THE BRYN MAWR SCHOOL

Personalized Pathways
Since Bryn Mawr’s founding in 1885, our curriculum has been grounded in challenging young women to pursue deep inquiry and self-reflection. We want our students to continue to discover their unique talents and passions, to be encouraged to take risks and explore new ideas, and to have time to do the things they truly love. The Personalized Pathways program allows exactly that, and helps us to recognize and celebrate what our students are accomplishing at Bryn Mawr and beyond.

Building upon Bryn Mawr’s foundational college preparatory curriculum – our Core Program, Personalized Pathways is designed to let students pursue their interests and deepen their understanding and experience in one of three areas: Arts, Global Studies, or STEM/Entrepreneurship. Students may apply to this optional program during the spring of their ninth grade year.

Through Bryn Mawr’s Core Program and the introduction of Personalized Pathways, students can pursue opportunities to connect their academic studies with significant and meaningful experiences beyond the classroom. Students will create experiential learning opportunities in our program, such as curating an art exhibit, participating in an international exchange, organizing an event for classmates, or interning with a researcher. Along the way, students are guided by faculty and advisors and may culminate their work with a Capstone project during their senior year. Successful completion of the Personalized Pathways program will result in a scholar designation on their official Bryn Mawr transcript.

At Bryn Mawr, we want each student to receive an education that enables her to build a strong, distinctive, resourceful self. Our Personalized Pathways program is one of the ways we fulfill our commitment to graduating resilient, confident, self-assured young women who are comfortable with risk, possessed of important life skills, and active participants in both individual and community pursuits.

Pick your path! Discover, explore, and focus on an area you love.

- GLOBAL
- STEM & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- ARTS

Grade 9

- Discover your individual strengths and interests!
- Work with your teachers and advisor to learn about the opportunities available in the Upper School.
- Reflect on your learning and begin charting your course. Choose between continuing in the Core Program or selecting the Arts, Global, or STEM/Entrepreneurship Pathway.
- Work to devise an appropriate tenth grade course schedule.
- Begin to explore and plan potential experiential learning options, such as community service, an internship, or summer work opportunities that complement your chosen path.
Grade 11
- Continue on your path by choosing from a menu of experiential learning opportunities, such as curating an art exhibit, performing in a concert or play, participating in an international club or exchange, interning with a researcher, attending a conference, or completing a service project.
- Continue to document your learning! Use a blog, journal, or video diary to chronicle and share your projects, service, and leadership.
- Gather ideas for a culminating senior experience proposal.
- Work to devise an appropriate twelfth grade schedule.

Grade 10
- Begin your portfolio to document and reflect on what you’re learning and experiencing.
- Check in with your advisor to discuss and evaluate your progress and plan future academic and experiential opportunities.
- Work to develop an appropriate eleventh grade schedule.

Grade 12
- Complete academic and experiential requirements for your Pathway.
- Complete and present a Capstone project to showcase your pathway experience. Examples could be creating a solo art exhibition or playwright project, pitching a new product or service, or presenting research on a global solution at convocation or to a panel of experts.
- Successful completion of the Personalized Pathways program and Capstone will result in a scholar designation on your official Bryn Mawr transcript.
Frequently Asked Questions

Should I choose a Personalized Pathway?
Personalized Pathways is a completely optional program. Bryn Mawr’s foundational college preparatory program, our Core Program, is a powerful educational experience and allows students a wide variety of academic and experiential opportunities. A Personalized Pathway simply allows students to connect their academic studies with significant experiences beyond the classroom in a more structured way.

How do I choose a pathway?
First, explore, discover and articulate your interests and skills. Talk with your teachers and advisor about areas that you would like to focus on during Upper School.

Who will support me as I progress along my pathway?
Your teachers, pathway directors, and especially your advisors will be your guides along your Personalized Pathway. You’ll also have classmates working alongside you for support, encouragement, and reflection.

Is a Capstone project required?
Students can be on a pathway in 10th, 11th and 12th grade and choose not to undertake a Capstone project. However, completion of a Capstone is necessary to receive a scholar designation on your transcript upon graduation.

Will my pathway appear on my Bryn Mawr transcript?
Yes, your transcript will note your participation in the Personalized Pathway program. You’ll receive a scholar designation on your transcript following successful completion of a Capstone project during senior year.

How will this impact my college search process?
Whether a student participates in an Arts, Global, or STEM/Entrepreneurship Pathway or continues with Bryn Mawr’s Core Program, the college search process centers on building and presenting a strong individualized narrative that reflects her true, genuine interests.