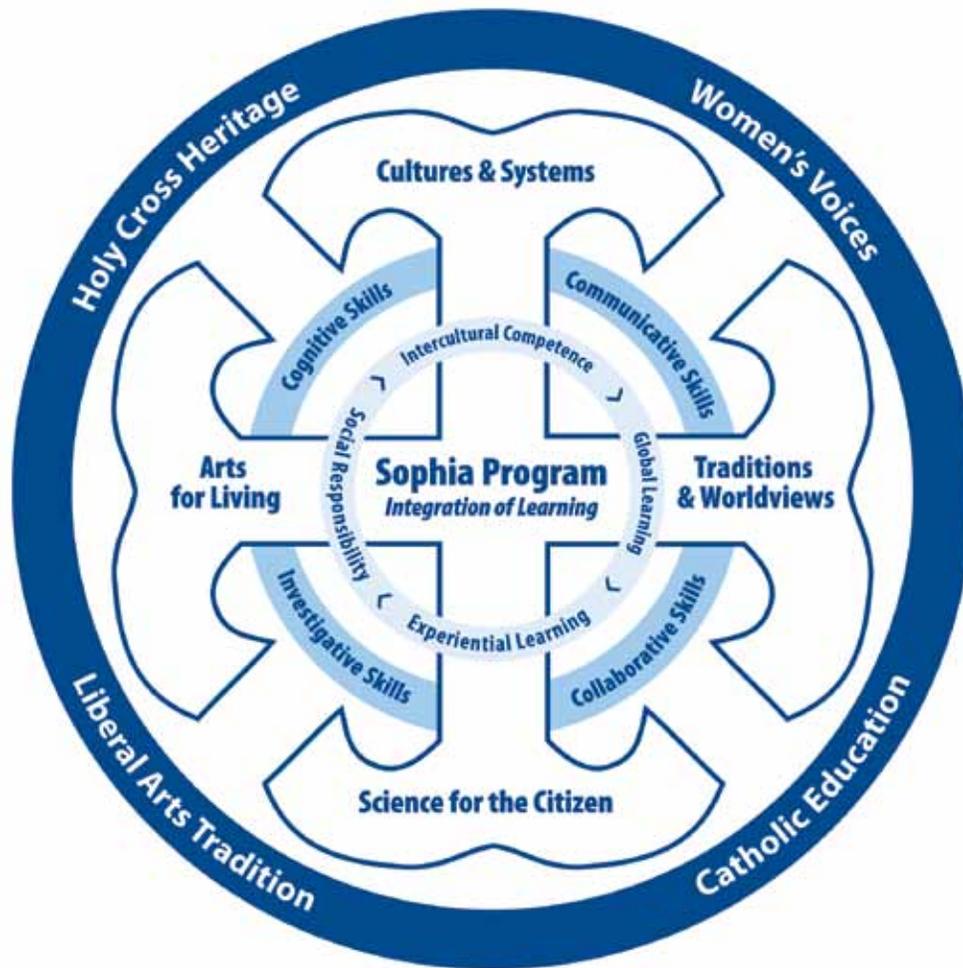




  
SAINT  
MARY'S  
COLLEGE  
NOTRE DAME, IN

Academic Guide for First Year Students  
**2012–2013**

# The Sophia Program in Liberal Learning





## You're the first!

The Sophia Program in Liberal Learning begins with you. Saint Mary's faculty, students, and administrators have worked to create a next-generation general education program for all students, regardless of degree program and major. Providing knowledge and skills for the twenty-first century, it underscores the importance of women's voices as well as the social responsibility and intercultural competence befitting global citizens and shaped by the distinctive tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

You're part of the first class to enter Saint Mary's with the new Sophia Program requirements for what's known as Learning Outcome 1. Over the next few years, additional layers (Learning Outcomes 2 and 3) will be added to Sophia as we complete its implementation at the College. You're welcome to take advantage of all these opportunities as they unfold, but they will not be requirements for your Class of 2016.

The following pages describe what we think is so special about Sophia, what requirements it will institute for the Class of '16, and how you go about choosing your courses.

## What's new?

### A new way of thinking about general education

Most general education programs, including the predecessor to Sophia at Saint Mary's, presented a menu of courses and required that you take a certain number from each department. That exposed students to a variety of disciplines and encouraged a breadth in their education; but it wasn't always clear why those particular courses were required, how they were meant to fit together, or what they were supposed to convey.

What Sophia tries to do is provide the reason for studying what you do. It seeks, therefore, to make learning *intentional*. And it does this while transferring focus away from particular disciplines that you must study to the *learning outcomes*, or the knowledge, skills, and abilities you should expect to take with you as a result of your involvement in a particular set of educational experiences.

## Four-Year Liberal Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes for the Sophia Program were derived by faculty and students from the College's mission statement, which is why the Sophia Program gives you a uniquely Saint Mary's education. It's the learning outcomes that turn a collection of courses into a *program*. For students, this makes learning both more intentional (in knowing where a particular educational experience is supposed to take them, they can notice more along the way) and more integrated (they can see both before and during their education how each part of the curriculum assembles into a larger whole). The college-wide, four-year liberal learning outcomes are as follows:

### LO 1: Knowledge Acquisition & Integration of Learning

*Catholic education in the liberal arts tradition values knowledge for its own sake and affirms the interconnectedness of all learning. Therefore...*

- A Saint Mary's student exhibits sound knowledge of the formation of human identities, the development and functioning of diverse cultures and social groupings, the practice of creative artistry, the multifaceted nature of religion and the Catholic tradition, the complexity of fundamental philosophical questions, and the intricate workings of the natural world.
- A Saint Mary's student demonstrates the ability to look at issues from multiple perspectives, recognizing the effect that differences in areas such as gender, religion, values, culture, and privilege can have on the ways that people interpret and act in the world; and she makes connections across disparate settings and areas of study.

### LO 2: Cognitive & Communicative Skills\*

*As a women's college, Saint Mary's emphasizes the value of women's voices and their distinctive contribution to intellectual life. Therefore...*

- A Saint Mary's student masters a broad set of sophisticated intellectual skills, including critical thinking, careful interpretation of complex texts and artifacts, accurate evaluation of data, investigative problem solving, quantitative reasoning, historical analysis, as well as technological, media, and information literacy. She reflects analytically on her experience as a woman, on the contributions of women's voices, and on constructions of gender.
- A Saint Mary's student communicates her ideas, insights, thought processes, and conclusions with accuracy, competence, and style in various media and contexts.

### LO 3: Intercultural Competence & Social Responsibility\*

*Furthermore, as a Catholic, women's college, Saint Mary's fosters respect and compassion for all people and honors leadership that improves the human community. Therefore...*

- A Saint Mary's student develops reflective and collaborative skills that enable her to learn from and participate in dialogue with diverse people and cultures. She does this by attaining competence in another language and by study and experience that reveal both cultural differences and the connections joining people in a global society.
- In keeping with the mission of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and their stance in solidarity with the poor and powerless, a Saint Mary's student will evaluate social conditions, discern human needs, and be able to respond as an agent of change.

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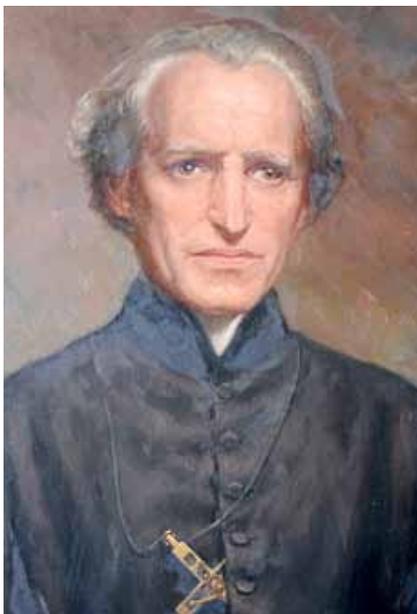
\*Courses and experiences for Learning Outcomes 2 and 3 should be phased in starting with the 2013–2014 academic year. These will *not* be requirements for your class.

## A New Way of Integrating Your Entire Education

- > Knowledge Acquisition & Integration of Learning
- > Cognitive & Communicative Skills
- > Intercultural Competence & Social Responsibility

These three main learning outcomes emphasize knowledge, skills, and socially responsible interactions with the world. As such, they are very appropriate for a Holy Cross institution, since the founder of the order, Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, CSC, thought education should inform, form, and transform.

This vision of education is integral to the Sophia Program, and also is part of all we do at Saint Mary's. For this reason, the Sophia Program is *more* than just general education. In some institutions, general education and the student's major sit one on top of the other with essentially no interaction. That's *not* what the Sophia Program is, however. This program is dedicated to permeating your entire Saint Mary's experience and to bringing it together for you under these three main learning outcomes. These are what we stand for as a college—our *institutional signature*.



### And a new name

The College's new general education program was unanimously approved by the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees in April 2010. But we quickly got tired of calling it "the College's new general education program." So the College community came together and discussed several possibilities for the name of the new curriculum. More than one hundred suggestions later, with most of those from current students, the Sophia Program was born.

Sophia comes from a Greek word meaning "wisdom," as in "philosophy," meaning the love of wisdom. But it also has a theological reference, as it is used in the Scriptures to denote God's wisdom; and there it is often given a gendered identity as female. In its biblical uses, Sophia tends to be a very active force, sometimes flowing from God, and other times being referred to as a mother. The coming together in Sophia of all these strands of meaning was thought to best capture Saint Mary's identity as a liberal arts, Catholic, women's college.

### Requirements

Now that you have some background on the new program, you're probably wondering what it will require of you.

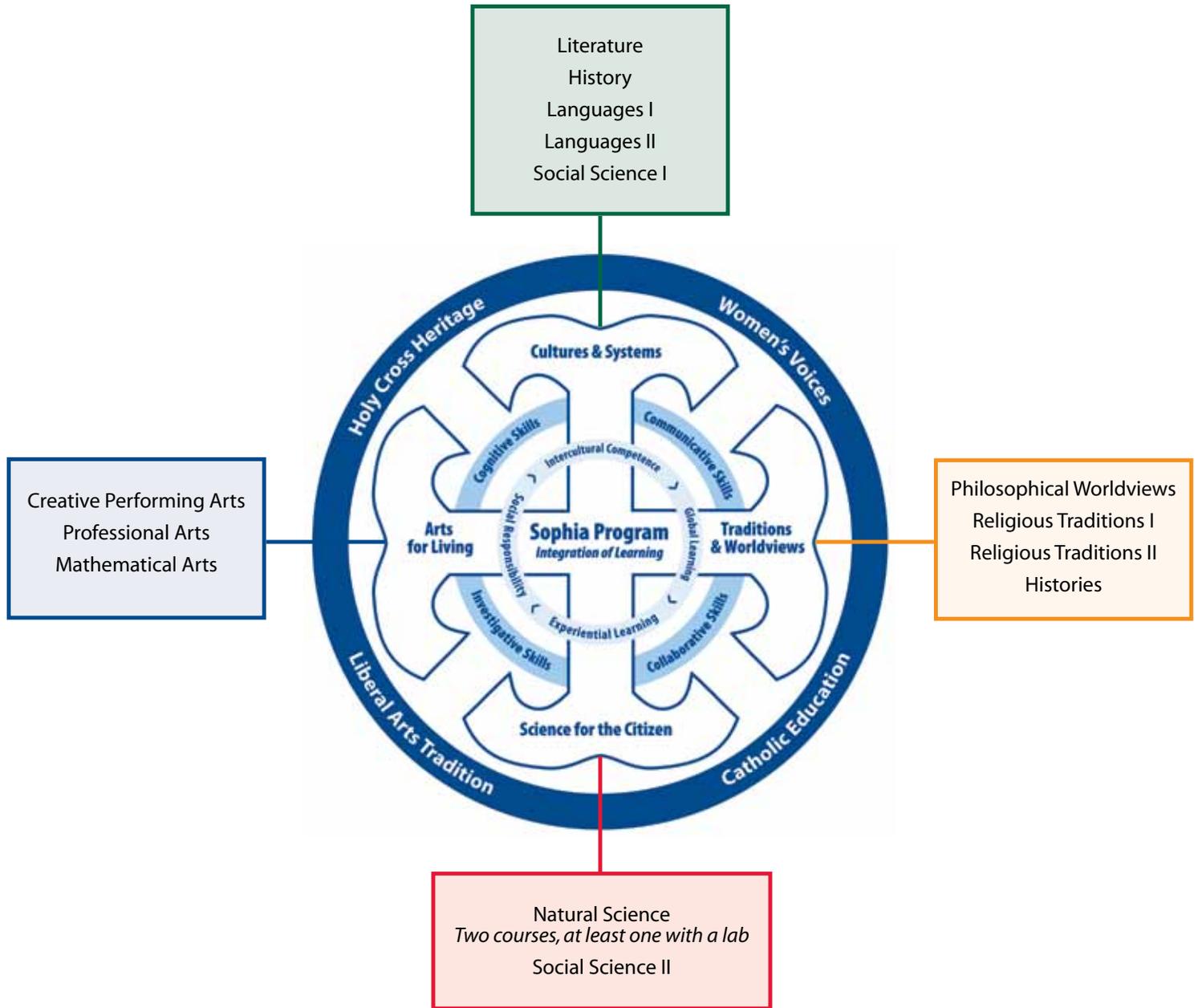
On the next page, you'll see a diagram of the Sophia Program.

There are four main components addressing **Knowledge Acquisition and Integration of Learning (LO 1)** corresponding to the four arms of the cross:

- ◆ Cultures & Systems
- ◆ Traditions & Worldviews
- ◆ Science for the Citizen
- ◆ Arts for Living

Each of these components has particular sets of learning outcomes. A total of 15 courses will be required to meet all of the LO 1 learning outcomes around the various arms of the cross.

A large, stylized signature of Basil Anthony Moreau, written in a cursive script. The signature is light gray and spans across the bottom of the page.



On the following pages you will find the **Knowledge Acquisition and Integration of Learning (LO 1)** and fall course offerings that fulfill them.

# LO 1: Knowledge Acquisition and Integration of Learning

The foundation for the Sophia Program is Learning Outcome 1, which seeks to develop the breadth of knowledge and intellectual flexibility students need to apply their expertise appropriately inside and outside the classroom, foster the intellectual coherence enabling students to engage constructively with a diverse world, and encourage students to live intellectually active, socially responsible lives characterized by a lifelong love of learning.

The learning outcomes for Knowledge Acquisition and Integration of Learning are divided among fifteen courses distributed among the four arms of the cross under these broader headings: **Cultures and Systems**, **Traditions and Worldviews**, **Science for the Citizen**, and **Arts for Living**. A student must take courses in each of these fifteen areas to achieve the learning outcomes that define that degree.

## Cultures and Systems

### Literature *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student applies knowledge of literary genres, terms, and/or theories to the interpretation of literary texts.
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes literary texts both as forms of cultural and artistic expression and as vehicles for enduring values.
- A Saint Mary's student recognizes how literary texts construct human identities.

### History *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student identifies and understands salient developments in world or United States history.
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes the historical development of human cultures in their response to their physical, social, intellectual, and political environments and seeks explanations for those developments.
- A Saint Mary's student identifies and understands evidence of historical change from primary sources/records of the past and assesses historical interpretations in secondary sources.
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes how her assumptions about human identity have been influenced by her historical context, and how human identities have been constructed in history.

### Modern Languages *(two courses at a level appropriate to the student's previous experience with that language)*

- A Saint Mary's student communicates in a modern European language either at an advanced beginning or intermediate low level (depending upon her previous study), or at an appropriate

level in another approved non-European or classical language.

- A Saint Mary's student demonstrates an understanding of the structure of this language by using the language with accuracy in speaking and writing.
- A Saint Mary's student identifies salient features of the geography, history, and culture of those that speak this language.
- A Saint Mary's student demonstrates intercultural understanding by recognizing and analyzing cultural misconceptions and the influence of her own cultural identity on her interactions with others.

## Social Science I *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student identifies and explains social science concepts and theories about human behavior, systems, and cultures.
- A Saint Mary's student applies social science concepts and theories in her analysis of human behavior, systems, and cultures.
- A Saint Mary's student recognizes and explains effects of diversity and equity in specific areas such as class, race, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and/or privilege.

## Traditions and Worldviews Philosophical Worldviews *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student identifies and understands significant features of and developments in philosophical traditions concerning the nature of knowledge, the nature of reality, and the nature of the good.
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes and compares philosophical views.
- A Saint Mary's student thinks philosophically about her interactions in the world.
- A Saint Mary's student raises questions on philosophical issues pertaining to the development of her own worldview.

## Religious Traditions I *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student articulates an informed, broad understanding of the nature and complexities of religion and how religion interacts with other aspects of culture.
- A Saint Mary's student describes key elements in a religion (such as sacred texts, ritual, spirituality and prayer, religious language, moral code, view of human destiny or afterlife, explanation of human and natural evil, perspectives on gender), applies her understanding of these elements to specific religious traditions,

and articulates commonalities and differences among religious perspectives.

- A Saint Mary's student engages in perspectives that are new to her, both empathetically and critically, and engages in informed, civil, and open discourse about religious differences.
- A Saint Mary's student evaluates the meaning of religious claims made by others and, in response to those claims, reflects critically on her own religious perspectives.

## Religious Traditions II *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student applies the broadened understanding of religion gained in the first course to a detailed examination of elements important to the Catholic Christian tradition (such as sacred or theological texts, ritual, spirituality and prayer, religious language, moral code, view of human destiny or afterlife, explanation of human and natural evil, perspectives on gender).
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes issues or questions that arise in relation to those elements.
- A Saint Mary's student engages perspectives that are new to her, both empathetically and critically, and engages in informed, civil, and open discourse about religious differences.
- A Saint Mary's student evaluates the meaning of theological claims and, in response to those claims, reflects critically on her own religious perspectives.

## Histories *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student analyzes in depth historical developments of a particular aspect or issue in human culture, and/or its contemporary impact.
- A Saint Mary's student articulates the ways in which this development is affected by cultural factors such as gender, religion, values, and privilege.

## Science for the Citizen Natural Science

*(Two courses, at least one of which must be a laboratory course)*

- A Saint Mary's student uses scientific methods to investigate questions appropriate to the natural sciences.
- A Saint Mary's student demonstrates specific knowledge of processes and principles underlying natural phenomena.
- A Saint Mary's student identifies, analyzes, and evaluates critical scientific issues and approaches pertaining to the issues that face her as a citizen.

## Social Science II *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student utilizes scientific knowledge to evaluate claims about human behavior.
- A Saint Mary's student uses scientific methods to investigate questions appropriate to particular social sciences.
- A Saint Mary's student identifies, analyzes, and evaluates critical scientific issues and approaches pertaining to the issues that face her as a citizen.

## Arts for Living Creative and Performing Arts

*(Single courses satisfying this requirement must be 3 credits. Multiple courses that fulfill the appropriate learning outcomes may be used to satisfy this requirement as long as they add up to at least 3 credits and come from the same discipline.)*

- A Saint Mary's student demonstrates a basic understanding of form, aesthetics, and/or theory in a creative or performing art.
- A Saint Mary's student practices a creative or performing art.
- A Saint Mary's student develops resources of creativity, experience, and perception, which enrich herself and her world.

## Professional Arts *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student investigates issues of policy or systems through the lens of a professional practitioner.
- A Saint Mary's student applies knowledge of a profession in her decision making.
- A Saint Mary's student adapts learning from multiple academic disciplines to develop solutions for concrete, real-world problems.

## Mathematical Arts *(one course)*

- A Saint Mary's student formulates mathematical models using abstract and logical reasoning.
- A Saint Mary's student uses and interprets mathematical models to analyze systems and patterns.
- A Saint Mary's student uses mathematical language and concepts to phrase and answer questions pertaining to a variety of real-world contexts.

# Sophia Program Courses Offered Fall 2012 For First Year Students

## LO 1: Knowledge Acquisition & Integration of Learning

### Cultures and Systems: Literature

*Courses that meet the literature learning outcomes: one course*

ENLT 106W	Becoming American (half of the tandem with HIST 201W)
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature
HUST 103	Lives and Times

### Cultures and Systems: History

*Courses that meet the history learning outcomes: one course*

HIST 103	World Civilization I
HIST 103W	World Civilization I
HIST 104	World Civilization II
HIST 201	United States History to 1865
HIST 201W	United States History to 1865 (half of the tandem with ENLT 106W)

### Cultures and Systems: Social Sciences I

*Courses that meet the social science I learning outcomes: one course*

ANTH 141	Peoples of the World
ANTH 253	Survey I: Culture and Languages
POSC 151	Political Issues
POSC 152	Politics of American Democracy
POSC 160	Global Political Issues
PSYC 156	Introduction to Psychology-Culture and Systems
SOC 255	Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in the U.S.

### Cultures and Systems: Modern Languages

*Courses that meet the language learning outcomes: two courses*

MLAR 101	Introductory Arabic
MLCH 101	Beginning Mandarin Chinese
MLFR 101	Introductory French
MLFR 105	Elementary French
MLFR 111	Intermediate French
MLGR 101	Introductory German
MLGR 111	Intermediate German
MLIT 101	Introductory Italian
MLIT 111	Intermediate Italian
MLSP 101	Introductory Spanish
MLSP 105	Elementary Spanish
MLSP 111	Intermediate Spanish
MLSP 115	Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers

### Traditions and Worldviews: Philosophical Worldviews

*Courses that meet the philosophical worldviews learning outcomes: one course*

PHIL 110	Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 110W	Introduction to Philosophy

### Traditions and Worldviews: Religious Traditions I

*Courses that meet the religious traditions I learning outcomes: one course*

RLST 101	Introducing Religious Studies
RLST 101W	Introducing Religious Studies

### Traditions and Worldviews: Religious Traditions II

*(not normally taken in first year)*

### Traditions and Worldviews: Histories

*Courses that meet the histories learning outcomes: one course*

ART 241	Art History Survey I
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies
GWS 207	Introduction to Women's Studies
GWS 207W	Introduction to Women's Studies
ICS 201	Introduction to Intercultural Studies
ICS 201W	Introduction to Intercultural Studies
MUS 241	Music Appreciation
MUS 242	American Popular Music

## Science for the Citizen: Natural Science

*Courses that meet the natural sciences learning outcomes: two courses*

BIO 105	Cells to Self
BIO 120	Human Genetics and Society
BIO 153	Foundations of Biology I
CHEM 101	Chemistry in Context
CHEM 121	Principles of Chemistry I
PHYS 101	Intro Topics in Physics: Motion

## Science for the Citizen: Social Sciences II

*Courses that meet the social sciences II learning outcomes: one course*

ECON 251	Principles of Macroeconomics
PSYC 157	Introduction to Psychology: Science for the Citizen
SOC 153	Sociological Imaginations
SOC 203	Social Problems
SOC 203W	Social Problems

## Arts for Living: Creative and Performing Arts

*Courses that meet the creative and performing arts learning outcomes: one course*

ART 101	Drawing I
ART 103	2D Design
ART 125	Silkscreen
ART 141	Art Encounter
ART 211	Ceramics: Introduction to Clay
ART 221	Photography I
ART 266	Introduction to New Media
COMM 103	Introduction to Communication
COMM 103W	Introduction to Communication
DANC 240	Introduction to Dance
MUS 111–131	Applied Music: Private Lessons— Vocal and Instrumental
MUS 181	Theory I: Fundamentals of Music
THTR 135	Introduction to Theatre
THTR 205	Introduction to Acting
THTR 265	Play Analysis for the Theatre

## Arts for Living: Professional Arts

*Courses that meet the professional arts learning outcomes: one course*

SW 202	Introduction to Social Work
SW 235	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I

## Arts for Living: Mathematical Arts

*Courses that meet the mathematical arts learning outcomes: one course*

MATH 102	Liberal Arts Mathematics
MATH 104	Finite Mathematics
MATH 105	Elements of Calculus
MATH 131	Calculus I
MATH 133	Theory and Application of Calculus



*Sophia comes from a Greek word meaning “wisdom,” as in “philo-sophy,” meaning the love of wisdom.*