Degrees and Curricula

The goal of Sacred Heart University is to provide an educational experience that will foster the development of the whole person who is:

- knowledgeable and educated - able to know, understand, judge, reason, analyze, synthesize, discern, appreciate, value, and communicate;
- intellectually and professionally prepared to take their place as citizens, professionals, and leaders in an ever-changing, global world;
- rooted in faith and who recognizes faith's relevance to human experience;
- compassionate in heart and who possesses a moral framework that recognizes the freedom and dignity of every human person and the importance of a just society.

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. In addition a minimum of 2.0 is required in the Major field of study.

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 core curriculum that is rooted in the liberal arts and Catholic Intellectual Tradition. The core curriculum is:

- fundamental to becoming a knowledgeable, educated, and ethically responsible person;
- foundational to studies in the major and to lifelong learning; and is
- 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:

- Foundational Core (9 credits)
- Common Core: The Human Journey (12 credits)
- Elective Core (33–35 credits)

I. Foundational Core (9 credits)

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

- FYS 125* First Year Seminar (3 credits)
- FLO 125 The Art of Thinking (3 credits)
- MA TBD Mathematics (college level) (3 credits)

*A minimum grade of C or better is required.

FYS 125* First Year Seminar (3 CR)

First Year Seminars are designed and taught by full-time faculty on topics that are pertinent to the lives of students, the world in which they live, and the interests of faculty. The seminars are writing and oral communications intensive and introduce
students to college-level research skills and principles of information literacy. First Year Seminars are capped at 16 students to ensure that instructors can devote adequate attention to the content of their courses and the development of the proficiencies and skills of each student. First Year Seminars are offered with discipline designations. When successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher, the credits earned in the Freshmen Year Seminar are applied to the Elective Core requirements. Alternatively, depending on departmental requirements, the credits earned may be applied to the major if the First Year Seminar is in the same discipline as the major.

FLO 125 The Art of Thinking (3 CR)
The Art of Thinking provides students with the tools they need to become effective thinkers. This course covers the essential methods and rules of logic, such as inductive and deductive arguments, fallacies, and syllogisms. Using the tools of logic, students read primary texts and arguments with faculty from diverse disciplines. As with the First Year Seminar, The Art of Thinking is taught by full-time faculty from across appropriate disciplines in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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 Theology & Religious Studies and Philosophy. These courses introduce students to the perspectives and ways of knowing in these disciplines. Courses in the major discipline may not be used in the elective core unless the student is a double major.

**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, analytical, 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
- Foreign Languages
- History
- Literature
- Music (excluding applied music courses)
- Media Arts/Communication
- Performing Arts (excluding applied performing arts courses)

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

For students majoring in Nursing, 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 human behavior and the social nature of human beings and to examine the social and political structures that result from human interaction and that shape 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

Theology & Religious Studies and Philosophy (9 credits)

Theology & Religious Studies use reason and critical and analytical thought to study religions, religious beliefs and practices, and to examine the relationship between the human and the Divine as well as to explore 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 Theology & Religious Studies and Philosophy area, students are required to complete 9 credits from the two different disciplines:

- Philosophy
- Theology & Religious Studies
- Elective from Theology & Religious Studies or Philosophy

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 courses of The Human Journey are framed and unified by the following four fundamental and enduring questions of human meaning and value:

- What does it mean to be human?
- What does it mean to live a life of meaning and purpose?
- What does it mean to understand and appreciate the natural world?
- 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 (Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, Psychology) or
- CC 103 B The Human Community and Scientific Discovery (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- CC 104 The Human Search for Truth, Justice, and the Common Good (Philosophy or Theology/Religious Studies)

Students will take one of the CC 103 A or CC 103 B options.
Course Descriptions

HICC 101 The Human Journey: Historical Paths to Civilization 3 CR
HICC 101 is part of Sacred Heart University’s Common Core, The Human Journey. Framed by the Common Core’s four fundamental questions of human meaning and value, this course is designed to provide first-year college students with an understanding of the elements of Western Civilization from the ancient world to the end of the Renaissance, including the Catholic intellectual tradition. HICC101 will also provide students with sufficient knowledge of the history and culture of a non-western civilization (China) to allow for meaningful comparison of the two cultures. Primary texts will be used to bring students into close contact with the main thinkers of the period and to show how historians use written records to interpret the past.

ENCC 102 Literary Expressions of The Human Journey 3 CR
ENCC 102 is part of Sacred Heart University’s common core sequence The Human Journey. This course addresses the four fundamental questions of human meaning and value that serve as the unifying frame for all the courses in The Common Core. In ENCC102 we read and examine significant works of literature. We read serious literature because it presents us with images of, dramatizes for us, or tells us stories about ourselves, our human experience throughout time, and the way we live. This course engages students in conversations about these literary stories, images, and dramatizations. We critically and analytically read and examine works of literature from different cultures – western and non-western, including Catholic, and from different time periods – classical to contemporary, with an aim toward understanding and appreciating how these very different works give us insight in the four core questions.

ANCC 103 The Human Community: The Individual and Society 3 CR
This is the third of four courses in The Human Journey, Sacred Heart University's Common Core Curriculum. As part of the University's Common Core, The Human Journey, ANCC103 addresses the four core questions from the anthropological perspective. With an emphasis on the unity, diversity and development of human biology and culture, the anthropological perspective offers a unique opportunity to engage the Catholic intellectual tradition and examine the enduring questions of human existence.

POCC 103 The Human Community: The Individual and Society 3 CR
This is the third of four courses in The Human Journey, the Common Core Curriculum at Sacred Heart University. The course explores questions regarding human meaning and value by specifically focusing on the social and political dimensions of the Core Questions. This course will include an analysis of the major political philosophers and their perspectives on the following: What does it mean to be human? What does it mean to live a life of meaning and purpose? What does it mean to forge a more just society for the common good? What does it mean to appreciate and understand the natural world? The course also incorporates key thinkers from the Catholic Intellectual tradition as they approach the core questions.

PSCC 103 The Human Community: The Individual and Society 3 CR
This course is the third of four courses in Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum, The Human Journey. This course addresses the four fundamental questions of human meaning and value that serve as the unifying frame for all the courses in The Human Journey. This particular course engages students in a study of the relationship between psychology – the science of human behavior and mental processes, and the Catholic intellectual tradition – which is characterized by rigorous
intellectual inquiry and an openness to scientific ideas. This course aims to help us understand ourselves as human persons, as well as to understand the social and physical environments in which we live.

**SOCC 103 The Human Community: The Individual and Society 3 CR**

This is the third of four courses in The Human Journey, Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum. As part of the University’s Common Core: The Human Journey, this course takes up the enduring questions of human existence: 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 appreciate and understand the natural world? 4) What does it mean to forge a more just society for the common good? Investigations are primarily guided by insights from sociology about the social nature of human beings and the structure of societies while also including the contributions from the natural sciences and the Catholic intellectual tradition.

**BICC 103 The Human Community and Scientific Discovery 3 CR**

This is the third of four courses in The Human Journey, Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum. This course focuses on the scientific approach and its uses and limits in addressing the four fundamental core questions of human meaning and value. The practice of scientific inquiry with respect to political, social and cultural factors will also be examined, particularly in the context of the Catholic intellectual tradition. Potential topics to be discussed include learning about your own ancient genetic lineage, evolution, genetic testing, environmental pollution, global climate change, and disease prevention.

**CHCC 103 The Human Community and Scientific Discovery 3 CR**

This is the third of four courses in Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum, The Human Journey. This course examines the core’s four fundamental questions of human meaning and value. From the perspective of Chemistry, students learn about science and the natural world and science’s engagement with the Catholic intellectual tradition.

**PYCC 103 The Human Community and Scientific Discovery 3 CR**

This is the third of four courses in Sacred Heart University’s Common Core Curriculum, The Human Journey. As part of The Human Journey curriculum, this course addresses the four fundamental questions of human meaning and value from the perspective of the academic disciplines of Physics and Theology. PYCC103 examines the relationships between our human explorations of the universe through science, in general, and physics, in particular. We will examine Physics as a fundamental and practical human endeavor which helps us understand and appreciate the natural world as part of God’s provision and revelation for us. As with all of the courses that make up the Common Core, the four fundamental questions provide the threads that serve as the framework for the fabric of the course.

**RS/PHCC 104 The Human Search for Truth, Justice, and the Common Good 3 CR**

This course is the capstone course in Sacred Heart University’s Common Core sequence of study, The Human Journey. As the capstone, this course addresses the Core’s four fundamental questions of human meaning and value. This course investigates the religious or philosophical understanding of the human condition as a theme running through the four stated questions. Students study both classic and contemporary texts from a range of religious and some philosophical traditions, particularly the Catholic intellectual tradition. A vital component of the course is students’ own responses to the four questions, especially as those responses evolve through the enrichment of the course material. As a capstone course, RS/PHCC104 enables students to develop a personal, integrated
set of answers to the common core questions through a range of modalities and media, including service projects, research papers, artistic productions, student “portfolios” of completed assignments for all four Core courses, and other similarly integrated and interdisciplinary work.

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:

A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required for the Major with no individual course grade below a C.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
• Art & Design
• Biology: Traditional, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Ecology and Conservation Biology, Neuroscience
• Chemistry: Biochemistry, Traditional
• Communication Studies
• Computer Science: Computer Science, Information Technology
• Criminal Justice
• English: Literature, Writing
• Global Studies
• History
• Mathematics
• Media Arts
• Philosophy
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Religious Studies
• Social Work
• Sociology
• Spanish

ISABELLE FARRINGTON COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Undergraduates who are interested in becoming teachers apply to the graduate school during freshman sophomore year. They select a major in the College of Arts and Sciences or the Welch College of Business, take courses in the Farrington College of Education during their junior and senior years, and complete teacher certification requirements (including student teaching) and a master’s degree in education during a fifth year.

JOHN F. WELCH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
• Accounting
• Business Economics
• Finance
• Marketing: Digital Advertising, Fashion Marketing and Merchandising, Sport Marketing
• Sport Management

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
• Athletic Training
• Exercise Science
• Health Science
• Nursing (B.S. only): First Professional Degree Program, RN to BSN, RN to MSN

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
• General Studies
• Professional 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, Pre-Speech-Language Pathology 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.

No more than 8 credits in Applied Music may be used for free electives.

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

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
• Biology
• Catholic Studies
• Chemistry
• Computer Science
• Criminal Justice
• English
• European Studies
• Fashion Design
• French
• Global Studies
• Graphic Design
• History
• Honors
• Illustration
• Information Technology
• Irish Studies

• Italian
• Latin American Studies
• Mathematics
• Media Arts
• Middle Eastern Studies
• Music
• Performing Arts
• Philosophy
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Religious Studies
• Sociology
• Spanish
• Studio Art
• Women’s Studies

JOHN F. WELCH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
• Accounting
• Business
• Business Economics
• Digital Marketing
• Fashion Marketing and Merchandising
• Management
• Marketing
• Sports Management

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
• Geriatric Health and Wellness
• Health Science
• Pre-Speech-Language Pathology

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:
• They will have fulfilled the requirements of the second degree and major.
• They will have completed at least 30 credits at Sacred Heart University after the date of the first degree.

• That up to 90 credits of the first degree can be used toward the fulfillment of the new degree/major.

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 become a knowledgeable and educated human being.

Foundational Core

• FYS 125*
• FLO 125
• MA 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) Theology & 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:

Associate of Arts Degree

College of Arts and Sciences

• Art and Design
• Biology
• Chemistry
• Communication Studies
• English
• French
• History
• Italian
• Mathematics
• Media Arts
• Music
• Philosophy
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Religious Studies
• Sociology
• Spanish

Associate of Science Degree

College of Arts and Sciences

• Computer Science