At Saint Mary’s College, undergraduate students become liberally educated women with the breadth of knowledge to understand the cultural, social, spiritual, and natural worlds in which we all exist. This breadth of vision enables each student to ground her specific major area of study in this larger context.

**DEGREES**

**Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)**

Every candidate for a Bachelor of Arts degree must select a major field in which she wishes to do intensive work. The major consists of a minimum of 24 semester hours of credit as determined by the department. The following majors and concentrations may be chosen:

- art
  - art history concentration
  - studio art concentration
- communication studies
- communicative sciences and disorders
- computing and applied mathematics
- economics
- elementary education
- English literature
- English literature and writing
- English writing
- environmental studies
  - concentrations
  - gender and women’s studies
  - global studies
  - concentrations
- history
  - women’s history concentration
- humanistic studies
- mathematics
  - teacher concentration
- music
- philosophy
- physics
- physics and applied mathematics
- political science
- psychology
  - religious studies
  - secondary education
- sociology
- Spanish
- statistics and actuarial mathematics
- student-designed major
- theatre

**Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)**

The Bachelor of Business Administration degree is offered to students primarily seeking entry-level career positions. Students seeking this degree take a common core of twelve courses in economics, business, mathematics and computer science. Business Administration majors must complete at least twelve semester hours of upper level coursework in one of the five concentrations (accounting, finance, international business, management, management information systems, or marketing). Concentrations are optional for Accounting majors. The following majors and concentrations may be chosen:

- accounting
  - finance concentration
  - international business concentration
  - management concentration
  - management information systems concentration
  - marketing concentration
- business administration
  - accounting concentration
  - finance concentration
  - international business concentration
  - management concentration
  - management information systems concentration
  - marketing concentration
Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)
A Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is offered for students who are especially talented in art and who wish to emphasize studio art. The B.F.A. degree requires 78 hours of art and related courses. To obtain this degree, students must have the recommendation of the art department. A portfolio of work is required for admission to the department. (Work from the first semester may be used for the portfolio review). The major is art.

Bachelor of Music (B.M.)
A Bachelor of Music degree may be earned in music education.

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
Bachelor of Science programs involve significant use of courses from more than one department. To receive this degree, a student must earn at least 60 hours in science, all areas combined. These 60 hours include the course requirements in the major as prescribed by each major department, any required supporting courses, and, if necessary, additional courses to reach the total of 60. The following majors and concentrations may be chosen:

- biology
- cellular/molecular biology concentration
- ecology, evolution, and environmental biology concentration
- integrative biology concentration
- chemistry
- computing and applied mathematics
- mathematics
- teacher concentration
- physics
- physics and applied mathematics
- statistics and actuarial mathematics
- student-designed major

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)
A Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree is offered for students pursuing a major in nursing.

Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.)
A Bachelor of Science in Social Work degree is offered for students pursuing a major in social work.

Second Degree
A student who has received one bachelor’s degree from Saint Mary’s College may receive a second, different bachelor’s degree provided that all requirements for the second degree are met. The additional program of study completed must include at least 30 semester hours of course work taken at Saint Mary’s College that were not applied toward the first degree.

Dual Degree Engineering Program
Saint Mary’s College has established a dual degree engineering program with the University of Notre Dame. The combination of a liberal arts pre-engineering program with the highly technical courses of study required for engineering careers is an ideal education for engineers who are called upon to combine values with the technical skills of their field. This program, when successfully completed, culminates in a B.A. or B.S. from Saint Mary’s, and a B.S. in engineering from Notre Dame. (See also: Engineering, 4.)

College Requirements for All Undergraduate Degrees
Students in all degree programs must attain/complete the following:

- a minimum of 128 semester hours of credit.
- a 2.0 minimum cumulative grade point average.
- Sophia Program and major requirements as outlined in the following pages.

A minimum of 60 semester hours of credit and at least one-half of the major course work must be completed on Saint Mary’s campus.

The Sophia Program
The Sophia Program is the new curriculum, approved by the Saint Mary’s College Board of Trustees on April 23, 2010, representing the education that is common for all Saint Mary’s undergraduate students. It has its basis in what used to be called general education courses, but it goes beyond that to promote integration with majors or minors. The Sophia Program was introduced in the fall of 2012 for the class of 2016. Since that time, additional requirements have been introduced. The Sophia Program will continue to be phased in over the next few years. Students who begin at Saint Mary’s during the 2016–2017 academic year are required to complete the Sophia Program as detailed on pages 87 through 107 of this Bulletin.

Learning Outcomes
Unlike the previous General Education program, the Sophia Program is a learning-outcomes-based curriculum. By “learning outcomes,” we mean the effect of instruction in the student, or what she will be able to know, do, or practice from the education she receives. The broad college-wide outcomes (called Liberal Learning Outcomes) receive focus and application through specific learning outcomes included in the Sophia Program. The introduction of learning outcomes into the curriculum allows for a more permeable border between the breadth of the general education common to all students and the depth of the more particularized learning found in the major.

The college-wide learning outcomes listed in the next section are derived first and foremost from the College’s Mission Statement. The aim is to produce a succinct statement of the most basic components of a Saint Mary’s education within the context of our identity as a Catholic college for women sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Liberal Learning Outcomes
Saint Mary’s College offers a liberal education committed to promoting a life of intellectual vigor, shaped by the distinctive tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. This tradition promotes learning that encourages the growth of the whole person and the assumption of social responsibility. A Saint Mary’s education, therefore, guides women to develop a strong sense of personal integrity, the capacity for dialogue with others, the ability to reflect on intellectual, spiritual, and aesthetic traditions that shape our world, and a readiness for action in a global community. Saint Mary’s is a place where women acquire the skills and knowledge to contribute confidently and creatively to the common good in a rapidly changing world. The college-wide learning outcomes for all undergraduate students are outlined on the following pages.