

A trailblazing academic program. A uniquely diverse community. Rooted in the city we call home.

**OUR COMMUNITY
BY THE NUMBERS:**

Students

- **171** students grades 6–12
- **109** in the Upper School
- **20** in the Class of 2024

Student Demographics

- **64%** receive tuition assistance
- **15%** first-generation to college
- **42** zip codes represented

Faculty

- **25** faculty members
- **77%** with advanced degrees
- **8:1** student-faculty ratio
- **14** average class size

Racial Demographics: 9% Black, 8% Asian, 27% Latinx, 2% Middle Eastern, 54% white

Our School

Founded in 2012 as the Episcopal School of Los Angeles, and located in the heart of Old Hollywood, the School of Los Angeles is a co-ed, college-preparatory day school serving grades six through twelve. Over half of our students receive need-based tuition assistance, empowering us to bring together a community that truly reflects the diversity of the city. Study after study shows that students in diverse learning environments have greater cultural competencies, are more empathetic, more creative, less willing to accept the norm, and are better prepared for higher education and life beyond.

Every year the School of Los Angeles enrolls just as many students who know what it means to live in the most trying financial circumstances—students whose convictions are forged with a visceral understanding of economic disparity in our nation, and whose perspectives are therefore vital—as we do students who come from significant affluence. In a seminar of fifteen—our average class size—it is often the case that no two students will approach the issue at hand from the same socioeconomic and cultural background.

At the School of Los Angeles, we pose a new question: What happens when committed students from all walks of life spend every day in the classroom or out in the city together—growing, learning, and forming lifelong bonds? What happens when they are given the tools to understand their own histories, the history of the city, and the possibilities of social transformation?

Curriculum

[The Curriculum Guide and Course of Study may be found through this link.](#) Building upon the competencies and analytical understandings that come from essential studies in English, History, Social Sciences, Mathematics, Physical and Biological Sciences, Global Languages, and Visual and Performing Arts, SLA emphasizes experiential learning, direct and sustained service work through our Service and Justice Program, and engagement in a wide array of the most important, forward-thinking fields of study. Ongoing faculty commitments include: developing courses that emphasize deep inquiry and exploration, modeling possibilities for students, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Service and Justice Program

SLA's Service and Justice Program focuses on the social transformation of our students as they develop a political consciousness together. Giving of ourselves and unto others is both a pedagogical practice and a means of creating more sustainable and just living conditions for everyone. A commitment to place-based education grounds our Service and Justice Program in the city of Los Angeles and gives students the opportunity to have transformative experiences on and off campus.

Students survey and then enroll in one of four cohorts: **Housing Justice**, **Environmental and Climate Justice**, **the Carceral State and Abolition**, and **Immigration and Sanctuary Spaces**. Cohorts follow a “research, act, and reflect” model—first bringing guests to campus who are organizing and making an impact in Los Angeles, then venturing off campus and into the city together to engage directly with movement work, and finally reconvening to synthesize students' experiences. The program culminates in a deep, sustained commitment to a single organizing project or space during senior year.



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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The School of Los Angeles offers a broad curriculum offering a full range of traditional and unique courses approved by the University of California to meet the rigorous A-G requirements. The overall graduation requirements meet or exceed entrance requirements for the University of California system.

- English/Global Literature – 4 years
- History – 4 years
- Sciences – 3 years of science; 2 years lab science
- Math – 3 years
- Language – 3 years
- Visual and/or Performing Arts – 2 years
- Physical Education – 1 year

What is Root Work?

Root Work is our commitment to draw connections, think historically, and address root issues. It reflects our understanding that culture and knowledge come from the bottom, not the top. We cannot grapple with climate catastrophe, for example, without understanding Indigenous societies and land stewardship, or without studying feminist movements and their frameworks of ecology. In these endeavors, the metaphor of “digging to the root” is useful. Knowledge production becomes dangerous when it strays too far from the lived realities of people. The old tropes of the “ivory tower” of academia and the independent school “bubble” are in fact real, and we have every reason to work against that grain. We have every reason to, as Amílcar Cabral phrased it, “return to the source.”

A Forward-Thinking Pedagogy: Humanities at SLA

Each semester, SLA students in grades 10–12 select a pairing of Literature and History courses from a broad array of disciplines, including: Black Studies, Environmental Studies, Latinx Studies, Class Studies, Queer Studies, and European Studies. This provides students substantive choice in their trajectory through Upper School while also providing a firm foundation for their studies. Moreover, the humanities core affirms our commitment to a breadth of study that reflects our student body, our faculty, our city, and our world—as well as our commitment to a truly substantive college-preparatory education.

It’s no secret that, over the past decades, there has been a widening gulf between high school curricula and the concepts and disciplines students are asked to contend with almost immediately at the college level. SLA’s semester-based offerings model the content, depth, breadth, exploratory demands, and structure of a university course of study.

[Click Here for the Full Upper School Curricular Guide](#)

LITERATURE

GRADE 9: *Intro to Literary Study // Los Angeles Literature*

GRADES 10–12:

Black Literature – *Atlantic is a Sea of Bones*

Environmental Literature – *Environmental Justice and Change*

Latinx Literature – *Magical Realism*

Class Literature – *Class, Conflict, and Location in Literature*

Queer Literature – *Theory in the Flesh: Lesbian of Color*

Literary Genealogies, 1970-1990

European Literature – *Dissolving Boundaries: Forms of Possession in European Literature*

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS (VAPA)

Visual Arts

Portfolio Building (Grades 11–12) // Visual Art (Grades 9-12)

Ceramics (Grades 9-12)

Theatre

Ensemble: Musical Theatre (Grades 9–12) // Playwriting (Grades

9–12) // Advanced Playwriting (Grades 10–12)

Music

Band (Grades 9–12) // Advanced Band (Grades 10–12)

Music Production - Artist in Residence Course (Grades 10-12)

LANGUAGE

Spanish I // Spanish II // Spanish III

Spanish IV: Language and Culture

Spanish IV: Film

Spanish V: Literature

HISTORY

Grade 9: *Los Angeles History // Government*

Grades 10–12:

Black History – *Loving U is Complicated*

Environmental History – *Agency or Futility?: Unequal Voices and the Global Environmental Crisis*

Latinx History – *Identity at the Intersection of Local and Global*

Class History – *The Birth of the Global Market and the Development of Capitalism*

Queer History – *Queer Pasts, Homonational Futures?: Deviance and Punishment from the late 19th Cent. to the Post-Marriage Era*

European History – *From Absolutism to Uncertainty: Europe from 1648-1919*

SCIENCE

Grade 9: **Chemistry** // Grade 10: **Physics** // Grade 11: **Biology**

Computer Science – *Javascript (Grades 9–12)*

Computer Science – *Python and AI (Grades 11-12)*

Ecology – *A Fieldwork-based Approach to Ecological Restoration of The LA River (Grade 12)*

Epidemiology – *Non-Infectious and Chronic Disease (Grade 12)*

MATHEMATICS

Integrated Mathematics I: Algebra and Introductory Geometry

Integrated Mathematics II: Geometry, Probability, & Intermediate Algebra

Integrated Mathematics III: Advanced Algebra and Analysis of Functions

Precalculus and Trigonometry

Statistics and Probability

Calculus I

Calculus II



Reporting Student Information

The transcripts and GPA reflect all coursework and grades, beginning in grade nine. Courses are offered on a semester basis; grades are recorded on the transcript and GPA is computed in January and June.

GPA is computed using a typical A–F grading system. All grades are unweighted; the School of Los Angeles offers no designated honors, AP or IB courses, having moved away from the AP program in 2020. Please review the curriculum section for complete information on both our conventional and unique offerings. Beginning with grade nine, all subjects, whether passed or failed, are included in the computation. A minimum of 27 credits is required for graduation. In addition, each student must complete a service and justice graduation requirement.

Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation	
Letter Grade	GPA Point Value
A+	4.33
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0
C- (lowest passing grade)	1.67
F	0

Due to the small size of the class, intensely collaborative nature of the coursework, and the “think aloud” nature of the classrooms, the School of Los Angeles does not rank students.

Class of 2024 GPA

- 20 Seniors in the Class of 2024
- Grading is A–F; minimum passing grade is C-
- **GPA's are calculated based only on courses offered by the School of Los Angeles.** Students who transferred into SLA during or after 9th grade will have additional transcripts attached to their School of Los Angeles record; the outside grades will not be included in our GPA calculation.

Unweighted GPA through Junior Year	
GPA Range	# Students
3.7–4.1	8
3.5–3.69	4
3.33–3.49	6
3.0–3.32	1
2.6–2.99	0
Below 2.6	0

Grade and Transcript Availability

- Fall semester ends at Winter Break with grades available mid-January
- Spring semester ends at Graduation with grades and final transcripts available late June
- Unofficial progress grades/mid-semester grades may be provided to colleges upon request

Reporting Disciplinary Actions

- Disciplinary action is defined as probation, suspension, or expulsion. If a college or university admission office asks a question regarding disciplinary action, the School of Los Angeles will respond to the question per the above definitions. Once the question is put as part of the application, we will report the disciplinary action if and when such an infraction occurs. We strongly recommend students respond to the college directly and immediately, as well.

Standardized Testing

- Since COVID, students at the School of Los Angeles have only infrequently pursued SAT or ACT testing, in large part due to the increased challenge of finding available test centers a reasonable distance from their homes. Increasing numbers of schools have moved to “School Day Testing” to assure their students a seat for testing, limiting other students’ test center options. With few colleges requiring testing, most SLA students opt out, choosing to focus on their course portfolio and personal representations. We discuss testing with students on an individual basis; if students wish for their test scores to be considered, they are responsible for sending the results—including SAT, ACT, and any AP tests—directly to colleges. Please note, the School of Los Angeles moved away from offering College Board AP courses in 2020.

SLA Academic Schedule

The daily schedule is organized on a rotating block schedule. Over the course of a week, seven class periods meet three times each in one-hour or 75-minute blocks. The schedule includes special blocks each week for Chapel, daily required community lunch, “X” block where students engage in Service & Justice course work, and study hall.

Accreditation

The School of Los Angeles is fully accredited by both the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the California Association of Independent Schools.

SLA CLASS OF 2023 OUTCOMES

Awards and Distinctions

- 5 QuestBridge Finalists
- 2 QuestBridge Scholars

Post-High School Plans

- 30 students matriculated to 4-year colleges
- 2 students matriculated to 2-year institutions
- 1 student pursued a gap year opportunity

College Statistics

- 25% first-generation college students
- Approx. \$4,000,000 in total scholarships

SLA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, pregnancy, age, marital status, military or veteran status, medical condition, sexual orientation, gender identity, or other characteristics protected by state or federal law in the administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic and other school administered programs, and hiring practices.



Admission Results for the Graduating Classes of 2017-2023

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	# Admit	# Enroll	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	# Admit	# Enroll	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	# Admit	# Enroll
American University	10	1	Grinnell College	4	2	Simpson University	1	
Amherst College	1		Hampshire College	2		Skidmore College	6	1
Arcadia University	1		Haverford College	2	2	Sonoma State University	4	
Arizona State U-Tempe	3		Hawaii Pacific University	1		Spelman College	2	
Art Institute of Chicago	1		Hendrix College	2		St Olaf College	4	
Azusa Pacific University	1		High Point University	1		St. Francis College	1	
Bard College	22	5	Hobart William Smith Co	2		St. John's College	4	2
Bard College Berlin	3		Hofstra University	1		St. Lawrence University	1	
Barnard College	1		Howard University	2	1	Stevens Institute of Tech	1	
Bates College	1		Illinois Inst of Tech	1		Suffolk University	1	
Belmont University	1		Illinois Wesleyan Univ	1		Swarthmore College	2	2
Beloit College	3		Indiana U-Bloomington	2		Syracuse University	2	1
Bennington College	5		Indiana U- Music	1		Temple University	1	1
Bentley University	1		Ithaca College	2		The American Univ of Paris	1	1
Berklee College of Music	1	1	Kalamazoo College	1	1	The George Washington U	2	
Biola University	1		Kenyon College	12	4	The New School	2	
Boston University	4	1	Kingston University	1		The New School (Music)	1	
Bradley University	2		Knox College	1		The New School (Design)	1	
Brandeis University	3		La Salle University	1		The Univ of North Carolina	1	
Brown University	1	1	Lafayette College	1		The U of Tennessee-Knoxville	1	
Bryn Mawr College	1		Lehigh University	1		The University of the Arts	1	
Bucknell University	1		Lewis & Clark College	12	1	The University of the South	9	
Cal Poly SLO	4	1	Linfield University	1		Trinity College	5	1
Cal Poly (Agriculture)	1		Loughborough College	1		Tufts University	2	2
Cal Poly Humboldt	3		Louisiana State Univ	1		Tulane University	1	1
California Baptist Univ	1		Loyola Marymount Univ	7		University of Arizona	1	
Cal Poly Univ-Pomona	6		Loyola Univ Chicago	3		U of Arizona (Bus & PA)	1	
Cal State U-Bakersfield	1		Loyola Univ Maryland	1		Univ of California-Berkeley	12	6
Cal State U-Channel Isl	4		Loyola U - New Orleans	2		Univ of California-Davis	9	1
Cal State U-Chico	2		Macalester College	5	1	Univ of California-Irvine	5	
Cal State U-East Bay	2		Marist College	3		Univ of California-LA	5	2
Cal State U-Fresno	1		Marquette University	2		Univ of California-Merced	7	
Cal State U-Fullerton	7		Maryland Institute of Art	1		Univ of California-Riverside	8	1
Cal State U-Long Beach	4		Marymount Manhattan C	1		Univ of California-San Diego	7	
Cal State U-Los Angeles	8	2	McGill University	5	3	Univ of Calif-Santa Barbara	6	
Cal State U-Monterey Bay	1		Michigan State Univ	2		Univ of California-Santa Cruz	22	5
Cal State U-Northridge	5	1	Michigan State (Bus)	1		University of Chicago	2	2
Cal State U-Sacramento	2		Mount Saint Mary's Univ	5	1	Univ of Colorado Boulder	15	2
Cal State U-Stanislaus	1		Muhlenberg College	3		University of Denver	7	
Carleton College	1		New York University	3	2	University of East London	1	1
Carnegie Mellon Univ	1	1	New York U (Gallatin)	1		Univ of Hawaii at Manoa	3	
Case Western Reserve U	1		Norfolk State University	1		University of La Verne	4	
Chapman University	10	1	North Carolina A & T Uni	1		Univ of Mary Hardin-Baylor	1	
Clark Atlanta University	2		Northwestern University	3	3	Univ of Mass-Boston	1	
Clark University	2		Northwestern U (Music)	1		Univ of Mass-Lowell	1	
Colby College	1		Notre Dame Maryland U	1		Univ of Michigan-Ann Arbor	1	1
Colgate University	1		Oberlin College	11	2	Univ of Minnesota-Twin Cit	1	
College of Charleston	1		Occidental College	4	1	Univ of Nebraska-Lincoln	2	
Coll of Mt. Saint Vincent	4		Ohio State U-Main	1	1	Unive of Nevada-Las Vegas	1	
College of the Atlantic	1		Ohio Wesleyan U	3		University of Oregon	8	2
College of the Holy Cross	1		Oregon Institute of Tech	1		University of Pennsylvania	1	
Colorado Christian Univ	1		Otis College Art &Design	2		University of Portland	2	
Columbia Coll Chicago	3	1	Pace University, NYC	2	1	University of Puget Sound	12	2
Columbia Univ New York	1	1	Pacific University	1		University of Redlands	2	
Concordia Univ-Irvine	1		Pasadena City College	1	1	University of Rochester	2	1
Connecticut College	4		Pennsylvania State Univ	2		University of San Francisco	13	1
De Montfort University	1		Pepperdine University	4		University of South Dakota	1	
Denison University	7		Pitzer College	1		Univ of Southern California	7	7
DePaul University	6	3	Point Loma Nazarene U	1		University of St Andrews	2	
Dickinson College	1		Pomona College	1	1	University of the Pacific	2	
Dillard University	3		Pratt Institute-Main	1		Univ of West of England, Bristol	1	1
Dominican Univ Calif	1		Reed College	12	1	University of Vermont	3	1
Drew University	9		Regis University	1		Univ of Washington-Seattle	5	1
Drexel University	4		Rhodes College	2		Univ of Wisconsin-Madison	2	
Earlham College	1		Rider University	1		Vanguard Univ So Calif	1	
Eckerd College	2		Rochester Institute Tech	1		Vassar College	11	6
Emerson College	6		Saint Joseph's Col Maine	1		Wabash College	1	
Fairfield University	1		Saint Louis University	1		Wesleyan University	4	2
FIDM-Fashion Inst LA	1		San Diego State Univ	6		Westmont College	1	
Fisk University	1		San Francisco State Univ	8		Whitman College	4	
Fordham University	5	1	San Jose State University	1	1	Whittier College	1	
Fordham U-Lincoln Ctr	1		Santa Clara University	4		Willamette University	5	1
Franklin & Marshall Coll	2		Santa Monica College	3	3	William Jewell College	1	
Gettysburg College	1		Sarah Lawrence College	14	1	Williams College	1	1
Gonzaga University	1		Savannah Coll Art & Design	2		Woodbury University	2	
Goucher College	2		Scripps College	4	4	Worcester Polytechnic Inst	1	
			Seattle University					