SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

MISSION
Berman J. Berman Hebrew Academy (Berman) is an Orthodox day school that provides a comprehensive Jewish and secular education in an atmosphere of reverence, good citizenship, and love of the Jewish people and Israel. Adhering to standards of academic excellence and exemplary moral conduct, it prepares its graduates to become religiously observant and well-educated. It provides opportunities for each student to achieve the maximum of his or her potential, engaged with and contributing to both the Jewish community and society at large.

OVERVIEW
Berman’s integrated Judaic and general curriculum combines a warm and caring environment with a dynamic, challenging and creative co-educational course of study. Small class sizes and individualized attention mean that students can engage in activities they need to become well-rounded while discovering and nurturing the greatest strengths within themselves.

Berman Hebrew Academy, founded in 1944, provides a comprehensive Jewish and general education in an atmosphere of reverence, good citizenship, and love of the Jewish people and Israel. In partnership with the community, Berman strives to continue this journey, shaping a future for our students that is filled with purpose, accomplishment, caring and commitment to Jewish life and Jewish values.

Our graduates go on to our nation’s top universities and Israeli yeshivot and seminaries. They become successful in their chosen fields and leaders in their communities as they live as committed, observant Jews in today’s world.

ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT BODY
Families and faculty come from across the globe, including the United States, Latin America, and Israel, and predominantly represent the Modern Orthodox Jewish community. The school offers financial support to more than 30 percent of its students. Berman is a place where children learn not only from their teachers but also from each other, reflecting the essence of the school’s mission.

CURRICULUM
Berman offers a rigorous academic education and solid preparation for college through its integrative dual curriculum model. Each year all students complete 15 credits of general studies, 12 credits of Judaic courses, 4 credits of Hebrew language. In addition, students are provided with a variety of opportunities to explore their passions and develop leadership skills through a robust set of student clubs, activities, and athletics. Furthermore, students are encouraged to contribute to their community and explore their curricular and career interests by completing a minimum of 36-hours of community service and participating in the Berman Senior Internship Program—a 120 hour, 4-week professional internship experience.

FACULTY AND ACCREDITATION
Within Berman’s faculty, teachers have doctoral degrees, master’s degrees, specialist degrees, and rabbinical degrees. Berman is proud of its teaching ratio of one faculty member for every seven students. Berman holds a Certificate of Approval from the Maryland State Department of Education and is a member of NACAC. Berman aspires to uphold the core values and guiding principles outlined in National Association of College Admission Counselors Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission.

LEARNING DURING COVID
From mid-March 2020 through June 2020, students continued their coursework virtually, with letter grades reported for each class. Final assessments were adjusted but students were assessed on end-of-year material in a number of ways and those assignments were calculated into the final grades. Beginning in September 2020, students continued to learn virtually, and Berman switched to a block schedule with an A/B rotation.

In mid-October 2020, Berman returned to school on a hybrid schedule, with two grades in person and two grades learning virtually each week. Throughout, teachers continued teaching on a rigorous level and met all curricular goals. Students were assessed frequently in order to measure academic progress and document learning. Students with personal or family health issues remained virtual for the entire school year. In April 2021, while seniors were completing their internships, grades 9-11 were all in person until the end of the school year. We are now 100% in person.

In addition to their coursework, the school day now includes a period that is used for grade-level advisory, club meetings, office hours, or grade level activities.

ENROLLMENT 2021-2022
Total students (N–12): 640
School: 185
Seniors: 46

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS,
CLASS OF 2021
Applications: 212
Admissions Offered: 128
Enrolled:
College or University 88%
Gap Year Program 92%

ACADEMIC YEAR
Berman’s academic year is divided into two semesters. The standard school day runs from 8:15 AM to 4:30 PM.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
General Studies Courses Credits
English/Literature 4
Mathematics 4
Lab Sciences 3
History 3
Hebrew Language* 4
Jewish History 1
Science/Social Science 1
Additional Electives 3

Judaic Studies Courses
Chumash (Bible) 4
Combination of courses 8
Talmud (Rabbinic Law/Literature) 8
Kodesh/Tosha (Rabbinic Literature) 8
Navi/Nakh (Prophetic Literature) 8

Other Requirements
Physical Education 4 years
Senior Internship 120 hours
Community Service 36 hours/year

* Some students in Study Skills or Resource are precluded from taking Hebrew Language. These students demonstrate the equivalent of two years of Hebrew Language through an exam. The Kolel (boys) and 11-12 Talmud Midrasha (girls) are taught in Hebrew which counts as Hebrew Language credit.
ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

The following courses represent AP offerings available to the Class of 2021 during their time in our Upper School (2018-2022):

- Biology (12)
- Calculus AB/BC (12)
- Physics 2 (12)
- Computer Science A (9-12)
- English Language & Composition (11)
- Psychology (12)
- Computer Science Principles (9-12)
- English Literature & Composition (12)
- Studio Art: 2-D Design (11-12)
- European History (11)
- Studio Art: 3-D Design (11-12)

The following courses represent additional elective offerings for the Class of 2021 during their time in our Upper School (2017-2022):

- American Sign Language
- Engineering I
- Independent Study
- Sports, Health, & Fitness
- Beit Midrash (Torah Study)
- Ceramics
- Holocaust & Human Behavior
- Studio Art
- Digital Photography
- Media
- Study Hall
- Home Economics/Life Skills
- Painting

Students may pursue coursework through other means including at local colleges and accredited online programs with permission from Upper School administration. There are no limits to the number of AP courses a student may take, although some AP courses are offered concurrently.

**Mean SAT Reasoning Data (2020-2021)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>CR</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>1344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>1378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Honors Awarded (2020-2022)**

- 2 National Merit Semifinalists
- 3 National Merit Scholars
- 7 National Merit Commended Students

**AP Results (2020-2021)**

- # of students: 71
- # of exams: 123
- % scores of 3 or above: 90%
- 9 AP Scholars
- 2 AP Scholars with Honors
- 14 AP Scholars with Distinction

**Mean ACT Scores (Class of 2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>30.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale (%)**

A+ 97–100  C+ 77–79
A 94–96  C 74–76
A- 90–93  C- 70–73
B+ 87–89  D+ 67–69
B 84–86  D 64–66
B- 80–83  D- 60–63

Below 60 is not a passing grade.

- Average Unweighted GPA 3.66
- Average Weighted GPA 3.86
- Unweighted GPA Maximum 4.33
- Highest Weighted GPA in class 4.58
- Highest Unweighted GPA in class 4.15

**Grading Levels**

- **No designation:** Preparing student for academic work at the college preparatory level
- **Plus (+):** Preparing student for academic work at the advanced college preparatory level
- **Honors (H):** Provides coursework to foster growth for advanced learners
- **Advanced Placement (AP):** Most rigorous coursework offered

**College Acceptances and Matriculation (2015-2021)**

*Bold indicates colleges where one or more students matriculated.*

- American University
- Community College of Baltimore County
- Barnard College
- CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
- Binghamton University
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- California College of the Arts
- University of California-Los Angeles
- Catholic University of America
- College of Charleston
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado Boulder
- Cornell University
- University of Delaware
- Drexel University
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- Goucher College
- University of Hartford
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- IDC Herzliya- Raphael Recanati International School
- Indiana University-Bloomington
- List College - JTS
- Loyola University New Orleans
- Maryland Institute College of Art
- University of Maryland-Baltimore County
- University of Maryland-College Park
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- McGill University
- Michigan State University
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- Montgomery College
- Muhlenberg College
- New York University
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Northeastern University
- Pace University, New York City
- Campus
- Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- Princeton University
- Purdue University-Main Campus
- CUNY Queens College
- Rutgers University-Camden
- Rutgers University-New Brunswick
- School of Visual Arts
- Syracuse University
- Temple University
- Touro College (Lander College for Women)
- Towson University
- University of Vermont
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Washington University in St Louis
- University of Washington-Seattle Campus
- Yeshiva University (Yeshiva College and Stern College)