



# Arete Preparatory Academy

School Profile 2024 - 2025 Academic Year

Aretepreacademy.greatheartsacademies.org

## School & Community Context

Centrally located on the Gilbert-Mesa city line in metro-Phoenix, AZ, Arete is a public charter school, committed to providing an exceptional college preparatory education, founded on an honors-level liberal arts curriculum that echoes the esteemed traditions of the finest independent private schools. We believe in cultivating each student's innate potential, guiding them to explore and embrace the virtues that mark a profound, philosophical life, as encapsulated in our Latin motto: Verum, Pulchrum, Bonum – Truth, Goodness, and Beauty. As a tuition-free institution, Arete Prep is dedicated to making this high-caliber educational experience accessible to all families in Gilbert, Mesa, and the surrounding East Valley. We believe that every child deserves a quality education that prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of the future. Our commitment to accessibility and excellence ensures that our doors are open to all who seek a transformative educational journey.

### Select Features:

- We believe in the growth of leaders through accomplishments; we do not have class officers or National Honor Society.
- We do not rank our students, and letter grades and competition among students are de-emphasized.

### Demographic Information:

White = 53%  
 Black/African American = 3%  
 Asian = 9%  
 American Indian = 1%  
 Native Hawaiian = 1%  
 Hispanic = 25%  
 2 or more race categories = 8%  
 Free or Reduced Lunch = 25%

Students participating in at least 1 or more high school sports = 46%

### Extracurriculars:

- Mentor Program: - requires application, interview, selection, training and yearlong commitment
- Student Life Team - creates and facilitates student social events
- H4O - A Heart 4 Others - on and off campus service program
- Bring Change 2 Mind - mental health student group
- Canta Bella Choir- Award winning student ensemble
- Charger News Team - on campus broadcasting
- Peer tutoring. Yearbook. Theater Lab.

### High School Athletics:

- Fall - Archery (year-round). Cross Country. Football. Volleyball. Flag Football. Cheerleading (fall/winter only).
- Winter - Soccer. Basketball.
- Spring - Sand Volleyball. Track & Field. Baseball. Golf.

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### School Information:

School Code - 030617  
 Established Date - 2006  
 Setting - Suburban  
 Enrollment (9-12th) - 245  
 Accreditation - Cognia  
 Title 1 funds received

## Test Data and Post Graduation Outcomes

### Class of 2024 Outcomes

Number of graduates	47
Unweighted GPA Range	1.695 - 3.973
Average Unweighted GPA	3.16
Average Weighted GPA	4.00
# of National Commended Scholars	3

ACT Summary (47 students tested)		
Section	Middle 50%	Mean
English	20 - 24	22.5
Math	20 - 27	23.5
Reading	19 - 26	23.2
Science	19 - 24	22.1
<b>Composite</b>	<b>20 - 25</b>	<b>23</b>

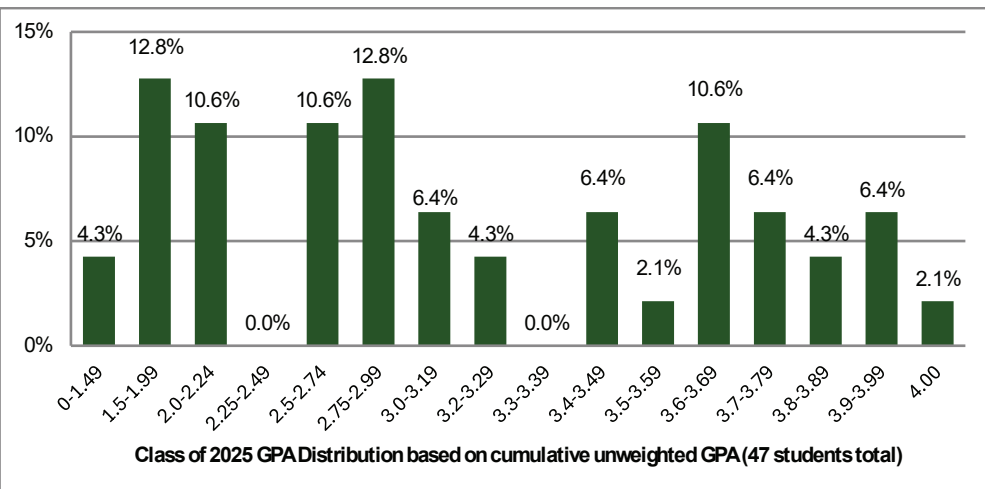
SAT Summary (7 students tested)		
Section	Middle 50%	Mean
Evidence Based Reading and Mathematics	590 - 710	645
<b>Total</b>	<b>1160 - 1360</b>	<b>1247</b>

### Class of 2024 Post Graduation Plans

- 79% attending a 4-year institution
  - 64% attending in-state institutions
  - 15% attending out-of-state institutions
- 19% attending 2-year institutions
- 2% pursuing trade/technical or certificate program
- 42% pursuing STEM
- 19% accepted into Honors program

### Merit and Honors

- 76% received some form of merit aid
- 34% graduated with Honors (3.5+ unweighted GPA)



# High School Curriculum - Arete Preparatory Academy

## Curriculum:

- Due to our deliberate Great Books curriculum and dedication to Socratic seminar, we do not offer AP or IB curriculum.
- The highest course level in all subjects, with the exception of poetry, performing and fine arts, is Honors.
- Transfer students may have a different curricular sequence than that listed below.
- The Arizona state requirement, one full credit, for U.S. History is fulfilled in 9th Grade H. Humane Letters I.
- The Arizona state requirement, one-half credit, for U.S. Government is fulfilled in 10th Grade H. Humane Letters II.
- We have a menu of college credit options that students may self select into (including but not limited to AP tests, CLEP tests, and dual-enrollment for select courses).
- Exeter Mathematics method at Arete- an integrated, problem-oriented, inquiry-based approach to mathematics in which students discover ideas on their own; open ended problems are scaffolded and students work collectively to solve problems and present socratically.

## Transcript and GPA:

- The GPA represented on transcripts only includes classes taken at a Great Hearts academy.
- If a student attended Great Hearts and earned a passing grade in Algebra, this will be denoted on the transcript with a "P" (pass) during the 8th grade year.
- For the weighted GPA, all Honors courses receive a full extra point for GPA calculation.
- Core Course Studies may be reflected on a student's transcript. The Core Course Studies class provides students with instruction and support to enable them to progress academically in core content areas. This instruction supplements but does not supplant any core-area course in which students are also enrolled.

<p><b>9th Grade Curriculum:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Humane Letters I: The American Tradition</li> <li>• Honors Geometry (Phillips-Exeter Academy Course 2)</li> <li>• Honors Biology (with lab)</li> <li>• Honors Modern Language I (French or Spanish) or Honors Latin IV</li> <li>• Music III / Choir (including theory, composition, and choral performance)</li> <li>• Poetry</li> </ul>	<p><b>10th Grade Curriculum:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Humane Letters II: The Rise of Modern Europe</li> <li>• Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry (Phillips-Exeter Academy Course 2-3)</li> <li>• Honors Chemistry (with lab)</li> <li>• Honors Modern Language II (French or Spanish) or Honors Latin V</li> <li>• Honors Economics</li> <li>• Music IV / Choir (including theory, composition and choral performance)</li> </ul>	<p><b>11th Grade Curriculum:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Humane Letters III: Ancient Greece</li> <li>• Honors Pre-Calculus (Phillips-Exeter Academy Course 3-4)</li> <li>• Honors Physics I: Mechanics (with lab)</li> <li>• Honors Modern Language III (French or Spanish) or Ancient Greek I</li> <li>• Studio Art III (Including drawing, painting and sculpture)</li> <li>• Drama I</li> </ul>
<p><b>12th Grade Curriculum:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Humane Letters IV: Rome to Modernity</li> <li>• Honors Calculus I (Phillips-Exeter Academy Course 4)</li> <li>• Honors Modern Language IV* (French or Spanish) or Ancient Greek II</li> <li>• Honors Physics II: Electricity, Magnetism, and Optics (with lab)*</li> <li>• Honors Rhetoric *</li> <li>• Honors Logic and Computation*</li> <li>• Studio Art IV (including drawing, painting and sculpture)</li> <li>• Drama II</li> <li>• Senior Thesis &amp; Defense</li> </ul> <p>*Student must choose three out of the four remaining Honors options.</p>	<p><b>Senior Thesis and Defense:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each graduate completes a capstone project known as the Senior Thesis.</li> <li>• It is a year-long project completed in addition to the normal course-load.</li> <li>• Students receive .25 credit on their transcript for successfully completing their thesis and defense. This credit is not factored into the GPA.</li> </ul> <p>In this project, students...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work closely with an advisor from the faculty to read and discuss two to three significant Great Books in one-on-one meetings during the first and second quarter.</li> <li>• will have produced a 15-20 page paper that synthetically brings forth their own answer to a major philosophical question by the end of the third quarter.</li> <li>• will participate in an hour-long oral defense of their work before a panel of teachers and a substantial audience during the fourth quarter.</li> </ul>	

## Humane Letters: The "most distinct feature" of a Great Hearts Academy

- In the 9th through 12th grades, English and History are combined in the Humane Letters courses: these are 2-hour long, daily seminars, directed Socratically and revolving around readings from Western Civilization's best works in philosophy, drama, history, autobiography, poetry, novels and essays.
- This collaborative setting allows for the development of the art of conversation, which includes above all the habit of listening well to both the great authors as well as their peers.
- The class is an exploration of the permanent questions that animate any truly human life; What is a "good man" and "good citizen", what are the qualities of a true friend, what kinds of virtue are necessary for a flourishing political and moral life are just a few of the important questions that are addressed with uncommon subtlety and profundity in the books that we read together.
- Sample texts include: Walden and Civic Disobedience, Plato's Five Dialogues, Crime and Punishment, The Iliad and Odyssey, Aristotle's Nichomachean Ethics, The Stoic Philosophy of Seneca, King Lear, Confessions, Dante's Inferno and The Brother's Karamazov.