

GRADING SYSTEM

G.P.A. (Grade Point Average)

To determine a student's grade point average, the following quality point values are assigned to each grade:

A	90 - 100 = 4.0	D	65 - 69 = 1.0
B	80 - 89 = 3.0	F	0 - 64 = 0.0
C	70 - 79 = 2.0		

All high school courses, excluding college courses and driver's education, are averaged to determine the student's grade point average. Half-credit courses which are taken for a full year are given one-half the grade point value of full credit courses.

Class rank is determined by numerical grade point average. Cumulative grade point average and class rank are based on semester averages.

Weighting of Honor Courses

One quality point (1.0) is added to the grade for honor courses if a student has earned "C" or better. Honors credit will be granted to transfer honor courses that were available to Ursuline students on the same level.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

The weight given to homework, class participation, projects, quizzes, tests, etc., in each course is determined by the teacher and is used to calculate semester grades. Only the semester average will be rounded. A clear statement of the teacher's policy will be given to students at the beginning of each course.

Progress reports will be available on Edline and teachers will update grades at least once every two weeks. Report cards are provided to parents at the end of each quarter.

Examinations

There is an examination period at the end of each semester. The weight of the exam in determining the semester grade is 20% (Each quarter is weighed at 40%). All financial obligations must be met and all textbooks returned in order for a student to take final examinations. Failure to take an exam will result in an incomplete or failing grade.

Exemptions

For semester courses, seniors who have earned an "A" for the first quarter and have an "A" average going into the exam are automatically exempt from their exams. For full-year courses, seniors who have earned an "A" for the first semester, an "A" for the third quarter, and an "A" going into the exam during the fourth quarter are automatically exempt from their exams. Students taking Advanced Placement exams are exempt from the second semester final exam in the Advanced Placement courses.

Failures

A student who fails both semesters of any course must make up a whole credit in summer school. If a student fails first semester but passes second semester with a grade high enough that the average of her first semester numerical grade and her second semester numerical grade equals a passing grade, she receives credit for the course for the year. If a student's second semester grade is a passing one but is not high enough for her to receive credit for the course for the year, she must make up one half credit for the first semester in summer school. **If a student fails only the second semester, a half-credit must be made up in summer school regardless of the first semester grade.** Students are not allowed to make up more than two credits in summer school. Students who fail more than two credits are ineligible to return to Ursuline Academy.

As prescribed by the Office of Religious Education of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, all religion classes in 9th through 12th grades are semester courses. Therefore, any single, semester-long religion course in which a student does not receive a passing grade must be made up in summer school. During the senior year, students must pass both semester-long courses in order to meet Ursuline Academy's graduation requirements.

Academic Standards

Students must maintain a 1.5 grade point average with no more than one (1) "F" to have the right to participate in school-sponsored activities.

Academic Probation

Any student who fails two subjects for a semester will be placed on academic probation. Unless her academic performance improves the following semester, she may be asked to withdraw from Ursuline Academy.

Edline

Edline is a secure online communication tool that allows parents to follow their daughter's academic progress. Parents and students will be issued an authorization code that will allow them to set up an account to view this information online. Parents are expected to review Edline regularly to keep informed on their daughter's progress in school. Parents and students can elect to receive an e-mail each time new information that concerns the student's classes is posted, and can communicate any concerns directly with teachers via e-mail. Teachers will post course descriptions, a grading category breakdown and course requirements/expectations. They will also publish due dates for major tests and projects and update grades every two weeks.

Summer School

A student who has failed a subject for a semester or for the year will be required to pass that subject in a state-approved summer school before returning the next fall. A student who does not comply with this regulation will not be readmitted to the Academy and tuition and fees will not be returned. The maximum number of summer school credits to be earned is two (2) units. By August 1st, the principal's office must receive official verification that the subject has been made up and that credit has been earned. An explanation of any delay in receiving the student's record must be communicated from the administration of the summer school to the administration of Ursuline Academy. The principal must approve any exception to this policy by August 1st.

Eligibility for Honor Rolls

To be named to an honor roll a student must take a minimum of seven (7) credits and have no incomplete (I) grades. Honor rolls are determined at the end of each semester. "A" Honor Roll students must have all "A"s; "B" Honor Roll students must have all "A"s and "B"s. Honor Roll certificates are given at the end of the first semester and second semester.

Criteria for Determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian

To be valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

- She has been enrolled at Ursuline Academy for at least four years.
- She has earned the highest (or second highest) GPA in her senior class.

The valedictorian and salutatorian are determined by rank in class at the end of the senior year.

All high school credit courses will be counted in the cumulative GPA. Courses taken in the 8th grade that count for high school credit include Algebra I, English I, Earth Science, World Geography, Foreign Language, Speech, Orchestra, and Piano. Other 8th grade courses do not count in the cumulative GPA and will not be listed on the student's transcript.

Credits earned at transition schools during/after Hurricane Katrina will not be used in calculation for valedictorian and salutatorian.

Special Needs Program

The Special Needs Program at Ursuline Academy is designed to address the needs of those students who have learning difficulties. The program is overseen by the Special Needs Committee that will review all

educational information and determine if a student is eligible for additional classroom accommodations that may assist her in achieving her academic potential. A student must submit an educational evaluation within three years of the current academic year.

The Special Needs Program does not address the needs of students requiring Special Education nor does it offer remedial courses. Students whose learning difficulties require ongoing services such as long-term individual tutoring, speech therapy, or reading remediation must receive these services from outside sources. Students participating in the Special Needs Program will be required to meet all academic expectations for graduation.

Summer Reading Requirement

Each summer students are required to read a specific number of books designated by the English Department. The grade received on each summer project is reflected in the first quarter grade.