

From Scott Eckstein P'22

I sent a survey to our students asking them to tell me about their favorite class or academic experience here as I thought their reflections would provide you insight into what it is like to be a student here more than my words ever could. I got tons of wonderful responses. I culled the responses so as to give you a smattering of them that hit on each core academic discipline.

RESPONSES FROM SOLEBURY STUDENTS:

I think that Honors English 9 has, and most likely will be, my favorite class at Solebury. Not only was the group of kids I was with extremely welcoming (which was exactly what every freshman needs), but also the course itself was one of my favorites to date. In particular, I enjoyed reading and analyzing short stories before writing one of my own which is still one of my favorite pieces (second to Peter's surrealism assignment in English 10). Maddie '21

I love physics because it challenges me in the way I love to be challenged. Before Solebury, I had a lot of time management issues. But now, the way the schedule works, I'm able to complete what I need to do without a problem. Ben '22

Physics, even though it's hard, it pushes me to try my best. I love how enthusiastic Gretchen is about the subject, and I really enjoy the way she teaches. Amelia '23

My favorite class was hands-down Honors Ethics my sophomore year -- it challenged some of my deepest assumptions about the world, revealed the complexities of the moral conflicts in our day-to-day lives, and equipped me with tools to navigate the increasingly unsteady landscape of life and its ethical dilemmas. It has sparked an interest in moral philosophy that I have yet to shake, and ingrained a deeper habit of asking "why is it that way?" Tim '21

Honors Ethics. That class was SO great. It blew away any of my preconceived notions of what was 'ethical' or 'right', and really helped me grow as a person. I really liked that it was taught by 3 different teachers, because it made me see things so many different ways. Emily '21

I particularly loved Ethics with Martin. There has never been a class that I have learned more from. Since Martin was a new adviser of mine at the time, I would ask him about concepts in the class not only to further discuss for fun, but also so I could apply them to my personal life and use the class to grow more as a person. Gianluca '20

French 1 is my absolute favorite class, I've always wanted to learn French and Libby is the best teacher I could have asked for. Amelia '23

For me it was Linguistic Anthropology and Kristina's other anthropology courses. They really made it clear to me what I want to pursue in the future. The classes have also opened my mind to the larger world and how it works. Dominique '20

When I was in cultural anthropology, my final project was to do research on a sub-culture. I chose LARPing. A requirement for the project was to do two hours of field work. So I needed to find a LARP

meet-up. The one I found was an hour away in Philly from seven to ten pm on a Tuesday. So Hanna was nice enough to drive me to the meet up and stick with me. I interviewed some pretty cool people and got an awesome grade on my final project. That experience really showed me that Solebury has my back and I can trust them to help me succeed. Abby '21

In the fall trimester I took Personal Essay Writing with Lauren. Not only did I get guidance on writing my college essay and great lessons about crafting pieces of writing in general, but I also dug deeper into who I am. My first draft of my college essay was essentially a 1200 word ramble, and with Lauren's help, my last draft not only showed colleges what makes me unique, but it gave me deeper insight into myself and how I'm a special person. It was a greatly helpful class, and I learned how to portray myself in writing in a much better way which is a great skill that I'll use for the rest of my life. Heath '20

I love Zachary Arrington's English 9 because he really engages the students and presents the work with real passion and enthusiasm. He makes you feel respected and encourages you to feel good about whatever it is we are studying by enhancing the experience. Prior to this year I didn't love English, but now it's one of my favorite classes and I owe it all to Zach. He helped me understand that all things have beauty if you look at them from the right angle. Olivia '23

I love English 9 with Zack. His love for what he teaches is infectious. All class he is jumping over tables, he is running around making the craziest voices of the characters in the book or just is generally excited about what we are doing. The way he makes us all care about what we read and how we understood it makes the class my favorite. Ruby '23

English 10 with Peter is one of the most enjoyable classes. With Peter's fun and crazy personality, he makes the class more understandable and fun. What made me grow as a student is the fact that the teachers really interact with the students one on one which really helps the student understand better. Hayden '22

Honors English 10 taught me to write. After we finished reading "Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight," Peter assigned us to write a collection of three vignettes focused on different parts of our childhood. This showed me how much reading can really influence one's own writing, and how mimicking great authors' writing styles can help one to find their own writing style(s)/interests. Paola '21

One class that I loved here at Solebury was Sarah Lanzetta's Chemistry class. It was always a fun and happy environment, and I learned a lot. She had lots of fun and different ways of teaching. She would make cool jingles to help us remember things, and interesting acronyms to help us remember chemical bonds. Chemistry with Sarah made me like Chemistry way more than when I first stepped foot in the classroom. Nash '20

As a new student, the Honors History 9 class has been incredibly helpful. The environment felt accepting, no one made fun if anyone said something silly, and Angelo's an incredible teacher. The House of Wisdom project was a little difficult, but the way we worked through it helped me not only do well on the project, but learn how to better handle bigger projects like this. Ima '23

In the beginning of Freshman year, Math class with Britta was harder than all of my other classes. Then I started using my conference time efficiently and then I started to understand my math class more. Britta is a great teacher and advisor who helped me grow as a student. Andrew '21

Various classes I've had with Britta Milks. The math classes that I took from Britta were some of the most challenging classes I ever took at Solebury. They demanded a lot from me, and I am actually very grateful for them and for her. She explained everything perfectly and was there for us if we needed help. She wanted us to succeed more than anything. More than that, she cared about her students so much. She was excited to see them at lunch and wanted to see them. She truly cared. She is an amazing support system to the students around her and challenges her students to be better in an amazing way. Safwa '20

From the year and a half that I've been here, I would have to say Character Leadership and Development which was taught by Bill Christy last year was my favorite class. It taught me about things that I didn't know about myself or others and gave me another outlook on the world. Ian '20

Jared's Creative Non-Fiction - I grew a lot as a student. Every time I had this class I was excited and learned so much including how to write better for other classes. I think my favorite assignment was the final project to read a book and then recreate your own story. Jared recommended the book, Tuesday's with Morrie. I read the book and loved it. My creation was my favorite times I had with my grandfather - I was really proud of the piece I produced. I LOVED THIS CLASS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Kyle '20

AP English with Zack. I loved this class so much (and still love it) because I have never seen anyone teach with the passion that Zack teaches with. He truly ignites an inspiration in myself to keep creating art and engage with literature, and essentially be a good person. He reminds us why we are important and is not merely reaching us with the subject. He also cares so much about us, about what he wants to be known and the message that he sees in the text he delivers. He is truly incredible. Every time I leave, I feel inspired. Amel '20