College of Philosophy and Letters

Leadership
William Rehg, S.J.
Dean

Description
Founded in 1889, Saint Louis University's College of Philosophy and Letters oversees undergraduate and graduate programs that are oriented by the Jesuit commitment to intelligent service of faith and justice in dialogue with culture.

Following recent Congregations of the Society of Jesus, the College of Philosophy and Letters seeks to prepare students to engage issues of faith and justice in dialogue with culture. Specific requirements adhere to the norms set down in the Statuta, based on the Apostolic constitution Sapientia Christiana and the "Ordinations of the Sacred Congregation of Seminary and University Studies." Additional norms are contained in official directives of the Society of Jesus and the American Bishops' Program of Priestly Formation.

Undergraduate Programs

Overview
A bachelor’s degree from College of Philosophy and Letters provides the early academic formation of students preparing for Catholic ministry and priesthood. The College is concerned with both the undergraduate training appropriate to the bachelor’s degree and the implementation of ecclesiastical requirements for seminarians at the collegiate level.

Students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in the college may choose among three concentration options: humanities & social sciences, language, and math and natural sciences.

The concentrations share a 33-credit common core and 37-credit major in philosophy, but differ in the mix of non-philosophy courses they require.

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Program Highlights
The Bachelor of Arts in philosophy is comprised of a 33-credit program core, a 37-credit major in philosophy and either the 39-credit humanities and social sciences concentration or the 33-credit language concentration.

Curriculum Overview
The minimum number of credits required for a bachelor’s degree is 120, thus leaving considerable room for electives. Core, major, and concentration requirements may simultaneously satisfy requirements for a second major, minor or certificate in other Schools and Colleges, provided content is appropriate.

Careers
Our programs provide both the philosophical and intellectual background needed for further studies in theology and ministry. Options for students who envision a future in areas of ministry and service to the Church include:

+ The philosophical requirements for ordination for future priests.
+ Tools for reflecting on contexts of ministry for servants of the Church.
+ Opportunities to integrate your wider studies and interests with your faith for dedicated Catholics.

Admission Requirements
The minimum entrance requirements for the College are the same as the general undergraduate admission requirements of the University. In addition, admission requirements for each candidate's religious order or diocese in the area of academic achievement, personal character, and spiritual ideals must be met.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Core Requirements

English Composition (3 credits)
ENGL 1900 or equivalent

Latin, Greek, or Modern Language (9 credits)
Complete through the intermediate level; may be satisfied by a passing grade on an approved language proficiency examination.

Social Science (12 credits)
The Social Science requirement may be met by courses in Sociology/Anthropology, Political Science, Psychology, Economics, courses cross-listed with these, or courses whose content is judged appropriate.

Theology (9 credits)

**Major Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Knowledge</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of God</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Human Nature</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancient Greek Philosophy*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval Philosophy*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classical Modern Philosophy*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Philosophy*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Analysis/Special Ethics**</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capstone Preparation</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capstone Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*The historical period courses are normally satisfied by history of philosophy courses, but courses on appropriate historical figures and topics may also count, with approval of the Dean. Contemporary Philosophy includes late 18th century to present.

**The Social Analysis/Special Ethics requirements may be satisfied by courses in other disciplines, provided their content is appropriate; these courses may also simultaneously satisfy other core requirements or track requirements.

Pre-Divinity Courses in Theology (Jesuits)

Jesuit post-baccalaureate students are expected to complete, in addition to their philosophy requirements, 6 – 8 graduate-level theology courses, in areas approved by the Jesuit Conference and United States Provincials. The theology requirements are normally satisfied by graduate courses offered by the Department of Theological Studies or by the Aquinas Institute of Theology. Six of these courses should be selected with a view toward their counting toward a future Master of Divinity degree offered by a Jesuit Theology Center. Students consult with the Dean to identify appropriate courses.

Humanities & Social Sciences Concentration

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English, American, or World Literature</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Arts or Art History</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics or Logic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>6</td>
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**Language Concentration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English, American, or World Literature</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A second foreign language through the</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intermediate level</td>
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Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a minimum 2.00 GPA.

**Bachelor of Science in Philosophy**

**Program Highlights**

The Bachelor of Science in philosophy is comprised of a 33-credit program core, a 37-credit major in philosophy and the 39-credit math and natural sciences concentration.

**Curriculum Overview**

The minimum number of credits required for a bachelor's degree is 120, thus leaving considerable room for electives. Core, major, and concentration requirements may simultaneously satisfy requirements for a second major, minor or certificate in other Schools and Colleges, provided content is appropriate.

**Careers**

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Theology (9 credits)

Major Requirements
- Philosophy of Knowledge 3
- Philosophy of God 3
- Philosophy of Human Nature 3
- Ethics 3
- Ancient Greek Philosophy* 3
- Medieval Philosophy* 3
- Classical Modern Philosophy* 3
- Contemporary Philosophy* 3
- Social Analysis/Special Ethics** 9
- Capstone Preparation 1-3
- Capstone Seminar 3

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Pre-Divinity Courses in Theology (Jesuits)
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Math & Natural Sciences Concentration
- English, American, or World Literature 9
- Fine Arts or Art History 3
- History 6
- Mathematics* 9
- Natural Science 12

*MATH 1200 or higher-level course and two additional courses in mathematics. May be satisfied by a score of 550 on the SAT Examination for the mathematics requirement; two additional courses at an appropriate level must be taken.

Continuation Standards
Students must maintain a minimum 2.00 GPA.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW
The College of Philosophy and Letters offers two certificates; a certificate in Foundations of Christian Service and a certificate in Philosophy for Ministry

CERTIFICATE IN FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Program Highlights
The certificate in Foundations of Christian Service is designed to provide students with basic philosophical, theological, and interdisciplinary tools for intelligent reflection on contexts of Christian ministry. The certificate is open to consecrated religious and laypersons engaged in ministry or who envision a future in ministry.

Curriculum Overview
Course requirements (15-18 credits) are designed for flexibility, with a view to matching the student's background needs and ministerial interests. All course requirements may be satisfied with undergraduate courses.

Admission Requirements
The Certificate presupposes a bachelor's degree, or concurrent work toward a bachelor's degree. Specific certificate pre-requisites depend to some extent on the particular student’s needs, background, and specific program focus, but in general, at least one introductory course in theology or Sacred Scriptures is helpful.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
For more information, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Program Requirements
Students with little or no previous philosophy or theology begin with some basic courses in those areas, followed by electives from any discipline that can inform the student's capstone project. Students may tailor their capstone projects to fit their ministerial interests and challenges. Specific course selections are made in consultation with the Dean. A typical program would include courses in the following areas:

- Ethics and/or Moral Theology 3-6
- Philosophy/Theology elective 3
Certificate in Philosophy for Ministry

Program Highlights
The certificate in philosophy for ministry is designed for students on the path to Catholic priesthood, but who have already earned a bachelor's degree. The 38 credits of coursework in this program satisfy the philosophical requirements for ordination, as determined by the Conference of Catholic Bishops and Society of Jesus.

Curriculum Overview
Certificate course requirements are normally satisfied by undergraduate courses, though students may, with the approval of the dean, also satisfy some requirements with graduate courses.

Transfer coursework may be accepted for most requirements, but at least 16 credits must be taken after admission to the College of Philosophy and Letters, including the Special Ethics/Social Analysis and capstone courses.

Specific course offerings that satisfy an area requirement are determined by the dean. The three Special Ethics/Social Analysis courses are selected with a view to the student's capstone project, and may include courses from disciplines other than philosophy.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must already have a bachelor's degree; students in training toward ordination in the Catholic priesthood normally, they must also be approved by a religious superior or bishop to pursue training toward ordination in the Catholic priesthood.

All students are enrolled as undergraduate students, even those who have a degree, in order to receive the 25 percent tuition discount.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
For more information, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Program Requirements
Epistemology 3
Philosophy of Religion 3
Philosophy of Human Nature 3
Ethics 3
Ancient Philosophy* 3
Medieval Philosophy* 3
Modern Philosophy 3
Contemporary Philosophy 3
Special Ethics/Social Analysis** 9
Integration seminar 1

* Satisfied by historical survey courses or courses on period figures/topics; Ancient is also satisfied by PHIL 1050
**The Special Ethics/Social Analysis requirements may be satisfied by appropriate courses in other disciplines.

Continuation Standards
Students must maintain a minimum 2.00 GPA.