



OUR LADY ACADEMY

Developing Dynamic Christian Women

222 South Beach Blvd.
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
(228) 467-7048 Fax (228) 467-1666
School Code: 250132
Haleigh Cuevas, Principal; Ext 101
Leigh Chapman, Assistant. Principal; Ext 102
Susan Gelpi, LPC, Director of Guidance; Ext. 200

Description of School

Our Lady Academy (OLA) was founded in 1971 as an all-female college-preparatory day school for middle school and high school students in grades 7-12. Established originally as St. Joseph Academy by the Sisters of Mercy, OLA is committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and leadership development in a faith-based environment for women of all races, creeds, and socioeconomic backgrounds. In addition, OLA shares a number of classes, facilities, and activities with St. Stanislaus College (SSC). Located in the small beach town of Bay St. Louis, MS, OLA educates approximately 225 ladies from local and rural counties.

Teaching Staff

Classroom Teachers: 24

Percent with Advanced Degrees: 56%

Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:10

Accreditation

Our Lady Academy is fully accredited by the Mississippi Department of Education and Cognia. The Catholic Diocese of Biloxi Department of Education is the organizational link between the Catholic schools in the Diocese.

Grading Scale / GPA

- Grades are given on a letter scale: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), F (0-64), effective 2024-2025 to present.
- Grade points ranging from 4 to 1 are assigned to the letters A to D respectively.
- A minus system was used prior to 2024-2025 school year, which included A- (3.5), B- (2.5).
- Dual Credit courses follow IHL 10 pt. grading scale. Courses taken through SSC have a slightly different grading scale than OLA.
- OLA does not rank students with the exception of final senior year calculations in May for valedictorian and salutatorian titles and top five students awards.

GPA Calculations

GPA's are calculated using a year average on a 4.0 scale. All Carnegie unit courses are included in the calculations.

2024-2025 to present policy for added value to simple GPA for successfully completed courses:

- Year-long (1.0 Credit) Honors courses: + .03
- Semester (0.5 Credit) Honor courses: + .01
- Dual Credit (1.0 Credit) courses: + .02 per semester course
- AP Courses and Honors Accelerated: + .04
- Additional + .01 for scores of 3 or higher on AP exams, not to include exams taken by students their senior year.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 27 1/2 academic units, including 4 in English, 4 in math (including algebra I, II, & geometry), 4 in science (including biology), 4 in social science, 2 in foreign language (consecutive), 1 in fine art, 1 in technology, 1/2 in health & 1/2 in PE/ band, 4 in religion, and 2 1/2 in electives (including 1 in College & Career Readiness). Students are enrolled in religion, math, and science each year.

Class Scholastics

<u>2026 Anticipated</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Spring ACT Composite: 25.25	Average ACT Composite: 23.45	Average ACT Composite: 24.48
% of seniors taking ACT: 100%	% of seniors taking ACT: 100%	% of seniors taking ACT: 100%
% of graduates attending 4 yr. college: 85%	% of graduates attending 4 yr. college: 79%	% of graduates attending 4 yr. college: 85%
% of graduates attending 2 yr. college: 15%	% of graduates attending 2 yr. college: 21%	% of graduates attending 2 yr. college: 14%
Class size: 32	Class size: 38	Class size: 42

Additional Academic Courses 2025-2026

AP Classes Offered

- AP US History
- AP Biology
- AP Physics I
- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP English Language
- AP Spanish Language

(H) Honors

(A) Accelerated

Honors Classes Offered

- English II (H)
- Calculus (H) (A)
- Anatomy & Physics (H) (A)
- Spanish III (H)

*With University of Southern Mississippi

Dual Credit Classes

- DC College Algebra*
- DC Statistics*
- DC Political Science*
- DC Art Appreciation*
- DC English Composition I & II**

**With William Carey University