

Great
Barrington
Waldorf
High School

PO Box 905
Great Barrington
MA 01230
(413) 528-8833
waldorfhigh.org

SCHOOL PROFILE, 2010-2011

Great Barrington Waldorf High School

P.O. Box 905, 454 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Phone (413) 528-8833

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Email info@waldorfhigh.org

URL www.waldorfhigh.org

CEEB (College Board) code 220901

Massachusetts DOE code 01130850

Accreditation: As the high school of the Great Barrington Rudolf Steiner School, the Great Barrington Waldorf High School is accredited by the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA).

Head of School: Stephen Keith Sagarin, Ph.D., Faculty Chair

Graduation Requirements: Except in extraordinary circumstances, noted on a student's transcript, all students take all courses at our high school. Students generally earn 7.50 credits per year, each credit reflecting 120 class hours. Five and a half (5.50) of these credits are for academic classes. The rest are for arts and physical education classes. Transcripts may reflect credit earned while on foreign exchange, but, usually, we simply include the report or transcript of the foreign school.

Grading and Ranking Procedures: We grade from A+ (98 % or 4.33) to D- (60% or 0.67). Grades of F receive no credit but are marked on the transcript. We do not weight our students' grades. We do not rank our students.

Courses: All academic, arts, and physical education courses are required for all four years of high school, with the exception of occasional choice in the arts. All courses are Honors level. We do not offer AP courses.

Test Score Information: 100% of our seniors and juniors will take the SAT I this year. Mean scores for the SAT I for past tests are:

Critical Reading 620 Math 590 Writing 610

Please note that our school does not administer nor prep for standardized tests, SAT or other. Most of our students encounter the PSAT as a first standardized test.

College Attendance: We anticipate that 100% of our graduates will attend 4 year colleges. The classes of 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011 were accepted at the following schools (we had no graduates in 2008):

American University

Bard College

Barnard College

Bennington College

*Chapman University

Clark University

*Cleveland Institute of Art

*College of the Atlantic

Daniel Webster College

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
University

Emerson College

Emory University

Evergreen College

Fordham University

Goucher College

Hampshire College

Hunter College

Ithaca College (2)

Jacksonville University,

Aviation Management

John Cabot University

Leslie University

*Montserrat College of Art

*New School for Social Research

New York Institute of

Technology

*Occidental College

Pace University

*Providence College

Purdue University

Reed College

*Rochester Institute of
Technology (2)

*Sarah Lawrence College

Simmons College

*Skidmore College

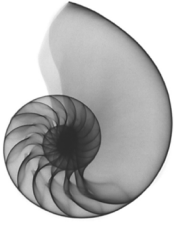
*St. Johns College, Santa Fe

*Syracuse University,

Newhouse School

*SUNY Albany (2)

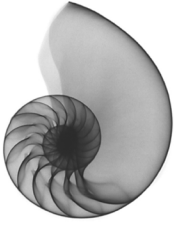
SUNY Purchase (2)



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UC Santa Barbara
UMass Amherst
*UMass Boston
UMass Framingham
University of Dallas
University of Denver
University of Florida
*University of Kings College
*University of New Mexico, Taos
*University of North Dakota,
Aerospace College
*University of Western
Washington
*Vassar College
*Attending



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School and Community Information: The Great Barrington Waldorf High School is a small, rigorous, college preparatory, independent, coeducational Waldorf day school. We enroll 35 students in grades 9-12 this year, and celebrate our fifth graduating class, of six seniors, in June 2011. As a Waldorf school, founded on the educational principles of Rudolf Steiner, we aim to balance rigorous academic work with required fine art, practical art, and performing art classes and with social and community responsibility. As a school on Main Street of a small town, we aim to integrate our school into our community, aiding community soup kitchens, a local environmentally-friendly river walk, and local community-supported organic farms, while using local resources—libraries, artists' studios, museums and the great outdoors—to extend our small campus. Our school is open to all, regardless of ability to pay. The economic range of our students is significant.

Unique Elements of Our Curriculum (Please also see attached *Course of Study*):

Many academic courses—history, English, science—are taught in 3-4 week blocks as seminars that meet for 100 min. per day, five days per week. Other academic courses—foreign languages, mathematics, and some English—meet 3 to 4 days per week for 50 min. Arts and physical education meet 50-100 minutes, 1-2 times per week.

English: English classes meet 3 times per week to focus on reading, writing, and interpretation. Additional English seminars cover specific topics in literature. (See student transcript for list of seminars.)

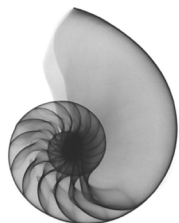
Math: In addition to a standard course of study that progresses from Algebra I through Geometry & Trigonometry and Algebra II to Precalculus and Calculus, we require seminars in Statistics & Probability and Projective (non-Euclidean) Geometry.

History: History seminars cover U.S. history and world history from the ancient world to the modern world. In addition, seminars in history through art, history through drama, history through language, history through music, and history through architecture present the development of human consciousness as evidenced by the cultural artifacts of the diverse civilizations that constitute world history.

Foreign Languages: We teach German or Spanish with an emphasis on conversational facility and reading. Each class takes a 3 week visit to Munich, Germany, or to a Spanish-speaking country in 9th or 10th grade; many students then exchange with Waldorf schools in these cities in 10th or 11th grade. We host approximately 10 visitors from Germany for visits of 3 weeks and exchanges of 6 to 12 weeks each year.

Science: In addition to sequential seminars each year of high school in biology, chemistry, and physics, we require seminars in earth science or geology, and astronomy. Transcripts record those seminars that have a laboratory component. Science teaching focuses on observation and experience, and uses a phenomenological approach.

Arts: All students take required courses in fine and performing arts each year. Student portfolios represent this work to colleges and universities.



COURSE OF STUDIES

The following classes run through the academic year:

- **English I, II, III, or IV** (3 x 50 min. per week)
- **Algebra I, Geometry with Trigonometry, Algebra II, or Precalculus** (4 x 50 min. per week)
- **Spanish I, II, III, or IV** or **German I, II, III, or IV** (4 x 50 min. per week)
- **Physical Education** (1 x 100 min. per week)

The following classes are block scheduled for 3-6 weeks:

- **Seminars in Science, History & Geography, English, or Math (see lists below)** (Block schedule: 5 x 100 min. per week)
- **Fine Arts** (See lists below; block schedule: 2 x 100 min. per week)
- **Performing Arts** (See lists below; block schedule: 1 x 100 min. per week)

12th Grade Seminars (3-4 weeks each)

SCI Zoology (with lab)
SCI Astronomy
SCI Evolution and Genetics
SCI Physics: Optics, Atomic Theory
SCI Chemistry: Atomic theory
HIST History through Architecture
HIST U.S. Constitutional History
HIST Modern World History
LIT The Transcendentalists
LIT Russian Literature

11th Grade Seminars (3-4 weeks each)

SCI Embryology
SCI Botany (with lab)
SCI Organic Chemistry (with lab)
SCI Physics: Electricity (with lab)
MATH Projective Geometry
HIST History through Music
HIST European History
LIT Shakespeare
LIT *Parsifal* or Dante
LIT Bible as Literature

10th Grade Seminars (3-4 weeks each)

SCI Physics: Mechanics
SCI Chemistry: Periodic Table (with lab)
SCI Biology: Cell Biology
SCI Computer Science
SCI Geology
HIST Ancient History
HIST History through Language
HIST Asian Culture and History
LIT The *Odyssey*
LIT Comedy and Tragedy

9th Grade Seminars (3-4 weeks each)

SCI Physics: Thermodynamics
SCI Chemistry (with lab)
SCI Biology: Anatomy and Physiology
SCI Earth Science, Ecology
MATH Statistics and Probability
HIST History through Art
HIST U.S. History I
HIST U.S. History II
LIT Poetry
LIT American Literature

Fine Arts (6 week blocks)

Painting
Drawing
Block Printing
Ceramics
Marble sculpture
Weaving
Felting
Joinery

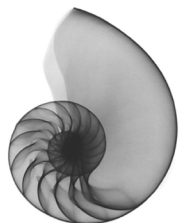
Basketry
Blacksmithing

Performing Arts (6 week blocks)

Chorus
Ensemble
Drama
Eurhythm

Please Note: All of our courses are required. All of our courses are Honors level. We do not offer SAT or other test preparation. We do not rank students. We do not offer AP courses.

Transcripts will show actual courses and seminars taken, and may differ slightly from those listed.



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ACADEMIC CREDITS

(Credits do not include Arts, Physical Education, or Internships)

English (6.0 credits)

English Skills I-IV, .75 credit each, 3.0 credits total

Seminars

Transcendentalists
Russian Literature
Modern Literature
Parsifal
Dante's Divine Comedy
Bible as Literature
Shakespeare
Homer's Odyssey
Comedy and Tragedy
Poetry
American Literature
Short Stories

Math (4.5 credits)

Skills Classes (1.0 credits each)

Intermediate Algebra
Geometry
Advanced Algebra/Precalculus
Calculus

Seminars

Statistics and Probability
Projective Geometry

Science (4.0 credits)

Biology (1.5 credits)

Zoology (with lab)
Botany (with lab)
Embryology
Cell Biology
Anatomy and Physiology
Evolution and Genetics

Physics (1.25 credits)

Astronomy
Optics, Atomic Theory
Electricity and Magnetism
Thermodynamics
Mechanics

Chemistry (1.0 credit)

Atomic theory
Organic Chemistry (with lab)
Physical Chemistry (Periodic Table; with lab)
Aqueous Chemistry

Other Science (.25 credit)

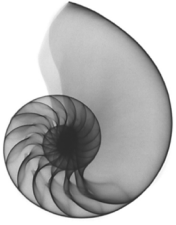
Geology/Earth Science

History/Social Science (4.0 credits)

History through Architecture
History through Music
History through Language
History through Drama
History through Art
Economics
U.S. Constitution
U.S. History I
U.S. History II
History of Technology
Modern World History
Medieval and Early Modern History
Ancient History
History and Culture of India
History and Culture of China
World Religions

Foreign Language I-IV (4.0 credits)

TOTAL ACADEMIC CREDITS: 22.0



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Comparison of Credits Required for Graduation

Subject	Waldorf High School	Local Public High School A	Local Public High School B
English	6	4	4
Math	4.5	2	3
Science	4	2	3
History/Social Science	4	3	3
Arts	4	1	2
Music	2	0	0
Foreign Language	4	0	0
Phys. Ed.	2	2	2
Internship/Projects	0.5	0	0
Communications	0	0.5	0
Technology	0	0	2
Other or elective	0.5	11.5	9
TOTAL	31	25	28