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ABOUT WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY

Founded in 1826 as a preparatory school for Western Reserve College, Western Reserve Academy is an independent coeducational boarding and day school, grades nine through post graduate. Western Reserve Academy is ranked number one best college prep and boarding school in Ohio and is recognized as one of the top boarding schools in the country. Our innovative college-preparatory curriculum features programs of distinction that prepare our students for an increasingly interconnected world.

MISSION

Our faculty cultivate intellectual curiosity through a challenging college preparatory program; our students pursue a rigorous liberal arts curriculum and engage in opportunities beyond the classroom in arts, athletics and service, ensuring growth in mind, body and spirit. Western Reserve Academy's tight knit community instills individual and social responsibility and welcomes and respects diversity, while preparing students as citizens and global leaders.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

- o Enrollment: 439
- o Boarding Students: 269
- o Day Students: 170
- o Students from outside Ohio: 51%
- o Class of 2024: 126 students
- o Average Class Size: 12 students
- o Teaching Faculty: 68
- o Student-Teacher Ratio: 6:1
- o Faculty Living on Campus: 77%
- o Average Years of Teaching Experience: 17.1
- o Average Years Teaching at WRA: 9
- o Faculty with Advanced Degrees: 81%

PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Within our semester schedule students will take 6-8 courses per semester following an alternating daily schedule of five, 65-minute classes. Students will receive a final grade in their courses every semester, with traditional full-year courses receiving two semester grades annually.

GRADING SYSTEM

For the 2023-2024 academic year we will continue to use an A+ through F scale, and this will be noted on transcripts and marking period reports in the same manner. WRA does not include a GPA on the transcript, though one is available by request.

COVID RESPONSE

Members of the Class of 2024 were impacted by schedule changes due to COVID-19. We began the 2020-2021 school year in a hybrid model with most students attending class in person and some attending online synchronously.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Grade level themes focus on building internal community, serving broader community, recognizing environmental impact, and mentorship & outreach.

REPORTING DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT CHANGES

When asked on college applications, students are expected to self-report discipline infractions if required by the college. If contacted by a college, WRA college counselors will only confirm the accuracy of details and outcome.

STATISTICAL PROFILE

WRA Class of 2023: 138 Students

96 students took the ACT

82 students took the SAT

40% of students applied test optional

TESTING AVERAGES FOR THE WRA CLASS OF 2023

MEDIAN ACT 27

MEDIAN SAT 1259

NATIONAL TESTING AVERAGES FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

MEDIAN ACT 19.9

MEDIAN SAT 1050

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

WRA graduates must complete a four year program of study. Four year students earn a minimum of 27 credits, while meeting specific departmental requirements, listed below. Transfer students take a full course load earning a minimum of 21 credits and must meet specific departmental requirements.

ENGLISH: 4 credits. Four-year sequence, and successful completion of the Reserve Writing Exam.

MATHEMATICS: 4 credits. Four years of mathematics including one credit at Algebra 2/Level 30 or higher.

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES: 2 credits. level 3 required. Students with language experience take placement test for entry level and credits earned.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS: 2 credits.

SCIENCE: 3 credits, Biology, Chemistry and Physics required.

SOCIAL SCIENCE: 3 credits, US History and Government required.

INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN: 2 credits, Learn to Live Well, Learn to Make and Learn to College required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Athletic participation or conditioning each academic year required.

MOST RIGOROUS COURSEWORK BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

MATHEMATICS

Honors Algebra 2 (Math 32)
 Honors Precalculus (Math 42)
 Honors Accelerated Precalculus (Math 43)
 CL Statistics
 CL Calculus AB (Math 52)
 CL Calculus BC (Math 53)
 CL Calculus-Based Probability & Statistics
 CL Multivariable Calculus*
 CL Linear Algebra
 CL Computer Science
 CL Calculus C (Math 54)*
 CL Statistics: Epidemiology*
 CL Multivariable Calculus*

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Advanced Acting
 Advanced Art/Portfolio
 Advanced Ceramics: Teaching Practicum
 Advanced Photography: Teaching Practicum
 Advanced Dance
 Advanced Digital Music Production
 Advanced Musical Theater Performance
 CL Music Theory

SOCIAL SCIENCE

CL United States History & Government
 CL Economics
 CL Philosophy
 CL Frederick Douglass
 CL Civil Rights: Revolutionary War Through Reconstruction
 CL Civil Rights: Twentieth Century
 CL Art History: Ancient World*
 CL Art History: Renaissance to Impressionism
 CL Art History: Contemporary World Art*

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

CL French Language & Culture I
 CL French Language & Culture II
 CL Latin Literature
 CL Mandarin Chinese I
 CL Mandarin Chinese II
 CL Spanish - Spanish Literature
 CL Spanish - Latin American Literature
 Honors French III
 Honors Latin III
 Honors Spanish II
 Honors Spanish III

SCIENCE

Honors Chemistry
 Honors Physics
 CL Microbiology
 CL Chemistry
 CL Physics
 CL Cancer Immunology
 CL Synthetic Biology 1
 CL Synthetic Biology 2

ENGLISH

CL English: American Literature & the Free Market Economy
 CL English: Deep Dive: Author Study*
 CL English: Deep Dive: Text Study*
 CL English: Divided by Class
 CL English: Power of Language
 CL English: Women in Fiction
 CL English: Shakespeare: Comedies
 CL English: Shakespeare Tragedies*
 CL English: Writing Memory*

INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN

CL Compass
 CL Robotics & Automation
 CL Fabrication Academy
 Digital Fabrication: Capstone

*Not offered this year.

CURRICULAR NOTES & APPLIED LEARNING

College Level (CL) Courses: The pinnacle of academic height and rigor at WRA, CL courses replaced our Advanced Placement offerings beginning in 2017. The intellectual discourse in the CL classroom is sophisticated, nuanced, and responsive to a changing world and student curiosity.

The Wang Innovation Center (WIC): A 6,000-square-foot collaborative learning space with state-of-the-art industrial design and production equipment makes the WIC a hub for turning student ideas into reality and fostering experiential learning. The WIC comprises three distinct areas: one for conceptualization and planning, another for prototyping with advanced tools like laser cutters and 3-D printers, and a large-scale wood and metal shop for transforming prototypes into finished products.

Integrated Studies & Design (ISD): ISD offers courses such as College Level Automation & Robotics and Idea to Product, encouraging exploration of opportunities within the Wang Innovation Center. With an emphasis on critical thinking, entrepreneurship, communication, and collaboration, ISD enriches students' high school experiences and prepares them for life beyond graduation.

Advanced ISD and Fine & Performing Arts Coursework: Advanced coursework within the ISD and Fine & Performing Arts Departments affords students the chance to pursue greater skill development in each subject area.

Compass: Compass is a program that empowers students to tackle real-world problems, fostering creativity, tenacity and initiative. Students identify problems and offer solutions, while cultivating unique interests and talents. They develop skills in project design, collaboration, budgeting and leadership, applying their passions to professional contexts. The program culminates in the Compass Exposition, where students showcase their work. Compass spans areas such as Civic & Global Engagement, Science & Technology, Arts & Culture, and Entrepreneurship, promoting comprehensive development and real-world impact.

Scientific Research: WRA provides outstanding opportunities for scientific research. The Cancer Immunology I, II, and CL courses allow students to explore biotechnology methods, including cell culture, protein purification, and CRISPR gene editing, as well as the opportunity to collaborate with the Cleveland Clinic on cancer vaccine research. CL Synthetic Biology I and II, delves into the intersection of biology, engineering and innovation. This course culminates with students submitting genetically engineered machine designs for publication and the presentation of their work at an MIT synthetic biology conference.

Kenyon College Dual-Credit: For the 2023-24 school year, WRA is piloting dual-credit coursework in CL Chemistry and CL Spanish in partnership with Kenyon College. Students currently taking either class have the option of enrolling in the Kenyon Academic Program (KAP). Those who enroll in KAP will receive college credit directly from Kenyon College upon successful completion of the course.





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