

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/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.

Baccalaureate Degrees

At the undergraduate level, Sacred Heart University offers two baccalaureate degrees: Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) depending upon the nature of the discipline of the major. The University offers 26 majors and 30 minors. The University also offers Associate in Arts (AA) and Associate in Science (AS) degrees.

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 University Core Curriculum

A central component of undergraduate study is the University's Core Curriculum, which embodies the University's commitment to academic excellence, social responsibility, and ethical awareness. Consistent with its Mission, Sacred Heart University provides its students with a liberal arts curriculum that is:

- fundamental to becoming a knowledgeable, educated, and ethically responsible person;
- foundational to studies in the major and to life-long learning;

- essential preparation for personal and professional success in a global and ever-changing world.

Structure of the University Core Curriculum

The Core Curriculum is composed of three components:

- I. Foundational Core (10 credits)
- II. Common Core: The Human Journey (12 credits)
- III. Elective Core (33–35 credits)

I. Foundational Core (10 credits)

The Foundational Core provides students with competency, at the college level, in the communications, mathematics, and information-literacy skills that are necessary for academic success and that are essential in a global and ever-changing world.

- EN 110 Academic Writing (3 credits)
- CA 101 Effective Oral Communication (3 credits)
- IL 101 Information Literacy (1 credit)
- MA TBD Mathematics (college level) (3 credits)

II. Elective Core (33–35 credits)

The Elective Core provides students with the body of knowledge, critical thinking abilities, and ethical and moral thinking that are needed for studies in the major, for life-long learning, and for the education of the whole person.

The Elective Core is comprised of courses in the Humanities, the Social and Behavioral Sciences, the Natural Sciences/Mathematics/Computer Science, and Religious Studies and Philosophy. These courses introduce students to the perspectives and ways of knowing in these disciplines.

Humanities (9 credits)

The Humanities are the historical, aesthetic, language and literature disciplines that study the human condition and human experience using methods that are largely critical, creative, analyti-

cal, theoretical, interpretive, and speculative.

To accomplish the Humanities area, students are required to complete 9 credits from at least two different disciplines of the following:

- Art
- History
- Literature
- Music (excluding applied music courses)
- Media Studies
- Modern Foreign Languages

Students may take no more than 3 credits of English and no more than 3 credits of History to complete this area.

Students are strongly encouraged to take 6 credits of the same Modern Foreign Language in consecutive semesters as part of their Humanities requirement in this area.

For students majoring in Nursing or Athletic Training, 6 credits in two departments completes this area.

Social and Behavioral Sciences (9 credits)

The Social and Behavioral Sciences use the scientific method and analytical approach to study the individual and human behavior and to examine the social and political structures that result from human interaction and that shapes human behavior.

To accomplish the Social and Behavioral Sciences area, students are required to complete 9 credits from at least two different disciplines of the following:

- Anthropology
- Economics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

Natural Sciences/Mathematics/ Computer Science (6–8 credits)

The Natural Sciences use the empirical or scientific method to study the laws that govern nature and the natural world. Mathematics and Computer Science use rigorous logic as their primary methodology.

To accomplish the Natural Sciences/Mathematics/Computer Science area, students are required to complete 6-8 credits, and one of the courses must be Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Mathematics
- Physics

Religious Studies and Philosophy (9 credits)

Religious Studies uses reason and critical and analytical thought to study religions, religious beliefs and practices, and the relationship between the human and the Divine as well as questions of truth, justice, ethics, and the moral dimensions of existence. Philosophy uses logic, analysis, and reason to examine fundamental questions about existence, meaning and knowledge, and ethics.

To accomplish the Religious Studies and Philosophy area, students are required to complete 9 credits from the two different disciplines:

- Philosophy
- Religious Studies

III. Common Core: *The Human Journey*

Sacred Heart University's academic signature centerpiece, *The Human Journey*, is a coherent, integrated, and multidisciplinary study of the liberal arts and sciences and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

The five courses of *The Human Journey* are framed and unified by the following four funda-

mental and enduring questions of human meaning and value:

1. What does it mean to be human?
2. What does it mean to live a life of meaning and purpose?
3. What does it mean to understand and appreciate the natural world?
4. What does it mean to forge a more just society for the common good?

The Human Journey introduces students to some of the most significant thinkers, artists, writers and scientists from Western, Catholic, and non-Western traditions who have wrestled with these central and complex questions about human life.

The Common Core courses which comprise *The Human Journey* are:

HICC 101 The Human Journey: Historical Paths to Civilization

ENCC 102 Literary Expressions of The Human Journey

CC 103 A The Human Community: The Individual and Society (Social and Behavioral Sciences)

or

CC 103 B The Human Community and Scientific Discovery (The Natural Sciences)

CC 104 The Human Search for Truth, Justice, and the Common Good

The Major Field (30-58 Credits)

The major provides the student an area of specialty as preparation for a career or as a foundation for graduate study. Several baccalaureate majors offer multiple specialization programs. One half of the credit for 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/Graphic Design

Biology: *Traditional, Biotechnology, Ecology and Conservation Biology, Neuroscience*

Chemistry: *Biochemistry, Traditional*

Communication and Technology Studies

Computer Science: *Computer Science, Information Technology*

Criminal Justice

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

History

Mathematics

Media Studies

Philosophy

Political Science

Psychology

Religious Studies

Social Work

Sociology

Spanish

John F. Welch College of Business

Accounting

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

Marketing, Sport Management

Business Economics

Finance

Sport Management

College of Education and Health Professions

Athletic Training

Exercise Science

Nursing (B.S. only): *First Professional Degree Program, BSN Completion Program, RN to BSN/Web, RN to MSN*

University College

General Studies

Electives (0–36 Credits)

Electives are courses offered by the University in subject areas that interest the student. Electives should be selected in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

Students majoring in any discipline may also elect courses in the following pre-professional areas: Pre-Law, Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental, Pre-Occupational Therapy, Pre-Optometry, Pre-Physical Therapy, and Pre-Veterinary. Qualified students may also elect courses in the Thomas More Honors Program or in Education. 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

Catholic Studies

Chemistry

Computer Science

Criminal Justice

English

European Studies

French

Global Studies

History

Honors

Information Technology

Italian

Latin American Studies

Mathematics

Media Studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Music

Philosophy

Political Science

Psychology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Spanish

Women's Studies

John F. Welch College of Business

Accounting

Business Administration

Business 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

Associate Degrees are offered for students whose needs are best met by this degree or for students who may seek to further their education at a later

time with a baccalaureate degree. The Associate degree programs fall in two general categories: Associate of Arts (AA) in General Studies degree, with specialties in 19 different fields, and career-based Associate of Science (AS) degrees in one field. 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 as well as 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 become a knowledgeable and educated human being.

Foundational Core

*EN 110

*CA 101

*MT TBD

*A grade of C or better is required.

Common Core: *The Human Journey*

Sacred Heart University's academic signature centerpiece, *The Human Journey*, is a coherent, integrated, and multidisciplinary study of the liberal arts and sciences and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

See description of the Common Core: *The Human Journey* courses listed previously in this chapter.

Elective Core

To accomplish the elective core, students will complete the following:

Humanities (3 credits)

Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 credits)

Natural Sciences (3 credits)

Religious Studies/Philosophy (3 credits)

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

English

French

History

Italian

Mathematics

Media Studies

Music

Philosophy

Political Science

Psychology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Spanish

John F. Welch College of Business

Accounting

Business

Business Economics

Associate of Science Degree

The University offers the Associate of Science degree in Computer Science and Information Technology.

Note: The requirement for this degree is listed in the College of Arts and Sciences chapter.