ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The college curriculum, leading to the degrees of bachelor of arts and bachelor of science, is organized into three parts: the core curriculum, the major, and elective courses.

Core Curriculum
Described in the Academic Programs, Policies, and Procedures section of this bulletin, the Core Curriculum consists of a set of required courses distributed across a number of disciplines. Advanced Placement credit and college courses taken elsewhere may be considered for core credit; otherwise the core must be completed in the student’s home college. The core is designed to open up new intellectual vistas; enhance understanding of ways of knowing within the disciplines and of connections among the disciplines; develop writing, research, and quantitative skills in order to prepare students for upper-level study; and situate students intellectually so they are prepared to make the right choice among major fields of study. Students are expected to complete most of the core by the end of sophomore year, with the exception of the advanced disciplinary and interdisciplinary, global, pluralism, and values requirements.

The Major
The major, or field of concentration, is designed to give the student mastery of a single field and to introduce that student to a field of possible professional involvement. A student will normally select a major by February of their sophomore year. If, at the time of preregistration for the fourth year, the student qualifies for a second major, he or she may request acceptance by that department. If the department finds that the student can complete its requirements satisfactorily in addition to the requirements for the original major he or she may register for a double major with the final approval of the class dean. If successfully completed, the two majors will be entered on the student’s official record. It is the major that determines the type of degree that is awarded. The College reserves the right to limit the number of students in a particular major.

A student who has a particular interest best pursued by means of an interdisciplinary program of courses not covered by one of the College’s established programs may petition to follow an individualized major. Students interested in an individualized major, open only to candidates for the B.A. degree, should discuss their plans with the class dean; final approval will be determined by a committee of faculty.

Students wishing to major in biological sciences, chemistry, computer and information sciences, mathematics, physics, or psychology will be registered for the courses specified by these departments in freshman year.

Students interested in premedical or prehealth professions, architecture, the 3-2 cooperative engineering program, or the five-year teacher-education track should indicate this program interest when applying. Changes may be made during the summer prior to beginning of classes. Incoming freshmen will be registered for the courses specified by these programs. Changes subsequent to the start of classes may be made in consultation with the student’s class dean.

Electives
The curriculum is rounded out by elective courses chosen by the student in consultation with his or her adviser. To ensure the breadth of learning that electives are intended to promote, at least half of a student’s electives should be in disciplines other than his or her major.

Degree Requirements
Fordham College at Rose Hill awards both the B.A. and the B.S. degrees. The bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degree programs at Fordham College at Rose Hill are four-year, eight-semester programs. Degrees are awarded on the successful completion of a minimum of 36 courses and 124 credits, with a minimum cumulative index of 2.000. It is expected that students will be in residence during the final semester in which they complete their degree.

Students ordinarily take 20 courses (usually three-credit) in their first and second years and 16 courses (usually four-credit) in their third and fourth years. Two-credit laboratory courses do not count toward the 36-course total. The only exception to the 36-course requirement is that students who take (and successfully complete) Introductory Biology (with laboratory) and General Chemistry (with laboratory) in their first semester may take only four courses and thereby reduce the number of courses required for graduation to 35.

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