

# EASTERN MENNONITE SCHOOL PROFILE 2022-23

Head of School: Paul G. Leaman, Ph.D. | Principal: Justin King | College & Career Counselor: Jodi Nisly Hertzler

## CLASS OF '23 GPA RANGE

2.5588 - 4.4455

(33 students)

EMS does not rank students as the small size and composition of our student body does not yield meaningful data.

## MISSION

EMS joins home and church in calling students to faith in Jesus Christ, academic excellence, personal integrity, and compassionate service in the world.

## VISION

EMS aspires to reflect Christ's light as a learning community where every student belongs, thrives, and lives God's call.

## MINIMUM CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

Bible - 2  
English - 4  
Family & Consumer Science - .5  
Fine Arts (Art/Music) - 1  
Mathematics - 3  
Physical Education & Health - 2  
Science - 3  
Social Studies - 3  
General Electives - 2.5

## GRADING SCALE:

A+ 98-100 4.2	C+ 77-79 2.2
A 93-97 4.0	C 73-76 2.0
A- 90-92 3.8	C- 70-72 1.8
B+ 87-89 3.2	D+ 67-69 1.2
B 83-86 3.0	D 63-66 1.0
B- 80-82 2.8	D- 60-62 0.8
	F 0-59 0

Advanced Placement (AP): +1.0  
Dual Enrollment (DE): +1.0  
Optional Honors (Honors): +0.5

## NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

Since 1998 we have had 60 commended scholars, 18 finalists and one presidential scholar.

CEEB Code: 471030

Eastern Mennonite School was founded in 1917 by the Mennonite Church with the purpose of providing a rigorous academic education, developing ethical thought and behavior, practicing faith expression through the arts, and cultivating a practice of leading through serving. Now a thriving K-12 institution located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, the constituency of the school has diversified over the years, but the founding focus has remained the same. Of the 158 students currently enrolled in the high school division, approximately half identify as Mennonite and several are international students hosted through our boarding program. The scale of our school allows us to attend to students' varied needs and provide personalized education where necessary.

## Faith

Central to the philosophy and goals of EMS is a commitment to the Christian faith. Each student is required to take a half-credit Bible course each year. As part of the senior-level class, Kingdom Living, each senior prepares a presentation, reflecting upon their spiritual, academic, and co-curricular experiences. Senior presentations are heavily attended and are a meaningful culmination of an EMS education.

## School Life Under COVID

In March 2020, we pivoted to distance learning, utilizing a hybrid of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. To support our students, we allowed a pass/fail option for classes in the fourth quarter as long as they were passing the course with 70% or above. Most of our students, however, continued strong investment in their learning, allowing them to keep their letter grades.

The 2020-21 school year operated in-person most of the year with a small percentage of students who opted for distance learning for various reasons (winter athletes were required to distance learn during their season, for example).

## Writing Across the Curriculum

Students receive rigorous writing and grammar instruction through courses in the English department at EMS. However, all courses require significant writing assignments and are graded according to standardized criteria established by the school.

## AP, Dual-Enrollment, Honors, & Optional Honors Courses

AP, DE, and Honors classes receive weighted grade points, as these courses demand an advanced level of research, reading, writing, and critical thinking. For Optional Honors, students contract with the teacher for advanced work within the course. AP and Dual-Enrollment courses are generally reserved for Juniors and Seniors. Because of the rigor of all our classes, students are discouraged from taking more than two DE/AP courses a year, but exceptions are made in consultation with our school counselor.

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[easternmennonite.org](http://easternmennonite.org)



Eastern Mennonite School is a member of the Mennonite Schools Council and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1957 and the Virginia Association of Independent Schools since 2002.

## Online Learning, College Courses, & Independent Study

A number of our students pursue online learning. Primary reasons for online learning include the desire to advance in a subject or to take a course not offered at EMS. Upperclassmen may take college classes at adjacent Eastern Mennonite University or at Blue Ridge Community College. College courses receive weighted grade points. Some of our students use their junior or senior year to explore areas of academic and vocational interest through independent study, overseen by a faculty member or local college professor.

## School Year

This year (2022-23) EMS began operating on a trimester schedule. Trimester end dates are mid-November, mid-February, and early June. Mid-year transcripts will be released after Trimester One. The school day is divided into six periods and one 20-minute chapel period.

## Disclosure Statement

Students are expected to respond truthfully to any questions asked of them regarding disciplinary action taken during their time at the school. EMS will typically not disclose such information, however, may choose to disclose when deemed necessary for the well being of the student or the safety of others.

<h3>Curriculum</h3>
The following courses are or have been available to the students in the class of 2023. Optional Honors courses are indicated by *
<b>ART:</b> Art Books and Papermaking, Art Foundations, Ceramics, Crafts, Digital Painting, Digital Photography, Drawing, Painting, Portfolio Preparation, Printmaking, Sculpture, Stained Glass
<b>BIBLE:</b> Bible 9: Creation And Promise, Bible 10: Jesus Story, *Bible 11: Global Christianity, *Bible 12: Kingdom Living, Second Temple Judaism
<b>ENGLISH:</b> *English 9, *English 10, *Literature 11, Advanced Composition, *Literature 12, Composition 12: Research Writing Honors, Composition 12: Creative Writing, AP English Literature and Composition, English for International Students, African American Literature & History Honors
<b>FAMILY &amp; CONSUMER SCIENCES:</b> Eating Local, Ethnic Foods, Food Science and Nutrition, Housing & Interior Design, Practical Arts: Food Preservation, Sewing
<b>MATHEMATICS:</b> Algebra I, *Geometry, *Algebra II, AP Calculus, AP Statistics
<b>MODERN LANGUAGES:</b> Spanish I, II, III, Spanish IV Honors, Advanced Study in Spanish
<b>MUSIC:</b> Advanced Music (Honors), Beginning Guitar, Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, Dance, Digital Recording, Guitar, Jazz Ensemble, *Orchestra, Sightreading & Class Voice, Songwriting, Touring Choir
<b>PE &amp; HEALTH:</b> Physical Education & Health 9, Physical Education & Health 10, Driver Education, Advanced PE
<b>SCIENCE:</b> AP Biology, *Anatomy & Physiology, *Biology (General), *Chemistry, DE Chemistry, *Environmental Science, *Organic Chemistry, *Physics, *Robotics I, II, III, and IV (Dual Enrolled optional for 1 year), Zoology
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES:</b> U. S. History (9th), *World History (11th), U. S. Government (12th), African American Literature & History Honors, AP World History Modern, Constitutional Law, Economics, Film Studies, *Introduction to Psychology, Organizational Leadership, Sociology and Social Issues, Women In U. S. History
<b>ELECTIVES:</b> Academic Lab, Adulting 101, Computer Programming With Python I, II, III, Business Internship, Independent Studies, Library Assistant, Online Courses, Publication Design, Studies Abroad (or other locations), Teacher Assistant, Acting I, Theater Arts

## College Matriculations

Approximately eighty-five percent of EMHS graduates attend college upon graduation. A number of our graduating seniors opt to perform service and/or mission work immediately after high school before continuing their education, a true extension of our mission. Graduates in the last five classes have attended:

- Agnes Scott College
- Amherst College
- Andrews University
- Bard College
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Bridgewater College
- Brigham Young University (Idaho)
- Christopher Newport University
- Clemson University
- Cornell University
- Davidson College
- Deep Springs College
- Drexel University
- Eastern Kentucky University
- Eastern Mennonite University
- Eastern University
- Franklin & Marshall College
- Furman University
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- Goshen College
- Hampden-Sydney College
- Hesston College
- James Madison University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Juniata College
- King University
- Lancaster Bible College
- Lees-McRae College
- Liberty University
- Longwood University
- Mary Baldwin University
- Marymount University
- Messiah University
- Millersville University of Pennsylvania
- Old Dominion University
- Olin College of Engineering
- Roanoke College
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Rollins College
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Siena College
- Smith College
- Stevenson University
- Syracuse University
- The College of William and Mary
- The University of Tampa
- The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)
- The University of Texas at Dallas
- University of Arizona
- University of California (Davis)
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Florida
- University of Kansas
- University of Lynchburg
- University of Maine
- University of Mary Washington
- University of Maryland (Baltimore County)
- University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
- University of Richmond
- University of San Francisco
- University of South Carolina
- University of Toronto
- University of Virginia
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Virginia Tech
- Wake Technical Community College
- Warren Wilson College