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Our Mission

The Academy of the Holy Cross, a Catholic college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross since 1868, is dedicated to educating young women in a Christ-centered community which values diversity. The Academy is committed to developing women of courage, compassion and scholarship who responsibly embrace the social, spiritual and intellectual challenges of the world.

Honor Code

The Academy of the Holy Cross is a Catholic institution that values mutual trust and respect for all. Academic honesty, integrity, and responsibility are the core values that all community members are expected to uphold in all aspects of their lives. Therefore, as a member of The Academy of the Holy Cross community, acts of lying, cheating, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. At the beginning of each academic year, every student is required to recite and sign a pledge stating that she is aware of and willing to adhere to the provisions of the code.

About AHC

Total Enrollment: 527
Class of 2014: 151
Student to Faculty Ratio: 11:1
Average Class Size: 19

Students come primarily from Montgomery County (MD) though we do have students from surrounding counties, as well as the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. Approximately 32% of our students identify themselves as being from an underrepresented population.

Accreditations and Memberships

The school is fully accredited by the State of Maryland, the Middle States Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. AHC is a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) and complies with the NACAC Statement of Principles of Good Practice.

AHC Statement on Reporting Withdrawals and Disciplinary Actions to Colleges and Universities

All college applications ask the student and the counselor whether the applicant has ever been suspended. It is our school policy that we do not report any disciplinary actions to colleges and universities, however all students are expected to be truthful throughout their applications and must indicate whether an issue has arisen. If a student responds in the affirmative to this question, she must share a copy of her written explanation with her college counselor. If a student leaves the Academy, she will be given a one-week period to inform all colleges and universities to which she has applied. At the end of the time period, the college counseling office will notify colleges and universities of the student's departure.

ACADEMIC PROFILE 2013-2014

Academics & Grading

The Academy is committed to providing for individual needs and differences in learning styles. Faculty involvement with students extends beyond the classroom into co-curricular activities. Our school year is divided into two semesters and classes are taught on a block schedule. Semester exams are worth 20% of the final grade and are given prior to the Christmas break and at the end of the academic year.

Holy Cross was authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization in November 2009; our first Diploma Programme candidates graduated in June 2012.

Due to the relatively small size and strong quality of our graduates, the Academy does not rank. Grades shown on our transcripts reflect a .5 additional weight for Honors level courses and an additional .7 weight for Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate level courses.

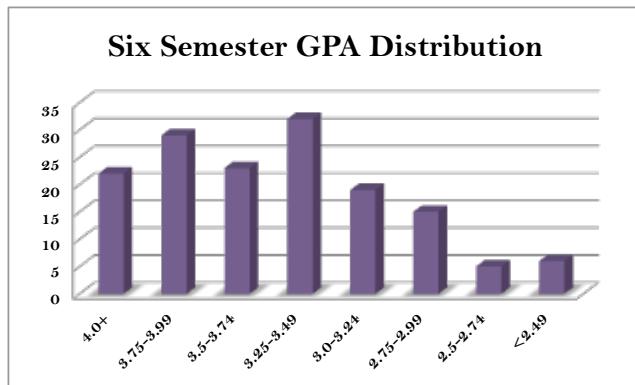
Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 24 credits is required in the following areas (28 credits beginning with the class of 2016):

- English (4 credits)
- Health and Physical Education (1 1/2 credits)
- History and Social Science (3 credits)
- Math (3 credits; 4 credits beginning with the Class of 2016)
- Science (2 1/2 credits, includes Biology and a physical sciences; 3 credits beginning with the Class of 2016; all science courses have a lab component)
- Theology (4 credits)
- World Languages (2 credits; 3 credits beginning with the Class of 2016; includes 2 credits in the same language)
- Performing Arts (1/2 credit)
- Visual Arts (1/2 credit)
- Electives (3 credits; 4 1/2 credits beginning with the Class of 2016)

Grading System and Grade Point Average

- A= 90-100
- B= 80-89
- C= 70-79
- D= 60-69
- F= Below 60



TESTING

Advanced Placement: From 2011-2013, 234 students sat for 659 AP exams. 73% of the students earned a score of 3 or above.

International Baccalaureate: Our first International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme candidates graduated in June 2012. In 2013, all seven candidates received diplomas. In 2013, 78 students sat for 139 exams and 77% of the students earned a score of 4 or above.

SAT Middle 50% Ranges

- CR 510-640
- M 500-620
- W 510-650

ACT Middle 50% Range

21-28

SAT Subject Test Averages:

- Biology – Molecular 605
- Chemistry 645
- English Literature 635
- U.S. History 648
- Mathematics Level I 588
- Mathematics Level 2 648
- French 592
- French with Listening 675
- Physics 615
- Spanish 627
- Spanish with Listening 627

CURRICULUM

The following Honors, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes are available during the 2013-2014 academic year. For a complete listing of courses available, visit our Program of Studies at <http://www.academyoftheholycross.org/page.cfm?p=394>.

Mathematics

Accelerated Algebra
Honors Geometry
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
IB Math Studies SL
IB Mathematics SL I
IB Mathematics SL II

Theology

Honors Revelation of Jesus
Honors Blessed Trinity
Honors Paschal Mystery
Honors Ecclesiology
Honors Sacraments
IB World Religions SL I
IB World Religions SL II

Performing Arts

Honors Madrigals Singers
IB Film HL I
IB Film HL II
IB Theatre HL I
IB Theatre HL II

English

Honors English I
Honors English II
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
IB English HL I
IB English HL II

Electives

IB Theory of Knowledge I
IB Theory of Knowledge II

Visual Arts

Honors Studio Art
AP Art Studio (Portfolio)

World Languages

IB Latin SL I
IB Latin SL II
IB French SL I
IB French SL II/HL I
IB French HL II
Honors Spanish II
IB Spanish SL I
IB Spanish SL II/HL I
IB Spanish HL II

Science

Honors Biology
Honors Earth Science
Honors Chemistry

AP Physics B

AP Biology
IB Biology SL/HL I
IB Biology HL II
IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL
IB Chemistry SL
IB Physics HL I
IB Physics HL II

History and Social Studies

Honors US Government
AP US Government
AP US History
AP European History
AP Psychology
IB Economics SL
IB History HL I: History of the Americas
IB History HL II: 20th Century World History

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

All students make a commitment to **Christian Service** in conjunction with the Theology department. Students may also become **Madeleva Scholars** by pursuing additional Christian Service hours, leadership, and advanced-level work in the classroom. All seniors must participate in a 50-hour internship, **Senior Project**, during the month of May. For the class of 2013, Senior Project placements included: Folger Shakespeare Library, National Zoo, National Institutes of Health Pediatric Clinic, Special Olympics International, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and Georgetown University Hospital, among others.

MATRICULATION TO COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

AHC graduates from the Classes of 2011-2013 matriculated to the following colleges and universities. A school name listed in **bold** signifies that 3 or more AHC graduates are currently attending, while those listed with an * represent the colleges and universities attended by the Class of 2013.

The University of Alabama*

American University*

Arizona State University*

The University of Arizona

Bennett College

Boston College*

Boston University*

Bridgewater College*

Carnegie Mellon University

The Catholic University of America*

Cazenovia College

University of Central Florida*

College of Charleston*

Christopher Newport University*

Clemson University*

Coastal Carolina University*

Colgate University

University of Colorado at Boulder

Concordia University – Montreal

University of Connecticut

Creighton University*

Curry College

Dalhousie University*

University of Dayton*

University of Delaware*

University of Denver

DePaul University*

Dickinson College*

Drexel University

Duquesne University*

East Carolina University*

University of Edinburgh*

Elon University

Fairfield University

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Fordham University*

Fort Lewis College

Furman University

George Mason University

Georgetown University*

The University of Georgia

Gettysburg College

Guilford College*

Hampton University

Hawaii Pacific University

High Point University

College of the Holy Cross

Howard Community College

Immaculata University

Indiana University of Pennsylvania-Punxsutawney Campus

James Madison University*

Juniata College

Kent State University

University of Kentucky*

King's College*

Lake Forest College

Louisiana State University*

Loyola Marymount University*

Loyola University Maryland

Loyola University New Orleans

Marist College

Marquette University

University of Maryland, Baltimore County*

University of Maryland, College Park*

Marymount University

Mercyhurst University

Miami University, Oxford*

University of Miami*

University of Michigan

University of Mississippi*

Monmouth University*

Montgomery College, Rockville*

Montgomery College, Takoma Park

Mount Holyoke College*

Mount Saint Mary's University*

University of New England

The College of New Jersey*

New Mexico Military Institute*

New York University

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

University of North Carolina at Wilmington*

Northeastern University*

Notre Dame of Maryland University

University of Notre Dame

The Ohio State University

Ohio University

Pennsylvania State University, Erie: The Behrend College

Pennsylvania State University, University Park*

University of Pittsburgh*

Plymouth State University*

Presbyterian College

Prince George's Community College

Princeton University

Providence College*

Randolph-Macon College

Rhodes College

Richmond The American International College in London

Rider University

Robert Morris University*

Rochester Institute of Technology*

Roger Williams University

Sacred Heart University

Saint Joseph's University

Saint Mary's College

Salisbury University

University of San Diego*

Santa Clara University

Savannah College of Art and Design

The University of Scranton

Seton Hall University

Seton Hill University*

Sewanee: The University of the South*

University of South Carolina*

University of South Florida, Tampa

Southeastern University*

University of Southern California*

Spelman College*

St. Edward's University*

St. John's University – Queens Campus*

St. Mary's College of Maryland*

University of St. Thomas

Stevenson University

SUNY College at Potsdam

Syracuse University*

The University of Tampa

University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

Texas A&M University

The University of Texas, Austin

Towson University*

Tulane University

United States Merchant Marine Academy

The University of Notre Dame Australia

Vassar College

Villanova University

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

University of Virginia*

Wake Forest University*

Washington College*

West Virginia University*

Wingate University

Winthrop University

Xavier University*

York College of Pennsylvania