

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 STEM 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.

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 321 students in the Upper School, 38% of whom identify as students of color. Approximately 31% of Upper School students receive financial aid, and the average aid award for 2021-22 is \$39,206. There are 78 students in the class of 2022.

Berkeley Carroll students are remarkably balanced. Although the school's graduation requirement is two years of arts, 78% of the Class of 2022 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.

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. **If requested by colleges or universities, decisions that result in suspension or expulsion will be reported.**

Community Action

Berkeley Carroll's service requirement comprises 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

Spring classes will be suspended for two weeks in March for newly redesigned Spring Intensives: innovative courses centered around social action and focused on meaningful community engagement. Using NYC and other locations as classrooms and by partnering with organizations and community members, intensives emphasize relationship building, analytical thinking, and experiential fieldwork to build a nuanced understanding of societal issues.

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Upper School Course Offerings 2021-2022

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

Jane Austen and the Brontës in Context:

Women, Class, Race

Literary Horror: Oppression & Resistance

Marginalized Voices in

Contemporary Science Fiction

Poetry for Revolution

Voice and Style

Will's World: Race, Religion, and Nation

in Shakespeare

Youth in Literature: Teenage Riot

11th:

Adv American Studies (HI/EN)

12th: (Adv English: Semester electives)

Creative Writing: Fiction

Introduction to Critical Race Theory (HI/EN)

Literary Horror: Oppression & Resistance

Media Literacy: Critical Thinking in the

Age of Information Overload

Nature & Environmental Justice (HI/EN)

Novels of Richard Wright and James Baldwin

Political Writer in Exile

Reading War (EN/HI)

Satan in Literature

The Essay

Theories of the Self: Nietzsche, Freud,

& Existentialism (HI/EN)

Math

3 Years Required

9th:

Algebra I: Part II, Integrated Algebra/

Geometry, Geometry, Adv Geometry,

Algebra II, **Adv Algebra II**

10th:

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

Adv Pre-Calculus, Calculus I, **Adv Calculus I**,

Statistics (prerequisite Alg II or **Adv Alg II**)

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, 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

Global History of Gender

History of Globalization

Holocaust and Human Behavior

Modern China

Modern Middle East

World War II

11th:

Adv American Studies (HI/EN)

12th: (Adv History: Semester electives)

History, Popular Narrative, & Social Change

Introduction to Critical Race Theory (HI/EN)

Indigenous Peoples' History of the US

Nature & Environmental Justice (HI/EN)

Reading War (EN/HI)

Theories of the Self: Nietzsche,

Freud, & Existentialism (HI/EN)

The Cold War

US LGBTQ History

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

Anatomy and Physiology (Semester)

Bioethics (Semester)

Science of Psychology

Principles of Engineering Design

Adv Biology II Molecular and Cellular

Biology/Genetics, Evolution & Ecology

Adv Biology II

Adv Science Research and Design (SRD)

12th (only):

Adv Physics II

Adv Quantum Physics (year-long half credit)

Adv Science Research and Design (SRD):

Symposium

*Only taken as a second science course

World Languages

3 Years Required

French I-V, **French III 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 IIA/IIB, **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-IV, **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 Programming Essentials I

10th-12th: (Semester electives)

Foundations of Object-Oriented Programming II

Data Structures and Algorithms

Designing and Programming

Virtual Musical Instruments

Digital Filmmaking

Ethical Hacking

iOS Development I & II

Responsive Web Apps: Design,

Develop and Deploy I & II

12th (only):

Analyzing Data in Python

Adv Cross-Platform Game Design

Visual and Performing Arts

2 Years or 2 Art Classes Required

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

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

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

Ceramics & Sculpture: I, II, Sculpture

Portfolio, **Exhibition**

Introductory Actors Studio, **Adv Acting Studio**

Tech Theatre, Production Design,

Adv Production Design

Speech and Debate + National Circuit Class

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/or must be approved by faculty committee.
- 100% of Berkeley Carroll graduates plan to attend a four-year college.

Grading Policies and Grade Point Average

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 in the sophomore and junior years 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, 2020-2021

	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
American Studies	12	36	12	13	3	0	3	0	0
Pre Calculus	8	8	3	3	3	2	0	0	0
Adv Pre Calc	12	21	3	1	2	0	0	0	0
Adv Calculus I	6	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Biology II	2	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Chemistry II	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bioethics	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Environmental Science	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Anatomy & Phys	1	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
Physics	8	10	7	4	1	0	0	0	0
Principles of Engineering Design	2	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	1
SRD: Adv Science Research	5	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Science of Psychology	13	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Spanish IIB	1	6	2	3	1	0	0	0	0
Spanish III	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IV	7	9	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Adv Spanish IV	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish V	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Latinx in NY	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Marginal Voices of the Hispanic World	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French II	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
French III	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv French IV	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Pluriculturalism	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adv French Camus to Godard	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin III	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Mandarin II	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Mandarin III	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
iOS Development I	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
iOS Development II	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Ethical Hacking	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Analyzing Data in Python	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data Structures Algorithms	1	0	0	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.

Sophomore Grade Distribution, 2019-2020

	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
English Semester Electives	25	69	35	23	6	1	1	0	0
History Semester Electives	24	63	35	30	8	0	0	0	0
Adv Algebra II	9	14	10	6	2	0	0	0	0
Adv Pre Calc	6	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Algebra II	2	5	3	11	3	0	0	0	0
Adv Biology II	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Chemistry I	13	12	8	3	0	0	0	0	0
Adv Chemistry II	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemistry	4	11	6	11	2	0	0	0	0
Physics	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
SRD: Intro Research	5	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
French I	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
French II	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
French III Adv	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French IV Adv	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin II	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mandarin I	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mandarin II	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0
Mandarin IV	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IIA	0	3	4	5	1	1	0	0	0
Spanish IIB	0	2	1	2	3	0	0	0	0
Spanish III	1	7	1	5	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish III Adv	4	14	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish IV Adv	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

College Matriculations

Members of the Classes of 2017-2021 are enrolled at the following colleges:

Matriculations for 2021 are indicated in bold, with multiple enrollees in parentheses.

5 or more students enrolled:

Amherst College (2)
Bard College
Barnard College (3)
Bates College
Boston University
Brown University (3)
Chapman University
Colorado College (2)
Cornell University (4)
Howard University
Lafayette College
New York University
Northeastern University
Oberlin College (4)
Skidmore College (3)
Smith College
Syracuse University
Tulane University (2)
University of Wisconsin Madison
Vassar College (2)
Wesleyan University (2)

4 students enrolled:

American University (2)
Bowdoin College
Colby College
Emory University (2)
Hamilton College (2)
Kenyon College
Pitzer College
University of Vermont

3 students enrolled:

Columbia University
Connecticut College (2)
Drexel University
Marist College
Sarah Lawrence College

Scripps College
Spelman College
SUNY at Albany
Tufts University
University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester (2)
University of Southern California

2 students enrolled:

Bennington College
Boston College (2)
Colgate University
Dickinson College
Fordham University
George Washington University
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College (2)
Indiana University Bloomington
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Lehigh University (2)
Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
Northwestern University (2)
Occidental College (2)
Parsons School of Design at The New School
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Reed College
Rhode Island School of Design (2)
Rochester Institute of Technology
Stony Brook University
SUNY University at Buffalo
Swarthmore College
Trinity College Dublin

Union College
University of California Los Angeles
University of Pittsburgh
Ursinus College
Whittier College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

1 student enrolled:

Babson College
Belmont University
Beloit College
Bryn Mawr College
California Institute of Technology
California Poly San Luis Obispo
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Coastal Carolina University
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY Queensborough CC
College of William and Mary
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Franklin & Marshall College
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Goucher College
Hampshire College
High Point University
King's College London
Lawrence University
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Lycoming College
Middlebury College
Ohio Wesleyan University
Pace University
Pomona College
Queen's University
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Saint Joseph's University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hall University
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
SUNY at Binghamton
SUNY at New Paltz
SUNY at Purchase College
SUNY College at Geneseo
SUNY Oneonta
Susquehanna University
Temple University
The New School: Eugene Lang College
The Ohio State University
Trinity College
University of California Berkeley
University of California San Diego
University of California Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Guelph
University of Maryland College Park
University of Miami
University of Redlands
University of Richmond
University of South Florida
Vanderbilt University
Vilanova University
Wellesley College
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Whitman College