grove City College | Scholar Program |
| Hillsdale College | University of Washington |
| Houghton University | United States Coast Guard |
| James Madison University | Academy |
| Lancaster Bible College | United States Naval Academy |
| Lehigh University | Vassar College |
| Liberty University | Villanova University |
| Loyola University Maryland | Wake Forest University |
| Massachusetts Institute of | Washington and Lee University |
| Technology | Wellesley College |
| Messiah College | Wheaton College |
| New Jersey Institute of Technology | Widener University |
| Northeastern University | William & Mary |
| NYU – Stern School of Business | Worcester Polytechnic Institute |
| Oberlin College & Conservatory | |
| Penn State University | |