In keeping with the Jesuit educational philosophy, the PCS Core Curriculum is designed to provide the student with a broad humanistic background. As students’ majors and electives allow specialization and individualization in their studies, the Core Curriculum assures that every student’s undergraduate education is anchored, as a whole, in the liberal arts. The PCS core enables students to go beyond mere proficiency and achieve a level of excellence in the essential skills of literacy. Excellence in the expressive skills of writing and speaking with logical clarity is founded on the arts of reading, listening, observing, thinking, and mastery and thorough understanding of the topic under consideration. Education in the liberal arts has traditionally been called “liberal” for several reasons, but among them is the fact that these arts engender the ability to form judgments based on sound reasoning, free of prejudice and free of insufficiently examined premises. The PCS core enables the student to sample a range of academic disciplines and fields of study, and provides a solid foundation for achievement in any of them.

The Core Curriculum consists of 12 courses. Advanced placement credit and college courses taken elsewhere may be considered for core transfer credit.

### ENGL 1102 COMPOSITION II: One Required Course

This course will build competence and confidence in the use of language for analytic, dialogic, and expressive purposes, develop basic reasoning skills and skills of close and attentive reading, enrich an appreciation of the power and importance of language, and help students learn sound practices with respect to conventions of citation, quotation, paraphrase and documentation. Prerequisite: Depending on placement, ENGL 1101 COMPOSITION I may be required. To move to ENGL 1102 COMPOSITION II from ENGL 1101 COMPOSITION I, a grade of C or better is required.

### ENGL 2000 TEXTS AND CONTEXTS: One Required Course

The introductory core course in English literature, which may include literature in translation, will teach the arts of literary interpretation by developing techniques of close reading, an appreciation of the relations among literary works and the contexts in which they are written and read, and an ability to write critically about the interplay between text and context. The sections of this course will offer students choice among thematic and topical foci, which will be specified in each section title and spelled out in the section’s description. Prerequisite: ENGL 1102 COMPOSITION II

### PHIL 1000 PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE: One Required Course

A philosophical reflection on the central metaphysical and epistemological questions surrounding human nature, which includes discussion of some or all of the following problems: the body/soul distinction and the mind/body problem; the problem of knowledge (relativism, skepticism, the objectivity of knowledge, faith, and reason); free will and determinism; and self and society (subjectivity, personhood, sociality, historicity, and tradition). At least 60 percent of each section of the course is devoted to readings from Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, or Aquinas, and Descartes. Each section includes some writings by at least one contemporary figure.

### THEO 1000 FAITH AND CRITICAL REASON: One Required Course

An introduction to fundamental theological issues, including the dialectic between religion and modernity that has shaped our cultural heritage, and some of the ways that various cultures and individuals have confronted the pressing questions of meaning in human life. When appropriate, comparisons with religious traditions other than Christianity are made.

### HIST ****: Understanding Historical Change: One Required Course

Through the introduction to the discipline of history, students will begin to achieve knowledge of the structure of societies, how they function, and how they change. Each section of the course will consider how to assess evidence, identify and evaluate differing and often contradictory explanations and arguments, and appraise the relative scale and importance of particular changes in the past. Students will be able to choose from different sections of the course each with the title Understanding Historical Change, and a descriptive subtitle such as Ancient Greece, American History, etc.

The following courses have the HC (Understanding Historical Change) attribute:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 1600</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: AFRICA</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAS 1210</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: ANCIENT GREECE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAS 1220</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: ANCIENT ROME</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1000</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: MODERN EUROPE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1075</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: RENAISSANCE TO REVOLUTION IN EUROPE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1100</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: AMERICAN HISTORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1103</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: FIGHTING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1210</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: ANCIENT GREECE</td>
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<td>HIST 1220</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: ANCIENT ROME</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1240</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: THE ANCIENT WORLD</td>
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<td>HIST 1300</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: MEDIEVAL</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1400</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: LATIN AMERICA</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1450</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY</td>
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<td>HIST 1550</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: EAST ASIAN HISTORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1551</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: REPRESENT CHINA AND THE WEST</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1600</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: AFRICA</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIST 1650  UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: THE BLACK ATLANTIC  3
HIST 1700  UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: MIDEAST  3
HIST 1750  UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: ISLAMIC HISTORY AND CULTURE  3
HIST 1850  UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: JEWS IN THE ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WORLD  3
HIST 1851  UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL CHANGE: JEWS IN THE MODERN WORLD  3
HIST 4110  NARRATING THE GREAT WAR  4

Fine Arts OR Social Science: One Required Course from Either Area

Fine Arts Option
By seeing or hearing visual or musical works and understanding them, students learn to appreciate the non-verbal and how such works both are influenced by and exercise influence on their cultural milieu. The courses take advantage of and encourage students to appreciate the extensive cultural offerings of New York City.

Course  Title  Credits
ARHI 1101  INTRODUCTION TO ART HISTORY: EUROPE  3
MUSC 1100  INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC HISTORY  3
THEA 1100  INVITATION TO THEATRE  3
VART 1101  URBANISM  3

Social Science Option
Students will be introduced to the ways of knowing characteristic of the social sciences through introductory courses in anthropology, communications, economics, political science, psychology, and sociology. The courses will usually focus on a substantive concern of the social science, and include historical overviews, consideration of the variety of research methods typically used (especially empirical research), reviews of the major theoretical orientations and models, and real-world implications and applications to practical problems.

Course  Title  Credits
ANTH 1100  INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY  3
ANTH 1300  INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY  3
COMM 1010  INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES  3
COMC 2329  INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA INDUSTRIES  3
ECON 1100  BASIC MACROECONOMICS  3
ECON 1200  BASIC MICROECONOMICS  3
POSC 1100  INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS  3
PSYC 2600  SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY  4
PSYC 2700  INFANT AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  4
PSYC 2710  ADOLESCENT AND ADULT DEVELOPMENT  4
PSYC 2800  PERSONALITY  4
PSYC 2900  ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY  4
SOCI 1100  INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY  3

Mathematical/Computational Reasoning: One Required Course
The aim of this requirement is to develop the fundamental skills involved in mathematical and computational approaches to problem solving, reasoning, and an understanding of our world. These skills also form the basis for advanced reasoning in many areas and provide a basis for testing logic, solving problems, and evaluating mathematical and computational arguments and evidence in daily life. After completing this requirement, students will be prepared to explore quantitative and computational issues in the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities.

The following courses have the MCR (Mathematical/Computational Reasoning) attribute:

Course  Title  Credits
CISC 1100  STRUCTURES OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  3
CISC 1400  DISCRETE STRUCTURES  4
CISC 1401  DISCRETE STRUCTURES  3
CISC 1600  COMPUTER SCIENCE I  3
MATH 1002  BEATS, VIBRATION AND HARMONY; A MUSICAL PLAYBILL TO MATHEMATICS  3
MATH 1100  FINITE MATHEMATICS  3
MATH 1203  APPLIED CALCULUS I  3
MATH 1206  CALCULUS I  4

Natural Science: One Course in Physical Science or Life Science
By exploring the natural sciences, students will gain understanding of scientific methodology as a way of knowing and an appreciation of the social responsibility and ethics of science. By understanding how reasoning and experimental evidence lead to scientific conclusions, students will develop scientific literacy—the ability to understand the breakthroughs in science, medicine, and technology as educated, creative, responsible citizens. Students will also develop skills in critical thinking and discernment; qualitative and quantitative reasoning; written and oral communication; and formulation, analysis, and solution of complex problems. With knowledge of the basic principles of science, students will be able to evaluate the legal, moral, and ethical issues that will affect their lives after they graduate. Science courses for nonscience majors include Health and Disease; Human Biology; Human Function and Dysfunction; Life on Planet Earth; Physics of Everyday Life; Alchemy to Astrophysics; People and the Living Environment; and Ecology: A Human Approach.

Science majors will fulfill this core requirement through their major courses.

Advanced Disciplinary Study
This portion of the core enables students to deepen and extend their disciplinary study and enrich their major courses, which they will be taking concurrently, through a diverse spectrum of advanced courses, thereby assuring the achievement of intellectual perspective with breadth. The following upper-level courses will build on the knowledge, skills and methodological foundations of the disciplinary introductions to develop and extend their awareness of questions and approaches outside their majors. Courses at this level will generally be numbered in the 3000 range and may be taken when students have completed the introductory disciplinary courses in the area.
PHIL 3000 PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS: One Required Course
This course involves philosophical reflection on the major normative ethical theories underlying moral decision making in our everyday lives. The principal focus of the course is a systematic introduction to the main normative ethical theories, i.e., eudaimonism, natural law ethics, deontological ethics, utilitarianism, virtue ethics, and feminism. The differences among these approaches are illuminated by studying various moral issues. In each section of the course, at least half the readings will be selected from Aristotle and Kant. Each section will include writings by at least one contemporary figure.

Sacred Texts and Traditions: One Required Course
The second theology course, selected from a group of offerings relating to sacred texts and traditions, builds on the foundation of critical reasoning about traditions in the first theology course through analytical study of one religious textual tradition. The sections of this course will offer students a variety of texts from which to choose. All sections will draw on the disciplines of history, literary analysis, and theology, interpreting religious traditions and texts as both historically embedded and always evolving responses to the experience of the transcendent in human life.

The following courses have the STXT (Sacred Texts and Traditions) attribute and count toward this requirement:

Course | Title | Credits
--- | --- | ---
THEO 3100 | INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT | 3
THEO 3102 | BOOK OF GENESIS | 4
THEO 3105 | THE TORAH | 3
THEO 3120 | THE PROPHETS | 3
THEO 3200 | INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT | 3
THEO 3207 | THE FIRST THREE GOSPELS | 3
THEO 3212 | GOSPEL OF JOHN | 3
THEO 3250 | JESUS IN HISTORY AND FAITH | 3
THEO 3301 | CHRISTIAN TEXTS IN CONTEXT | 3
THEO 3310 | EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITINGS | 3
THEO 3314 | ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO | 3
THEO 3316 | BYZANTINE CHRISTIANITY | 3
THEO 3320 | AUGUSTINE, AQUINAS, AND LUTHER | 3
THEO 3330 | MEDIEVAL THEOLOGY TEXTS | 3
THEO 3332 | CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS, JEWS IN THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD | 3
THEO 3340 | CHRISTIAN MYSTICAL TEXTS | 3
THEO 3345 | THE BOOK OF REVELATION | 3
THEO 3360 | REFORMATION TEXTS | 3
THEO 3361 | PROTESTANT TEXTS | 3
THEO 3371 | THE AMERICAN TRANSCENDENTALISTS: SPIRITUALITY WITHOUT RELIGION | 3
THEO 3375 | AMERICAN RELIGIOUS TEXTS | 3
THEO 3390 | CHURCH IN CONTROVERSY | 3
THEO 3542 | CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING | 3
THEO 3546 | THE BIBLE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE | 3
THEO 3610 | CHRIST IN WORLD CULTURES | 3
THEO 3620 | GREAT CHRISTIAN HYMNS | 3
THEO 3655 | The Journey of Faith: Autobiography as Sacred Text | 3

THEO 3700 | SCRIPTURES OF THE WORLD | 3
THEO 3711 | SACRED TEXTS OF THE MIDEAST | 3
THEO 3713 | CLASSIC JEWISH TEXTS | 3
THEO 3715 | CLASSIC ISLAMIC TEXTS | 3
THEO 3720 | HINDU LITERATURE AND ETHICS | 3
THEO 3724 | CLASSIC BUDDHIST TEXTS | 3
THEO 3725 | BUDDHISM IN AMERICA: A MULTIMEDIA INVESTIGATION | 3
THEO 3728 | BUDDHIST MEDITATION | 3
THEO 3731 | JAPANESE RELIGIONS: TEXTS AND ARTS | 3
THEO 3785 | SPIRITUAL EXERCISES AND CULTURE | 3
THEO 3790 | VISION AND FAITH | 3

Advanced Disciplinary Course in Literature, History, or Social Science: One Required Course
Following the introductory literature, history and social science courses, this requirement will enable the student to achieve a sharper focus and more detailed knowledge of complex literary, historical, or social methods, materials, interactions and processes. To fulfill the requirement, one advanced disciplinary course will be taken in one of the following disciplines:

• an advanced literature course numbered 2000 or above, or
• an advanced history course numbered 2000 or above, or
• an advanced social science course numbered 2000 or above

Senior Values Seminar: One Required Course
This course will be designated as a Senior Values Seminar, in the 4000 range, and will cover topics in ethical issues and moral choices through a variety of disciplines.