



# Thayer Academy

Inspiring students since 1877

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2018-2019

**William T. (Ted) Koskores**  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

**Highley Thompson**  
UPPER SCHOOL DIRECTOR

**Carson Smith**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

**Thad Robey**  
DIRECTOR,  
COLLEGE COUNSELING

**Christine Woods**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,  
COLLEGE COUNSELING

**Nellie Brennan Hall**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,  
COLLEGE COUNSELING

Thayer Academy students thrive in an environment distinguished by rigorous academics, a supportive culture, and a vibrant community where Thayer's unique schedule allows students to participate in a balanced program of academics, athletics, arts, and service.

This independent, co-educational day school for students in grades 5-12 is located in the historic district in Braintree, Massachusetts. The school was established by the bequest of Sylvanus Thayer, "Father of the U.S. Military Academy" at West Point and founder of the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College. Thayer is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools and the Association of Independent Schools in New England, is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and has had a chapter of the Cum Laude Society since 1930. Easily accessible from the Red Line, the commuter rail, and 5 Thayer buses, Thayer draws students from 76 communities, 3 countries, and a wide range of backgrounds—which further enriches and differentiates the student experience.

Thayer's mission "to inspire a diverse community of students to Moral, Intellectual, Aesthetic and Physical Excellence" is evident in Thayer students pursuing a rigorous academic schedule while also participating in the school's rich arts offerings and athletic tradition. The Thayer Middle School program includes experiential learning, outdoor education, visual arts, coding, and robotics which prepares students for a demanding Upper School curriculum. Thayer Academy offers students numerous opportunities to challenge themselves academically and personally with 15 AP classes, 93 electives, 26 varsity-level sports with 85 teams, 14 different arts offerings, and over 30 activities, including 5 academic teams. A large percentage of students participates in Thayer's musicals, plays, bands, chorus, and dance performances each year.

Thayer Academy's Middle and Upper Schools occupy nine buildings on a 34-acre campus. Over the past decade, the Academy has invested \$43+M in facilities enhancements designed to serve all areas of school life. In the academic realm, the Academy has fully renovated both the Middle and Upper School Libraries; established four important student support areas—the Hale Learning Center, the Benelli Writing Center, the Pulsifer College Counseling Center, and the Hanflig Technology Center; updated all science labs; and, most recently, established a makerspace for creative, collaborative, student-directed projects in both divisions. To enrich the arts experience of our students, the Academy has a Center for the Arts which includes a 550-seat theater, as well as dance, visual arts, choral, and instrumental studios; in addition, the Middle School theater was recently renovated. Thayer also completely renovated its Gallery and its videography and pottery studios. The athletics program has been enhanced by the Hospitality Pavilion, three turf fields, the full renovation of two gymnasiums, the addition of the Fish Fitness Center, and a field house under construction. The Academy also significantly improved important community areas through the completion of a new Student Commons, Senior Lounge, and Admissions Office.

Students live the Thayer mission to "contribute to the common good" through various all-school community service activities, such as volunteering at local shelters, food banks, and other non-profit agencies. Students run many on-campus service clubs. They work with special needs children and adults from St. Coletta's School, Cardinal Cushing, Friendship Home, and Special Olympics. Other clubs work with children and adults at Father Bill's Homeless Shelter, Cradles to Crayons, Habitat for Humanity, and Birthday Wishes. In the SALSA Club, students speak with students at local elementary schools about living substance-free. Students also tutor inner city children through Project RISE and Project DEEP. Global citizenship is central to Thayer's mission. Students have the opportunity to travel to and have cultural exchanges with our sister schools in China, France, India, and England. Other study abroad opportunities include trips and programs in Italy, Greece, Spain, Peru, Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic for educational and community service experiences. In addition, students can enter Thayer's Global Scholars Program which combines academic learning with real-world international and multi-cultural experiences. Global Scholars take courses with diverse perspectives, participate in travel opportunities, and complete a capstone project in senior year.

### ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY

Thayer Academy has extensive technological resources to supplement students' learning. Thayer has implemented a student MacBook Air laptop program, expanding project-based learning across the disciplines. All classrooms have audio-visual presentation systems to enhance the classroom learning experience. The Hanflig Technology Center is staffed with five full-time technology professionals and has a classroom dedicated to digital training. In addition to the student laptop program, the technology center supports more than 300 computers on campus, as well as Computer Science, Robotics, Graphic Design, and two Collaborative Design Labs. The Computer Science program has a high-performance computing lab and virtual desktop interface for both on and off campus creativity. The fully-outfitted Robotics Lab incorporates all skill-sets, engineering design, programming, construction, communication and field trials. In the Graphic Design Lab, students use Adobe Creative Suite on large monitors to create communications materials. The Collaborative Design Labs in the Upper and Middle Schools work with students to create design thinking projects utilizing state-of-the-art equipment.

### ENROLLMENT

The Academy has an enrollment of 511 students in grades 9-12, and 198 in grades 5-8 for the 2018–2019 school year.

### COSTS

Tuition is \$48,000 per year. Approximately 35% of Thayer students receive financial aid for a total of over \$8.3 million.

### FACULTY

There are 111 academic faculty members, 71% of whom have master's degrees or beyond. The student-faculty ratio is 6:1. The average academic class size is a range of 13-16 students.

## CURRICULUM

All courses are college preparatory. There are 15 AP courses available to juniors and seniors, along with honors sections in English, history, mathematics, sciences, computer science, and foreign languages. Seniors may select from a variety of courses, including 93 electives in English, history, languages, mathematics, sciences, and the arts. AP English courses are offered to juniors; seniors are offered honors courses during first semester.

## SCIENCE CURRICULUM

All Thayer students in the ninth and tenth grade are required to take Integrated Science, an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines biology, chemistry and physics into major themes that include energy conservation, the atomic nature of matter, systems, among others. Before specializing as biologists, chemists, or physicists, students develop the knowledge and skills needed for all three disciplines, and they are better able to understand the relevance of what they are learning and see the applicability of scientific thinking. In eleventh grade, the majority of students take a more specialized course in biology, chemistry, or physics; the AP level is available in those subjects for junior and senior year. Other science electives are also available, including Anatomy and Psychology, Astronomy, AP Environmental Science, Marine Science, Robotics and Systems & Structures. We can provide more information regarding the content of Integrated Science if requested.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Twenty academic credits plus one course in Health & Wellness each year.

Minimum requirements:

- 4 credits of English
- 3 credits of science
- 3 credits of math
- 3 credits of a foreign language
- 3 credits of history (including 1 year U.S, and 1 credit Modern European history)
- One of the 20 credits must come from the arts (art, music, drama), and 3 credits must come from electives.

In May, all seniors are required to participate in a four-week community service or career-oriented project either on- or off-campus.

## GRADING SYSTEM

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| A+ = 98 - 100 | C = 73 - 76  |
| A = 93 - 97   | C- = 70 - 72 |
| A- = 90 - 92  | D+ = 67 - 69 |
| B+ = 87 - 89  | D = 63 - 66  |
| B = 83 - 86   | D- = 60 - 62 |
| B- = 80 - 82  | F = Below 60 |
| C+ = 77 - 79  |              |

## JUNIOR YEAR CLASS OF 2019 HONOR ROLL %

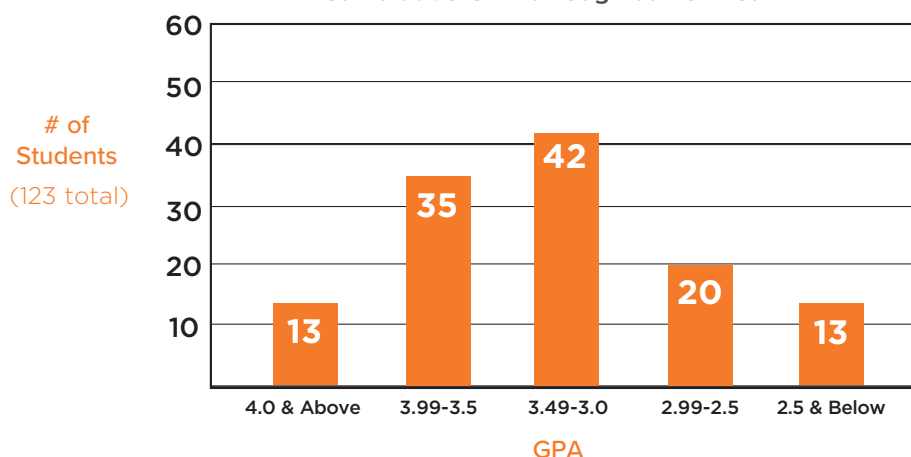
31% High Honors (90% average and above); 42% Honors (85-90% average).

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A cumulative, weighted GPA on a 4.00 scale is calculated each semester, taking into account only major academic subjects taken at Thayer Academy. The GPA is cumulative from grade nine, using Thayer Academy coursework only. AP and honors courses are weighted plus 0.5 points in the calculation. There are **123 students** in the class of 2019. The average cumulative GPA is 3.327.

## CLASS OF 2019 - GPA DISTRIBUTION

Cumulative GPA through Junior Year



**STANDARDIZED TESTING  
CLASS OF 2018**

**ACT**  
**Middle 50% Range:** Composite 24-30

**SAT**  
**Middle 50% Ranges:** EBRW 585-710, M 590-680

**SAT Subject Test Averages:**

|             |     |                |     |
|-------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Biology - E | 634 | Mathematics 1C | 633 |
| Biology - M | 658 | Mathematics 2C | 699 |
| Chemistry   | 684 | Physics        | 560 |
| French      | 767 | Spanish        | 572 |
| Latin       | 633 | U.S. History   | 579 |
| Literature  | 624 |                |     |

**NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARS**

The class of 2019 has 6 Commended Students.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT  
POLICY**

Thayer offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses in the following areas: Biology, Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Computer Science (A), English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French Language & Culture, Latin, Physics C, Spanish Language & Culture, Statistics, U.S. Government & Politics, and U.S. History. AP grades of 3 or better, earned prior to senior year, will appear on the student's transcript.

**SPRING 2018  
AP EXAM STATISTICS**

As a result of the May 2018 AP exams, 32 students were designated AP Scholars; 21 Scholars with Honor; and 20 Scholars with Distinction.

| Exam               | # taking exam | # scoring 3 or better |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Biology            | 30            | 30                    |
| Calculus AB        | 23            | 22                    |
| Calculus BC        | 11            | 11                    |
| Chemistry          | 23            | 23                    |
| Computer Science A | 10            | 10                    |
| English Language   | 29            | 28                    |
| English Literature | 17            | 16                    |
| Environmental Sci. | 64            | 40                    |
| French Language    | 10            | 10                    |
| Latin              | 3             | 3                     |
| Microeconomics     | 1             | 1                     |
| Physics C          | 16            | 10                    |
| Spanish Language   | 22            | 22                    |
| Statistics         | 6             | 4                     |
| U.S History        | 32            | 29                    |

**AP EXAM TOTALS: 297 exams taken; 268 scored 3 or better (90%)**

**COLLEGE MATRICULATION**

99% of Thayer students attend four-year colleges (see matriculation list on next page).

**COLLEGE MATRICULATION** - Classes of '14, '15, '16, '17 and '18 (three or more enrollments in **bold**)

American Musical and Dramatic Academy  
American University  
Amherst College  
**Babson College**  
Bard College Berlin  
Bates College  
Becker College  
Belmont University  
**Bentley University**  
Binghamton University  
**Boston College**  
Boston Conservatory at Berklee  
**Boston University**  
**Bowdoin College**  
**Brandeis University**  
Bridgewater State University  
**Brown University**  
Bryant University  
Bryn Mawr College  
**Bucknell University**  
Carleton College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
**Catholic University of America**  
Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design  
Champlain College  
**Chapman University**  
Clarkson University  
**Clemson University**  
**Colby College**  
**College of Charleston**  
**College of the Holy Cross**  
College of William and Mary  
**Colorado College**  
Columbia College Chicago  
**Connecticut College**  
Cornell University  
Curry College  
Dartmouth College  
**Denison University**  
**Dickinson College**  
**Drexel University**  
**Duke University**  
**Elon University**  
Emmanuel College  
**Emory University**  
**Endicott College**  
**Fairfield University**  
**Fordham University**  
Franklin & Marshall College  
**George Washington University**  
Georgetown University  
Gettysburg College  
Gordon College  
Hamilton College - NY  
Hampden-Sydney College  
Hampshire College  
Harvard University  
High Point University  
**Hobart and William Smith Colleges**  
Indiana University at Bloomington  
Ithaca College

**Johns Hopkins University**  
Peabody Institute (1)  
Juilliard School  
Keene State College  
Kenyon College  
King's College London  
Lasell College  
Lehigh University  
Lesley University  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University Chicago  
**Loyola University Maryland**  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Massachusetts College of Art and Design  
**Massachusetts Maritime Academy**  
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy  
& Health Sciences  
Merrimack College  
Miami University, Oxford  
Middlebury College  
Montana State University, Bozeman  
Mount Holyoke College  
Nazareth College  
New School - All Divisions  
**New York University**  
**Northeastern University**  
**Northwestern University**  
Nova Southeastern University  
Occidental College  
Pace University, New York City  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pitzer College  
Plymouth State University  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
**Providence College**  
Purdue University  
**Quinnipiac University**  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rhode Island College  
Roger Williams University  
Roosevelt University  
Rutgers University - New Brunswick  
Sacred Heart University  
**Saint Anselm College**  
Saint Joseph's College - ME  
Saint Joseph's University  
Salem State University  
Salve Regina University  
Santa Barbara City College  
Santa Clara University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Simmons College  
**Skidmore College**  
**Southern Methodist University**  
Southern New Hampshire University  
Springfield College  
**St. Lawrence University**  
St. Norbert College

St. Olaf College  
**Stonehill College**  
**Syracuse University**  
Texas Christian University  
**Trinity College - CT**  
**Tufts University**  
**Tulane University**  
**Union College - NY**  
United States Coast Guard Academy  
United States Military Academy - Army  
University College Dublin  
**University of Alabama**  
University of British Columbia  
University of California, Los Angeles  
**University of Colorado at Boulder**  
University of Connecticut  
University of Delaware  
**University of Denver**  
**University of Hartford**  
University of Kentucky  
University of Maine  
**University of Massachusetts, Amherst**  
University of Massachusetts, Boston  
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth  
**University of Miami**  
**University of Michigan**  
University of Mississippi  
**University of New Hampshire at Durham**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Redlands  
**University of Rhode Island**  
**University of Richmond**  
University of Rochester  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
University of Southern Maine  
University of St Andrews  
University of Tampa  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
University of Texas, Dallas  
**University of Vermont**  
University of Virginia  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
**Vanderbilt University**  
**Villanova University**  
**Virginia Tech**  
Wagner College  
**Wake Forest University**  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wellesley College  
**Wentworth Institute of Technology**  
Wesleyan University  
Whittier College  
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**  
Yale University