The College of Philosophy and Letters provides the early academic formation of students preparing for the Catholic 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. As a consequence of these special objectives, the College of Philosophy and Letters is constituted as an autonomous unit of the University and is administered by a dean.

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.

The College confers the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science.

The College of Philosophy and Letters adheres 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.

Pre-Ministerial Program

Bachelor of Arts

Option 1: Humanities
English Composition (ENG-A190 or equivalent) ................... 3
English, American, or World Literature .......................... 12
Fine Arts or Art History ............................................. 9
History ................................................................. 9
Mathematics or Logic .................................................. 3
Natural Science ........................................................ 6
Social Science (No more than 6 hours in any one social science) .......................................................... 12
Theology (Includes Historical Theology I and II) .............. 12
Latin, Greek, or a modern language through the intermediate level

Option 2: Language
English Composition (ENG-A190 or equivalent) ................... 3
English or American Literature ...................................... 6
Fine Arts or Art History .............................................. 3

History ................................................................. 6
Mathematics or Logic .................................................. 3
Natural Science ........................................................ 6
Social Science (No more than 6 hours in any one social science) .......................................................... 12
Theology (Includes Historical Theology I and II) .............. 12
Latin, Greek or a modern language through the intermediate level

Bachelor of Science

Option 3: Mathematics/Natural Sciences
English Composition (ENG-A190 or equivalent) ................... 3
English or American Literature ...................................... 9
Fine Arts or Art History .............................................. 3
History ................................................................. 6
Mathematics (MT-A120 or a higher level course and two additional courses in mathematics. May be satisfied by a score of 550 on the SAT Examination for 3 semester hours of the mathematics requirement; two additional courses at an appropriate level must be taken.) ...................... 9
Natural Science ......................................................... 12
Social Science (No more than 6 hours in any one social science) .......................................................... 12
Theology (Includes Historical Theology I and II) .............. 12
Latin, Greek or a modern language through the intermediate level

Completion of a concentration with minimum grade of “C” consisting of thirty hours of upper-division courses of which at least eighteen hours must be in the natural or social sciences, with twelve hours of related courses from other disciplines approved by the Dean.

Area of Concentration Course Requirements (Philosophy)

Each student must complete one course in each of the following:

Philosophy of Knowledge ............................................. 3
Philosophy of God ...................................................... 3
Philosophy of Human Nature ....................................... 3
Ethics ................................................................. 3
Hist. of Greek Philosophy (Satisfied by PL-A105 or PL-A440) .. 3
History of Medieval Philosophy ................................... 3
History of Classical Modern Philosophy ....................... 3
Contemporary Philosophy ......................................... 3
Synthesis Seminar .................................................... 3