

Degrees and Curricula



DEGREES AND CURRICULA

The goal of Sacred Heart University is to provide an educational experience for the student that will result in his or her development as a whole person; a person who possesses the intellectual ability to know, judge, reason, analyze, synthesize, discern and appreciate; a person who is sensitive and responsible to the needs of society and accepts the responsibility to preserve the dignity of fellow human beings; a person who is aware of the laws that govern the physical world and who is alert to the preservation of the beauty of nature; a person who possesses a sense of moral responsibility to self, community and nation.

Sacred Heart University firmly believes that this goal can best be achieved by providing the student with a core curriculum that is composed of a broad liberal arts component that includes all of the major academic areas. The core curriculum, which is required of all students, serves as a unifying educational experience, regardless of the chosen major area of specialization and future professional career choice.

With the liberal arts as its foundation, Sacred Heart University offers two baccalaureate degrees: Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) in 29 major fields and 28 minor fields. In addition, the University offers four associate's degrees in two categories: Associate in Arts (AA), and three Associate in Science (AS) degrees.

Baccalaureate Degree Programs

All candidates for the baccalaureate degree must complete at least 120 credits, with a minimum of 30 credits taken at Sacred Heart University. A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required.

The baccalaureate curriculum is made up of five components:

- The Required Core (Area A: 18 credits)
- The Elective Core (Area B: 30–32 credits)
- The BA/BS requirement (6–8 credits)
- The Major Field (30–58 credits)
- Electives (4–36 credits)

Area A: Required Core (18 Credits)

The Required Core provides the student with a competency in writing, communication and mathematics and an appreciation of history and literature. It aims at the following outcomes:

- Proficiency in written English rhetoric at the collegiate level as determined by the Department of Languages, Literature and Media Studies. EN 011 (Introduction to Rhetoric) and EN 012 (Rhetoric: The Research Paper) normally fulfill this requirement. A grade of C or better is required in each course.
- Proficiency in oral rhetoric as determined by the Department of Languages, Literature and Media Studies. CA 021 (Effective Communication) with a grade of C or better normally fulfill this requirement.
- Proficiency in mathematics at the collegiate level. MA 101 (Modern College Mathematics I) or MA 109 (Mathematics for Decision Making) normally fulfill this requirement. A higher-level mathematics course may also be used to fulfill this requirement.
- EN 101 (Approaches to Literature) Transfer students may substitute any two upper-division literature courses or an introduction to literature course covering all genres (single-genre courses, such as Introduction to Poetry, etc., do not satisfy this requirement).
- HI 101 (Civilizations) Transfer students may substitute one semester or more of Western Civilization. Students presenting other history courses should consult with the chairperson of the Department of History and Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences.

Area B: Elective Core (30–32 Credits)

The Elective Core has four major areas that:

- provide the student with the opportunity to experience other disciplines, obtain a background for further study and gain the knowledge to be a well-rounded and educated human being.

Core Curriculum courses:

- provide the student with the basic methodological concepts and perspectives of the discipline including, where germane, the ethical obligations and responsibilities that evolve upon practitioners of the discipline;
- show the student how the discipline fits into the universe of liberal arts and sciences;
- show the student the usefulness of the discipline to personal intellectual growth and also the practical applicability of the discipline; and
- are taught by methods that enhance the student's critical-thinking skills and the ability to express himself or herself.

Each core course is marked with a “†” in the Course Descriptions section.

Area B-1

Students must choose six credits from at least two of the following disciplines:

Art
Foreign Language
History
Literature
Media Studies
Music

Area B-2

Students must choose nine credits from at least two of the following disciplines:

Anthropology
Economics

Political Science
Psychology
Sociology

Area B-3

Students must take two courses from the following, with at least one in the natural/physical sciences:

Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Mathematics
Physics

Area B-4

Students must take nine credits from the following two disciplines:

Philosophy
Religious Studies

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Requirements (6–8 Credits)

The BA/BS requirements provide the student with either a study of modern foreign language or additional study in mathematics and science. Students may choose either degree for most majors.

For the BA, the student must complete six credits in the same modern foreign language at a level depending on his or her previous educational background. Sacred Heart University offers language on three levels: First-Year, Intermediate and Advanced. These credits cannot be used in Area B-1.

For the BS, the student must complete a second mathematics course. The particular course depends on the major field of study. In addition, the student must complete a natural or physical science course different from the Area B-3 science requirement.

The Major Field (30–58 Credits)

The major provides the student an area of speciality as a foundation for graduate study or as a

stepping-stone for a career. Several baccalaureate majors offer multiple specialization programs. One-half of the student's major must be completed at Sacred Heart University. Sacred Heart University offers the following baccalaureate major programs, with concentration options listed after the major:

College of Arts and Sciences

Art: *Illustration, Studio Art, Graphic Design*

Biology

Chemistry: *Biochemistry, Environmental, Traditional*

Communication and Technology Studies

Computer Science: *Computer Science, Information Technology*

Criminal Justice

English: *Communication, English Education, Literature, Theater, Writing*

Environmental Science

History

Mathematics

Media Studies

Philosophy

Political Science

Psychology

Religious Studies

Social Work

Sociology

Spanish

College of Business

Accounting

Business Administration: *International Business, Management Information Systems, Management, Marketing, Sport Management*

Economics

Finance

International Business (BA only)

Legal Administration

Sport Management

College of Education and Health Professions

Athletic Training and Exercise Science

Nursing (BS only): *First Professional Degree Program, Completion Program*

University College

General Studies

Electives (4–36 Credits)

Electives are courses in the major or minor fields or other subjects that interest the student. Electives should be selected in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

Students majoring in any discipline may also elect cross-curricular programs including Education, Honors or a pre-professional program (Pre-Law, Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental, Pre-Occupational Therapy, Pre-Optometry, Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Veterinary). These are explained in the Academic Enhancement Programs chapter in this catalog.

Minor Programs

In addition to a major, the student may choose an optional minor program from the following:

College of Arts and Sciences

Art

Biology

Chemistry

Computer Science

Criminal Justice

English

European Studies

French

Global Studies

History

Honors

Italian

Latin American Studies

Mathematics

Media Studies

Music

Philosophy
 Political Science
 Psychology
 Religious Studies
 Sociology
 Spanish
 Women's Studies

College of Business

Accounting
 Business Administration
 Economics
 Sport Management

College of Education and Health Professions

Geriatric Health and Wellness

Policy on Awarding of Second Baccalaureate Degree

Students will be eligible to receive a second baccalaureate degree from Sacred Heart University, with a major other than that obtained with their first degree, if they meet the following criteria:

1. They will have fulfilled the requirements of the second degree and major.
2. They will have completed at least 30 credits at Sacred Heart University after the date of the first degree.
3. That up to 90 credits of the first degree can be used toward the fulfillment of the new degree/-major.

If the above conditions are not met, the transcript would then indicate the completion of a second major if requirements for that major have been achieved.

Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degree Programs

Based on a commitment to serve the needs of the students within the mission of the University, four associate degree programs are offered. The

degree programs fall in two general categories: Associate of Arts (AA) in General Studies degree, with specialties in 20 different fields, and career-based Associate of Science (AS) degrees in three fields. All programs are designed for upward mobility to earn the baccalaureate degree. In addition to the specialty courses, each program has its foundation within a liberal arts base.

Associate of Arts Degree— General Studies Program

All Associate of Arts degrees are offered by University College. The candidate for the AA degree in General Studies must complete 60 credits, which include the AA Core Curriculum, an emphasis of not less than 15 credit hours and elective courses chosen in consultation with the student's advisor. *A minimum of 30 of these credits must be taken at Sacred Heart University, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required.*

Core Curriculum

The Core Curriculum for the AA degree provides the student with the opportunity to experience other disciplines, obtain a background for further study and gain the knowledge to be a well-rounded and educated human being. In addition to completing six credits from each of the four core areas, the student must demonstrate a proficiency in both written and oral rhetoric as determined by the Department of Languages, Literature and Media Studies. EN 011, EN 012 and CA 021 normally fulfill these requirements. A grade of C or better is required in all courses taken to establish this proficiency.

Area I

Students must choose six credits from at least two of the following disciplines:

Art
 Foreign Language
 History

Literature
Media Studies
Music

Area II

Students must choose six credits from at least two of the following disciplines:

Anthropology
Economics
Political Science
Psychology
Sociology

Area III

Students must take six credits from at least two of the following disciplines (including one natural/-physical science):

Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Mathematics
Physics

Area IV

Students must take six credits from the following disciplines:

Philosophy
Religious Studies

Emphasis

Credits range from 15–32, depending on the emphasis.

Note: The required courses for each emphasis are listed under each college and department section.

A grade of C or better is required in all emphasis courses. Area discipline courses cannot be used in above core areas. Areas of emphasis with required courses are:

College of Arts and Sciences

Art
Biology
Chemistry

Early Childhood/Psychology
English
French
History
Italian
Mathematics
Media Studies
Music
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology
Spanish

College of Business

Accounting
Business
Economics

Associate of Science Degrees

The University offers the following Associate of Science degrees:

Banking (College of Business)
Computer Science and Information Technology
(College of Arts and Sciences)
Paralegal Studies (College of Business)

Note: The requirements for each degree are listed under the college offering the degree.