

A passion for learning is at the heart of Berkeley Carroll. The school is a creative and intellectual community where devoted teachers challenge and engage talented students. Our demanding curriculum and vibrant civic life prepare our diverse graduates for success in college and for the greater endeavor—a life of critical, ethical and global thinking.

A BC Education: Critical, Ethical, Global

Berkeley Carroll is a vibrant intellectual community with an academic program that emphasizes research and an interdisciplinary approach. The curriculum is marked by extensive choice, both through academic electives in grades 10-12, as well as opportunities to add research, extra science classes and language courses to the core program.

In keeping with our commitment to an education that encourages critical and creative thinking, Berkeley Carroll divested from the College Board's Advanced Placement Program in 2011. Our challenging faculty-designed curriculum provides students with more school-designed college level and advanced courses and better fosters the attributes students need in the 21st century, including independence, flexibility, empathy, cultural competency, and the ability to collaborate effectively. Our school challenges students to be daring thinkers who would help shape a more just and peaceful world.

Honor Code

Students commit to following an honor code, which governs both academic and community life. Infractions are considered by an Honor Council consisting of elected student representatives and faculty. **Decisions that result in suspension or expulsion will be reported to colleges.**

The BC Community

While BC students come from all five boroughs of New York City, as well as Long Island and New Jersey, the school retains a strong neighborhood feel, and students, parents and faculty consistently cite the community as Berkeley Carroll's greatest asset. Our beautiful landmarked building in central Brooklyn is a short walk from the Brooklyn Museum and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and an easy subway ride from the rich opportunities of Manhattan.

There are 322 students in the Upper School, 38% of whom identify as students of color. Approximately 34% of Upper School students receive financial aid, and the average aid award for 2020-21 is \$37,704. There are 83 students in the class of 2021.

Berkeley Carroll students are remarkably balanced. Although the school's graduation requirement is two years of arts, 75% of the Class of 2021 is taking a fourth year of visual or performing arts, and many students take multiple arts. Similarly, nearly three-quarters of upper school students participate in our 21 interscholastic athletics program. Within the last 5 seasons, we have captured league championships in Girls Varsity Volleyball, Boys Varsity Basketball, Girls Varsity Basketball and Boys Varsity Baseball.

Community Action

Berkeley Carroll's service requirement has evolved recently from an hours-based requirement to project-based experiences designed to connect with our curriculum and to explore current events and individual passions in support of our mission. The intent of the requirement is to foster meaningful and ethical connections through scaffolded reflection and direct engagement with the community.

Spring Intensives

Regular classes in the Upper School are suspended for two weeks for "intensives," innovative, interdisciplinary courses designed by our faculty in the pursuit of subject matter, often project-based, in an immersive, focused, and mixed grade-level environment. Intensives emphasize intellectual curiosity, depth, and rigor as well as experiential learning, frequently harnessing NYC as an extended classroom. Recent examples include Hunger and Homelessness in NYC, Chess: Tactics and Culture, Sitcoms and Society, Music and Technology, The Psychology and Science of Wellness, The Innocence Project: Social Justice Through Art, and Sustainable Brooklyn.

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Upper School Course Offerings 2020-2021

Advanced level courses are identified in **bold** and should be considered most rigorous.

All topics listed in English or history may not be available every calendar year. Junior and senior level courses in these departments are highly rigorous, discussion-based, writing-intensive courses with college-level standards and syllabi.

English

4 Years Required

9th:

Myths & Legends

10th:

 (Semester electives)

Before the Stage: Plays as Literature

Harlem Renaissance and its Discontents

Identity and Independence:

Nigerian Postcolonial Literature

Novels of Jane Austen and the Brontes

Voice and Style

Will's World: Shakespeare

Women on the Edge

Youth in Literature: Teenage Riot

11th:

Adv American Studies (HI/EN)

12th: (Adv English: Semester electives)

Creative Writing: Fiction

Creative Writing: Playwriting

Media Literacy

Political Writer in Exile

Novels of Richard Wright and James Baldwin

Satan in Literature

Stories of the South

The Essay

Truth, Beauty, and Goodness (HI/EN)

**Theories of the Self: Nietzsche, Freud,
& Existentialism (HI/EN)**

Math

3 Years Required

9th:

Algebra I: Part II, Geometry, Adv Geometry,
Algebra II, **Adv Algebra II**

10th:

Algebra II, **Adv Algebra II**, Pre-Calculus,
Adv Pre-Calculus

11th:

Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, **Adv Pre-Calculus**,
Calculus I, **Adv Calculus I**, Statistics

12th:

Pre-Calculus, **Adv Pre-Calculus**,
Calculus I, **Adv Calculus I**,
Adv Multivariable Calculus,
Adv Linear Algebra, Statistics

History

3 years Required

9th:

Modern World History

10th:

 (Semester electives)

Africa and The West

Apartheid and Jim Crow:

Racial Segregation in South Africa and the US

Cultures in the Caribbean

History of Globalization

Latin America in the 20th & 21st Centuries

Modern China

Modern Middle East

Reading War

World War II

World Religions

11th:

Adv American Studies (HI/EN)

12th: (Adv History: Semester electives)

African American History

America and the Cold War

American South

Indigenous Peoples' History of the US

History, Popular Narrative, & Social Change

Truth, Beauty, and Goodness (HI/EN)

**Theories of the Self: Nietzsche, Freud,
& Existentialism (HI/EN)**

Art History (Year-long)

Adv Senior Scholars Program

(Year-long, application only)

Science

3 Years Required

9th:

Biology

10th:

Chemistry

Adv Chemistry I

Intro Science Research and Design (SRD)*

11th and 12th:

Physics

Environmental Science

Biotechnology (semester)

Anatomy and Physiology (semester)

Bioethics (semester)

Science of Psychology

Principles of Engineering and Design

Adv Science Research and Design (SRD)

Adv Biology II

Adv Chemistry II

12th (only):

Adv Physics II

**Adv Science Research and Design:
Symposium***

*Only taken as a second science course

World Languages

3 Years Required

French I-IV, **French III/IV Adv**, **Adv French:**

Camus to Godard & Adv French:

Pluriculturalism in 21st Century France

(Semester), **Adv French: Questions**

d'Identites (Year-long)

Spanish I-V, **Spanish III/IV Adv**, **Adv LatinX**

in NYC, Adv Marginal Voices of the

Hispanic World

Latin I-III, **Adv Latin IV: Literature of**

the Augustan Age

Mandarin I-V, **Adv Mandarin III/IV**

Arabic (May only be taken as an additional
language through Johns Hopkins CTY)

Computer Science

1 Year Required

9th and 10th:

Computer Digital Essentials I, II

10th-12th: (Semester electives)

Analyzing Data in Python

Data Structures and Algorithms

Digital Filmmaking

Ethical Hacking

iOS Development I & II

Responsive Web Apps: Design,

Develop and Deploy I & II

12th (only):

Adv Cross-Platform Game Design

Visual and Performing Arts

2 Years Required

Drawing & Painting: I, II, Portfolio, **Exhibition**

Photography: I, II, Portfolio, **Exhibition**

Design: I, II, Portfolio, **Exhibition**

Ceramics and Sculpture: I, II, Portfolio, **Exhibition**

Introductory Actors Studio, **Adv Actors Studio**

Tech Theatre, Production Design,

Adv Production Design

Speech and Debate

Dance Fundamentals, Dance Repertory

Jazz Ensemble, Wind Ensemble

Orchestra, **Chamber Orchestra**

Concert Choir, **Chamber Choir**

Key Facts for College Admissions Officers

- The Berkeley Carroll calendar follows a semester system with two-week Spring Intensives in early March.
- Students are limited to a maximum of 7.5 academic credits/year and must take a minimum of 5 academic credit/year, in addition to PE, arts, and other elective courses.
- No advanced coursework is available in English, science (except Adv Chem I), or history until 11th grade.
- **Successful completion of American Studies, an advanced course, earns students credit for two academic courses, history and English, in the junior year.**
- Enrollment in the Senior Scholars, Science Research and Design, and Independent Study programs require an application and must be approved by faculty committee.
- 100% of Berkeley Carroll graduates plan to attend a four-year college.

Grading Policies and Grade Point Average

At Berkeley Carroll, grades are unweighted and students are not ranked. In the 2014-15 school year, we transitioned from the A-F grading scale to the 100-point scale, giving students, parents and colleges a more granular view of individual performance. Although we do not offer a cumulative GPA, we provide a realistic grade distribution from courses taken in the junior year to assist colleges in assessing relative achievement.

Global Education: Berkeley Carroll's travel programs are distinctive both for their curricular roots and nuanced philosophical approach. Academic travel programs take students to India (annually) and Tanzania (semi-annually) for a better understanding of local solutions to global issues. To foster authentic global thinking, students are expected to prepare beforehand and engage in serious reflection while abroad, taking related academic courses (African History, Modern India) and studying language, culture, geography, history and politics to inform critical perspectives on international development and "voluntourism." Annual language and culture immersion programs to Spain and France and a semi-annual classics trip to Italy are also offered.

Junior Grade Distribution, 2019-2020

	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
Adv American Studies	14	31	20	14	4	0	0	0	0
Algebra II	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pre Calculus	1	8	4	7	1	0	1	0	0
Advanced Pre Calc	6	16	9	4	3	0	0	0	0
Advanced Calculus I	7	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Multivariable Calculus	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Advanced Biology II	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Advanced Chemistry II	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Bioethics	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Environmental Science	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Human Anatomy & Phys	0	2	3	2	1	0	1	0	0
Physics	6	13	8	3	4	2	0	0	0
Principles of Engineering Design	8	13	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
SRD: Advanced Science Research	7	6	2	2	0	1	0	0	0
Spanish IIB	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Spanish III	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Spanish III Advanced	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IV	3	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IV Advanced	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish V	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Latinx in NY	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Marginal Voices of the Hispanic World	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French II	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
French III	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
French III Advanced	3	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
French IV Advanced	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Pluriculturalism	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv French Camus to Godard	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zola and Beyond	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin III	6	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mandarin III Advanced	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Distinctive Programs

American Studies: A rigorous, co-taught, double-credit course that examines "America" through the lenses of history, literature, philosophy, rhetoric, and art. Course culminates in a major research paper, an accompanying walking tour in New York City, and a final exam requiring extensive written analysis of previously unseen material. This advanced course fosters advanced reading, writing, discussion, and research skills.

Science Research and Design (SRD): An advanced three-year science program that takes students through the stages of research fundamentals, methodology and question development, original research execution, and the oral and written presentation of research findings. By the end of the second year, most students establish ties with external mentors and master several techniques for analyzing and presenting complex scientific studies. Students completing the third year present a paper at an annual conference and are published in the Berkeley Carroll Independent Research journal. Recent topics have included "Brain Plasticity: the Acquisition of Grapheme Color Synesthesia," "A Comparison of the Antimicrobial Activity of Silver Nano-particles against Antibiotics to Counter Antibiotic Resistance," and "The Potential Uses of Synthetic Shark Skin as a non-Toxic Antifouler and Antimicrobial."

Senior Scholars Program: Designed for seniors who wish to pursue advanced independent scholarly work in the humanities or social sciences, this demanding program trains them to be responsible researchers and inquisitive citizens. Working with mentors who are experts in their fields, students meet as a class to develop and critique each other's work. In-class instruction focuses on deepening writing, research, and philosophical inquiry skills. The program culminates in a formal research paper and an accompanying public presentation, evaluated by a committee. Projects range across disciplines, from investigating the role of Artificial Intelligence in contemporary computer science, for example, to analyzing Toni Morrison's novels, to researching gender dynamics in the history of Jazz.

College Matriculations

Members of the Classes of 2016-2020 are enrolled at the following colleges:

Matriculations for 2020 are indicated in bold, with multiple enrollees in parentheses.

5 or more

students enrolled:

Bard College

Barnard College (3)

Bates College (2)

Bowdoin College

Colby College

Colorado College (3)

Cornell University (3)

Howard University

Lafayette College (2)

New York University

Northeastern University (2)

Oberlin College

Pitzer College

Skidmore College (2)

Smith College

Syracuse University (2)

Tulane University

Vassar College

Wesleyan University (5)

4 students enrolled:

Amherst College (2)

Boston University

Brown University

Chapman University

Drexel University (2)

Kenyon College

University of Vermont

University of Wisconsin Madison

3 students enrolled:

Carleton College

Colgate University (2)

CUNY Hunter College

Fordham University

George Washington University

Ithaca College

Macalester College

Mount Holyoke College

Parsons School of Design (2)

Rochester Institute of Technology

Sarah Lawrence College (2)

SUNY Albany

Tufts University

University of Pennsylvania

University of Southern California

2 students enrolled:

American University

Beloit College

Bennington College

Columbia University

Connecticut College

Dickinson College (2)

Emerson College

Emory University

Gettysburg College

Hamilton College

Harvard University

Indiana University

Johns Hopkins University

Marist College

Muhlenberg College

Pennsylvania State University

Princeton University

Quinnipiac University

Scripps College (2)

Spelman College

Stony Brook University

SUNY Binghamton

SUNY University Buffalo

Union College

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Michigan

University of Rochester

Ursinus College

Whittier College

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Yale University

1 student enrolled:

Albright College

Belmont University

Bentley University

Bradley University

Bryn Mawr College

California Institute of Technology

California Polytechnic State

University San Luis Obispo

Carnegie Mellon University

Claremont McKenna College

Clark University

Coastal Carolina University

Colorado State University

CUNY Bernard M Baruch College

CUNY Queensborough College

Dartmouth College

Eckerd College

Franklin & Marshall College

Georgetown University

Goucher College

Hampshire College

High Point University

King's College London

Lawrence University

Loyola University Maryland

Loyola University New Orleans

Lycoming College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Middlebury College

Ohio Wesleyan University

Pace University

Pomona College

Queens University

Reed College

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Saint Joseph's University

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Southern Methodist University

SUNY New Paltz

SUNY Purchase College

SUNY College Geneseo

SUNY Oneonta

Susquehanna University

Swarthmore College

Temple University

Trinity College

Trinity College Dublin

University of California Berkeley

University of California Los Angeles

University of California Santa Cruz

University of Chicago

University of Connecticut

University of Delaware

University of Denver

University of Guelph

University of Hartford

University of Maryland

College Park

University of Miami

University of Pittsburgh

University of Redlands

University of Richmond

University of South Florida

University of St. Andrews

University of the Arts London

Vanderbilt University

Warren Wilson College

Wellesley College

West Virginia Wesleyan College

Whitman College

College of William and Mary

Williams College