

AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION



2018-2019 PROFILE FOR COLLEGES

American Heritage School
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Director of Guidance & College Planning
Victoria Polentas, M.A.T.

Asst. Director of Guidance & College Planning
Cheryl Simon, M.A.

CEEB & ACT School Code: 100426

Highlights of Recognitions

The students at American Heritage School are well prepared to be leaders of the 21st century who possess knowledge, integrity, and compassion. Each year, students attend prestigious competitions and earn exceptional awards. Here are some of their recent achievements.

- **#1 high school in Palm Beach County for nationally recognized scholars**; 1 in 4 students in the Class of 2019 is a nationally recognized scholar
- **\$21 million** in college scholarships offered to the Class of 2018
- **89% passing rate** on all **Advanced Placement** exams (52% passing rate in Florida; 41% passing rate globally); AP average test score: 4
- **#1 high school** in Palm Beach County in **Math** competition; #2 private school in the U.S. in national math competition
- **#1 private high school in Palm Beach County at Science Fair** competition
- **Finalists** at the 2018 **Robotics World Championship**
- **#1 Mock Trial Team in Palm Beach County and FSU competition**
- **#1 Moot Court team in Florida for 4 consecutive years**
- **23 First Place** ribbons earned by **French** language students at the *Congres de la Culture Francaise*
- **All Florida** award for *Perspectives literary and art* magazine from the Florida Scholastic Press Association
- **6 Critics' Choice Awards** and **24 Superior ratings** at District 10 **Thespian Festival**
- **7 Platinum First Place** awards at "Showstoppers" national **Dance** competition
- **FHSAA 2017-2018 State Championships**: Boys Soccer, Girls Lacrosse

Our School

American Heritage School is an independent, non-sectarian, co-educational day school for grades PK3 through 12 with approximately 1,500 students. The high school, grades 9-12, has a student population of 800 students. Our student to faculty ratio is 5:1. American Heritage School is a tuition-only school where, in an effort to make all families equal, we do not ask for nor accept donations. We are completely managed by veteran educators, and we have no governing board. It is paramount that all our staff have a vested interest in American Heritage, therefore, faculty and staff children receive full tuition to our school.

A College Prep Experience

Our school resembles a small college in size and design with facilities and labs similar to those on a college campus. American Heritage School gives its students a rigorous, traditional education in a forward-thinking, technologically advanced, well-rounded environment. Our elite students, 100% of whom are accepted into 4-year universities, are uniquely prepared to be leaders of the 21st century, who embody knowledge, integrity, and compassion. To this end, we strive to offer a challenging college preparatory curriculum serving students of bright average to gifted intelligence and aim to develop critical thinking skills, problem solving abilities, and lifelong learning. American Heritage offers financial aid and academic and fine arts scholarships.

School Community

We believe that in addition to academics, arts, and athletics, students should develop a strong sense of social responsibility. In order to provide students with that opportunity, we offer over 60 student clubs and organizations, created and headed by students and each supervised by a faculty adviser. We celebrate diversity and welcome students of all religions, nationalities, ethnicities, and races. Our focus is to create a community of scholars who respect individual and group differences and who seek to become responsible citizens.

Accreditations and Memberships

Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF)
Middle States Association (MSA-CESS)
Accreditation International (Ai)
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/AdvancED (SACS)
National Association of College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)
Southern Association of College Admissions Counseling (SACAC)
Florida School Counseling Association (FCSA)
South Florida Counselor Consortium (SFCC)
College Board

Weighting of Classes

Grade	College Prep	Honors	AP	
A+	97-100	4.67	5.67	6.67
A	93-96	4.33	5.33	6.33
A-	90-92	4	5	6
B+	87-89	3.67	4.67	5.67
B	83-86	3.33	4.33	5.33
B-	80-82	3	4	5
C+	77-79	2.67	3.67	4.67
C	73-76	2.33	3.33	4.33
C-	70-72	2	3	4
D+	67-69	1.67	2.67	3.67
D	63-66	1.33	2.33	3.33
D-	60-62	1	2	3
F	0-59	0	0	0
WP	withdrawn with passing grade			
WF	withdrawn with failing grade			

We do not rank students based on GPA.

Faculty

The students of American Heritage School are served by 276 instructors, counselors, and administrators, of which 60% hold Masters or Doctoral degrees. In addition to having AP readers on our staff, our pre-professional courses are taught by prominent doctors, judges, and attorneys, who are currently practicing in their fields and are dedicated to the students and their success. This brings resources and points of view uncommon to many high schools. Faculty turnover is minimal. To foster educational best practices and a love of learning, all of our teachers participate in professional development throughout the year. Parents and students respect our dedicated, professional, competent, and caring faculty.

Fine Arts

Our Fine Arts Department is recognized internationally. We welcome students with all abilities in the arts, and our low student to teacher ratio gives each student the chance to develop skills at his/her own pace. We feel a student should be well-rounded, so we teach performance techniques and hands-on application, combined with theory in all disciplines of study. We give students various opportunities to display their talents on campus, and throughout the region, country, and world.

Athletics

American Heritage offers a competitive sports program for boys and girls, with teams in all major sports. We have a "no cut" policy that allows every student who wants to participate an opportunity to play on the Stallion team of his or her choice. Our coaches provide a high-quality level of instruction enabling students to further develop their skills and build good character, leadership, and respect for others. Awards evenings are held for athletes and parents at the conclusion of the sports season.

CURRICULUM & COURSE OFFERINGS

In addition to the standard college preparatory curriculum, we offer 23 Advanced Placement and 95 Honors courses.

English Department

Advanced Placement: English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition

Honors: English I-IV, Debate I-IV, Journalism Internship

College Preparatory: English I-IV, Poetry Reading & Writing, Writing Seminar, Journalism, Newspaper, Yearbook, Literary Magazine

Mathematics Department

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

Honors: Algebra I, Algebra 1 Competition, Geometry, Algebra II, Algebra II Competition, Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus Competition, Calculus

College Preparatory: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Algebra Topics Advanced, College Algebra with Trig, Analysis of Functions, Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus

Science Department

Advanced Placement: Biology, Chemistry, Physics I, Physics C: Mechanics, Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism, Environmental Science

Honors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Marine Science, Environmental Health

College Preparatory: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Marine Science, Environmental Science

Pre-Medical Honors Program: Medical Terminology, Embryology, Physical Exam, Anatomy & Physiology, Pathology, Forensic Science, Organic Chemistry, Medical Internship (Requirements: advanced math & science, high reading comprehension, interview)

Foreign Language Department

Advanced Placement: Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, French Language, Mandarin Chinese

Honors: Spanish II-IV, French II-IV, Mandarin Chinese I-IV

College Preparatory: Spanish I-IV, French I

Social Studies Department

Advanced Placement: Human Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Macroeconomics, Psychology

Honors: World Regional Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Business/Entrepreneurship, Business Ethics, Finance & Investment

College Preparatory: World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, e-Commerce, Leadership

Pre-Law Honors Program: Business Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedures, Constitutional Law, Juvenile Law, Corporate Law, Current Legal Matters, Homicide Law, Evidence, Trial Advocacy, Mock Trial, Moot Court, Law Internship

(Requirements: high grades in English and interview)

Fine Arts Department

Visual Art: Art Portfolio*, Ceramics* I, II, III, Computer Graphics, Drawing, Fashion Design I, II, III, IV, Painting I, II, III, IV, Photography I & II, Photography III*, Photography Portfolio*, Studio Art*, Visual Concepts

Theater: Musical Theater, Acting I, II, III, IV, Play Prep and Production, Sound and Lighting, Senior Showcase", Showcase*, Movement and Voice Honors

Music: Chorus*, Show Chorus, Music Theory

Band: Band*, Guitar I, II, III*, IV*, Orchestra*, Piano I, II, III, IV

Dance: Dance I*, II*, III*, IV*, Dance Competition, Dance Conditioning

* Honors course is also available

Computer Department

Advanced Placement: Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles

Honors: Computer Science, Intro to Computer Coding, Computer Coding using Java, Web Page Design, Production/Broadcasting, Studio Production, Film Production, Broadcast & Graphics Media

College Preparatory: Introduction to Computer Programming, Productivity Suite, Introduction to Multimedia, Film Production

Students must meet prerequisites to enroll in Honors and AP courses.

Graduation Requirements

There are two (2) semesters per year and credits are granted at the end of each semester. In addition, all students are required to complete 120 hours of community service. All classes are 50 minutes long and meet five (5) times each week. To graduate, a student must have earned a total of 24 credits (Carnegie units). The graduation requirements are as follows:

English	4 credits (one per year to include World, American, British)
Math	4 credits
Science	3 credits including Biology, Chemistry or Physics (4 recommended)
Social Studies	3 credits including World History, American History, Economics, American Government
Foreign Language	2 credits (two consecutive years of the same foreign language)
Fine Arts	0.5 credit (one semester of drama, art or music)
Physical Education	0.5 credit (one semester)
Electives	7 credits (four electives should be in the first five subject areas listed above)
TOTAL	24 credits

Nationally Recognized Scholars

Class of 2019 - Total students: 211

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists	24
National Merit Commended Scholars	12
National Hispanic Scholars	7
Presidential Scholar Candidates	4

AP Scholar Awards

AP Scholars	17
AP Scholars with Honor	10
AP Scholars with Distinction	27
National AP Scholars	5

AP Test Scores

Average AP Exam score: 4
 Passing Rate: 89% with scores of 3 or higher

American Heritage Passing Rate	89%
Florida Passing Rate	52%
Global Passing Rate	41%

ACT Score Distribution

Top 5%	35
Top 10%	34
Top 20%	33
Top 30%	32
Mean	29

SAT Score Distribution

RANKING	EBRW - Evidence Based Reading & Writing	M - Math
Top 5%	750	800
Top 10%	750	790
Top 20%	720	760
Top 30%	700	740
Median	630	660

SAT Subject Test Scores

SUBJECT	MEAN
Biology-Ecology	700
Biology-Molecular	770
Chemistry	710
English Literature	630
Math Level I	680
Math Level II	720
Physics	680
Spanish	770
U.S. History	600
World History	660

Guidance and College Planning Department (561) 495-7272, extension 211

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Guidance Counselors - Grades 9-10

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Guidance Administrative Assistant

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College Acceptances

100% of American Heritage graduates were accepted to four-year colleges and attend a wide variety of selective colleges and universities. In recent years, here are some of the out-of-state schools that have accepted our graduates.

American University	Harvard University	U.S. Naval Academy
Boston College	Johns Hopkins University	University of California, Berkeley
Boston Conservatory at Berklee	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of California, Los Angeles
Boston University	New York University	University of Chicago
Bowdoin College	Northeastern University	University of Michigan
Brandeis University	Northwestern University	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Brown University	Princeton University	University of Notre Dame
Carnegie Mellon University	Purdue University	University of Pennsylvania
Colgate University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Southern California
College of William & Mary	Rice University	University of St. Andrews (Scotland)
Columbia University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Texas at Austin
Cornell University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Virginia
Dartmouth College	Sewanee: The University of the South	Vanderbilt University
Duke University	Stanford University	Vassar College
Emory University	Syracuse University	Villanova University
George Washington University	Tufts University	Wake Forest University
Georgetown University	Tulane University	Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology	U.S. Military Academy - West Point	Yale University