

O⁺GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL

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Sioux Falls, SD 57105
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SCHOOL PROFILE

Blue Ribbon School

NCLB-Blue Ribbon School Program, U.S. Dept. of Education

Top 50 Catholic High School Honor Roll—Five Consecutive Years

Accreditation: State of South Dakota & North Central Association

Memberships: National Catholic Educational Association

National Association for College Admission Counseling

South Dakota High School Activities Association

Administration

Mr. Kyle L. Groos
Principal

Mrs. Joan Mahoney
Asst. Principal

Mr. Art Hagg
*Asst. Principal/
Guidance Director*

Fr. David Desmond
Chaplain

Mr. Steve Kueter
Activities Director

Ms. Donna Carlson
Counselor

Mrs. Sue Knight
Registrar

Dr. Tom Lorang
SFCS Superintendent

OUR SCHOOL

O’Gorman High School is a four year Catholic high school comprised of approximately 750 students who come from a Catholic junior high, public middle schools, and the area surrounding Sioux Falls. The focus on building a strong faith community creates a unique bond between parishes, schools, students, parents and staff. A broad range of courses is offered to provide for multiple interests and abilities of students. **Approximately 90% of the Class of 2009 attended four year colleges with an additional 5% attending other post secondary education.**

FAITH COMMUNITY

The faculty strongly promotes the spiritual growth of all those who are a part of the O’Gorman community. This is accomplished through participation in the sacraments, Theology classes, campus ministry, retreats, prayer, service, and a wide variety of faith-filled community activities. Parent-Teacher conferences are held two times a year, with approximately 90% of parents in attendance.

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Viewed as an integral part of the total education program, co-curricular activities help the effort to educate the whole person and supplement the faith and academic growth of O’Gorman students. Over 75% of the students are involved in these activities:

Athletics
Band/Jazz Band
Campus Ministry/Retreats
Cheerleading/
Competition Cheerleading
Chess Club
Color Guard/Flags
Dance
Debate

Drama/Plays/Musicals
Faith Development Activities
Fellowship of Christian
Athletes (FCA)
National Honor Society
Newspaper (Knight Scroll)
Oral Interpretation
Powerlifting
Rocketry

Student Council
Students Against Destructive
Decisions (SADD)
Summer Camps
Teens Against Tobacco Use
(TATU)
Vocal/Show Choirs
World Language Club
Yearbook



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Twenty five credits are required to graduate. Students earn 1/2 credit per semester per course and are required to take a minimum of six courses per semester. Graduation requirements include the following credits: 4 English, 4 Theology for Catholic students (2 for non-Catholics), 3 Social Science, 3 Math (must include Algebra I), 3 Science, 1 Fine Arts, 1/2 Finance and 1/2 Physical Education. Nearly 85% of the students are enrolled in a college prep curriculum consisting of a minimum of 4 English, 3 Math, 3 Science, 3 Social Studies and 2 World Language credits to meet college admission requirements.

GRADING/RANKING

O’Gorman students have the option of using a traditional grading/ranking system or a weighted grading/ranking system. The purpose of this option is for scholarship and/or college applications. Weighted grades are not considered in the establishment of O’Gorman High School’s Honor Roll. Weighted courses are identified below. The school year is divided into two semesters with final comprehensive exams at the end of each semester. The grading scale is as follows: 93-100=A, 85-92=B, 77-84=C, 69-76=D and 68 and below =F.

ADVANCED, AP, & COLLEGE COURSES

Advanced Algebra II	Advanced Geometry	AP European History • ◻	AP Spanish Language •
Advanced Biology I	Advanced Theological Seminar	AP German Language • ◻	Spanish Literature
Advanced Chemistry I	AP Biology • ◻	AP Gov. & Politics: US •	AP U.S. History • ◻
Advanced English I	AP Calculus AB •	AP Computer Science A •	AP World History • ◻
Advanced English II	AP Chemistry •	AP Physics B • ◻	Speech Communication ◻
AP English Lang./Comp. • ◻		AP English Lit./Comp. • ◻	AP Psychology •
College Algebra ◻			

- Instruction in these classes prepares the student to take the Advanced Placement Examination.
- ◻ College credit available through Mount Marty College.



ACADEMIC SERVICES

The Academic Services Department exists for supervision and assessment of students with academic needs. Academic Services are available to students who receive accommodations and/or modifications to their curriculum. Tutoring is available to all students.

PERFORMANCE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

On the 2009 Dakota STEP criterion-referenced state-mandated reading and math tests, O’Gorman students consistently scored above the state and local averages.

ACT results show O’Gorman students exceed the state and national average in every academic category, including overall composite scores. This is especially impressive in consideration of the fact that up to 99% of the O’Gorman students take the ACT.

ACT (CLASS MEANS)

YEAR	GRADUATES	#TESTED	%TESTED	COMPOSITE	STATE AVG.	NAT’L AVG.
2006	142	138	97%	23.8	21.8	21.1
2007	175	166	95%	25.0	21.9	21.2
2008	178	177	99%	23.4	22.0	21.1
2009	175	168	96%	24.6	22.0	21.1

The ACT score of the middle 50% of the Class of 2009 was 24.4

CLASS OF 2009

There were 175 students in the graduating class of 2009. Among this group of seniors, 56 had a 4.0 or higher weighted or unweighted GPA. The median GPA was 3.520 unweighted and 3.585 weighted. The class included 101 South Dakota Regents’ Scholars*, and 75 Presidential Academic Fitness Award recipients**.

*SD Regents Scholar (3.0 GPA with 4 English, 4 Math (Algebra I or higher), 4 Science, 3 Social Studies, and 2 World Language Credits.)

**Presidential Academic Fitness Awards (3.5 GPA and 85th percentile in Math or Reading on standardized tests.)