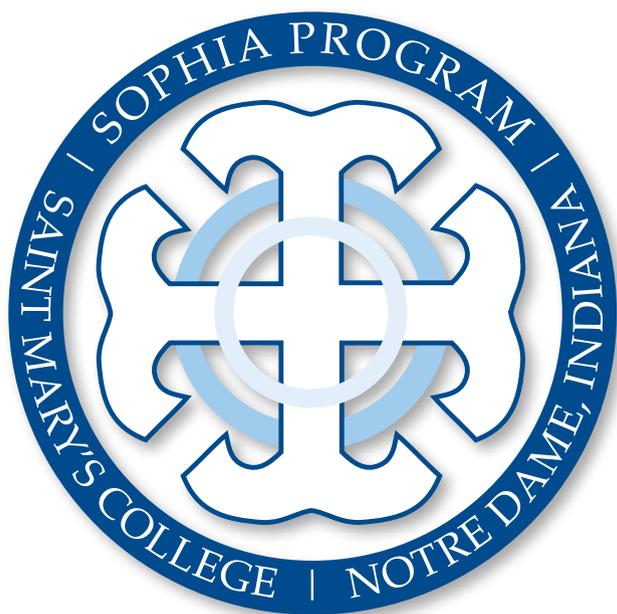
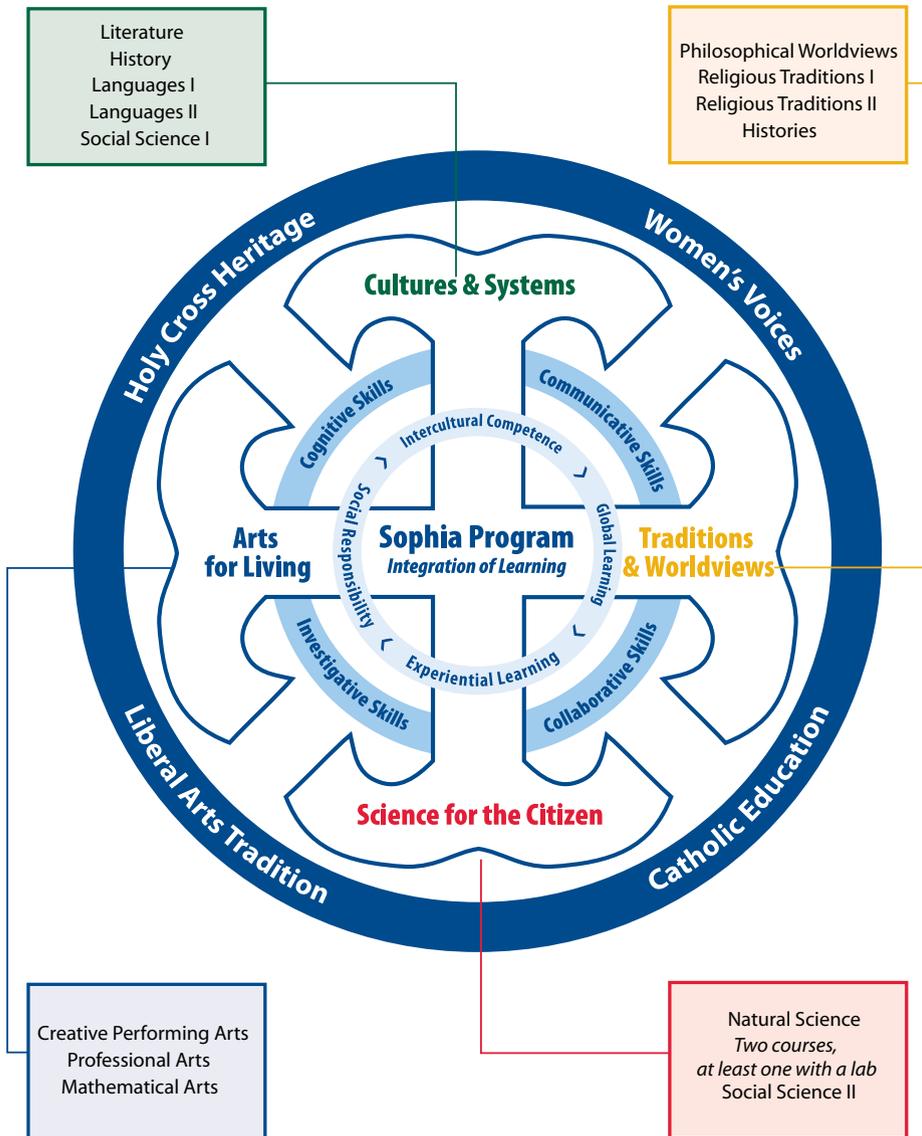


Introducing the  
**Sophia Program**  
in Liberal Learning



**a new way of thinking  
about liberal education**





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

### 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’s common for all Saint Mary’s 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 incoming Class of 2016 will be the first class with Sophia requirements. Additional levels of the new curriculum will be phased in over successive years for future classes.

### 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 were derived first and foremost from the College’s Mission Statement. Their aim was 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 students are outlined on the following pages.

### LO1— Knowledge Acquisition and 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 multi-faceted 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.

**NOTE: The incoming Class of 2016 will follow requirements for Learning Outcome 1 only. Over the next few years, additional layers (that is, requirements corresponding to Learning Outcomes 2 & 3 below which are embedded in courses which achieve LO1 outcomes) will be added to Sophia as it moves towards full implementation. All students are welcome to take advantage of these additional opportunities as they unfold, but they are not yet requirements for any class.**

### LO2— Cognitive and 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.

### LO3 — Intercultural Competence and 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.

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 specific learning outcomes discussed in the next section articulate the ways in which these goals are realized.

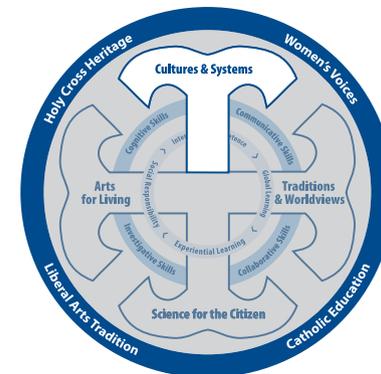
The sub-outcomes for knowledge acquisition are divided among fifteen areas distributed among four arms of the cross under these broader components: Arts for Living, Cultures & Systems, Traditions & Worldviews, and Science for the Citizen. A student must take courses in each of these fifteen areas to achieve the learning outcomes for that component of the Sophia Program. For a course to occupy one of the areas, it must address the outcomes that define the area.

**NOTE: The Sophia Program represents a dynamic curriculum with regular changes and new courses certified for particular learning outcomes. The following lists of Sophia Program course certifications are accurate at the time of publication. Not all sections of all courses have been certified for the Sophia Program. The class schedule search feature in PRISM provides section-level certification details.**

## Cultures and Systems

### Literature

- 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.



### Achieve Literature Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

ENLT 106W	Language and Literature: Becoming American	3.5 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: Dialogue	4 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: The Double in Literature	4 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: Gathered Thoughts	4 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: The Literature of the Absurd	4 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: The Twisted Domestic	4 hours
ENLT 109W	Language and Literature: Words of Love	4 hours
ENLT 203	Studies in Literature: American Short Story	3 hours
ENLT 203	Studies in Literature: Classical Mythology	3 hours
ENLT 203	Studies in Literature: Realism and Race in American Drama	3 hours
ENLT 268	From Fiction to Film	3 hours
ENLT 343	20th Century British Novel	3 hours
ENLT 365	African-American Literature	3 hours
ENLT 370	Studies in American Literature: American Gothic	3 hours
ENLT 370	Studies in American Literature: American Renaissance	3 hours
ENLT 371	Studies in European Literature: Celtic Mythology	3 hours
ENLT 372	Studies in English Literature: Tolkien and Modern Fantasy	3 hours
ENLT 375	American Literature to 1865	3 hours
ENLT 376	American Literature 1865 to 1945	3 hours
ENLT 377	American Literature 1945 to Present	3 hours
ENLT 378	Medieval Literature	3 hours
ENLT 379	16th/17th-Century British Literature	3 hours
ENLT 383	20th Century British Literature	3 hours
ENLT 384	Romantic Era Feminism	3 hours
ENLT 411	Chaucer	3 hours
ENLT 413	Shakespeare	3 hours
ENLT 414	Shakespeare and the Power of Art	3 hours

ENLT 415	Shakespeare and the World	3 hours
ENLT 417	Major Literary Figures (British): (approved topics)	3 hours
HUST 103	Lives and Times	3 hours
HUST 292	Greek and Roman Culture	3 hours
MODL 230	Love, Sex, and Marriage in French Literature	3 hours

### History

- 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.

#### Achieve History Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

HIST 103	World Civilization I	3 hours
HIST 104	World Civilization II	3 hours
HIST 201	United States History to 1865	3 hours
HIST 202	United States History from 1865	3 hours

### Modern Languages

- 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.

#### Achieve Modern Language Learning Outcomes through two of the following (two courses at a level appropriate to the student's previous experience with that language):

MLAR 101-102	Introductory Arabic	8 hours
MLCH 101-102	Introductory Mandarin Chinese	8 hours
MLFR 101-102	Introductory French	8 hours
MLFR 105-106	Elementary French	8 hours
MLFR 111-112	Intermediate French	8 hours
MLGR 101-102	Introductory German	8 hours
MLGR 111-112	Intermediate German	8 hours
MLIT 101-102	Introductory Italian	8 hours
MLIT 111	Intermediate Italian	3 hours
MLSP 101-102	Introductory Spanish	8 hours
MLSP 105-106	Elementary Spanish	8 hours
MLSP 111-112	Intermediate Spanish	8 hours

MLSP 113-114	Intermediate Spanish for the Professions	8 hours
MLSP 115-116	Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers	8 hours

### Social Science I

- 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.

#### Achieve Social Science I Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

ANTH 253	Survey I: Culture and Language	3 hours
POSC 151	Political Issues	3 hours
POSC 152	Politics of American Democracy	3 hours
POSC 160	Global Political Issues	3 hours
POSC 206	International Politics	3 hours
POSC 207	Comparative Politics	3 hours
PSYC 156	Introduction to Psychology: Culture and Systems	3 hours
PSYC 337	Social Psychology	3 hours
SOC 230	Social Inequalities in Education	3 hours
SOC 255	Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in the U.S.	3 hours
SOC 257	Sociology of Families	3 hours
SW 370	Family Violence and Sexual Abuse Issues	3 hours

### Traditions and Worldviews

#### Philosophical Worldviews

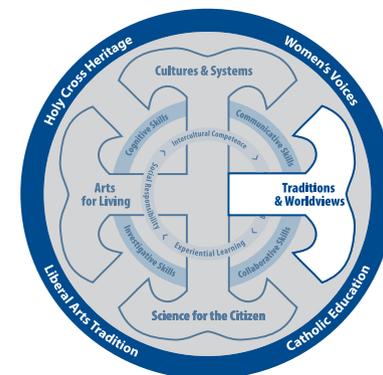
- A Saint Mary's student identifies and understands significant features of and developments in philosophical traditions concerning the nature of knowledge, the nature of reality, and the nature of the good.
- A Saint Mary's student analyzes and compares philosophical views.
- A Saint Mary's student 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.

#### Achieve Philosophical Worldviews Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

PHIL 110	Introductory Philosophy	3 hours
PHIL 247	Philosophy of Religion	3 hours
PHIL 252	Philosophy of Art	3 hours

#### Religious Traditions I

- 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 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.

**Achieve Religious Traditions I Learning Outcomes through one of the following:**

RLST 101	Introducing Religious Studies	3 hours
RLST 101W	Introducing Religious Studies: A Part of the World or a World Apart	3 hours
RLST 101W	Introducing Religious Studies: Tricksters and Tellers of Strange Tales	3 hours

**Religious Traditions II**

- 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.

**Achieve Religious Traditions II Learning Outcomes through one of the following:**

RLST 225	Reading the Hebrew Bible in Jewish and Christian Terms	3 hours
RLST 232	Introduction to the New Testament	3 hours
RLST 236	Faith in Action	3 hours
RLST 240	Catholic Social Thought	3 hours
RLST 251	The Christian Tradition	3 hours
RLST 261	Catholic Faith and Life	3 hours

**Histories**

- 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.

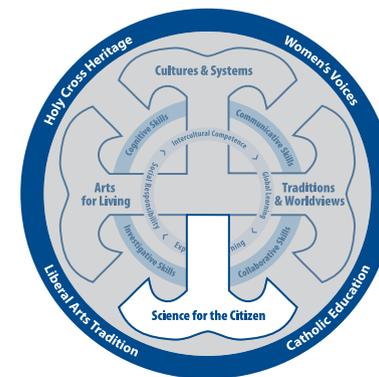
**Achieve Histories Learning Outcomes through one of the following:**

ART 241	Art History Survey I	3 hours
ART 242	Art History Survey II	3 hours
ENLT 266	Film Criticism	3 hours
ENLT 304	History of the English Language	3 hours
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3 hours
GWS 207	Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies	3 hours

GWS 220	Introduction to LGBTQ Studies	3 hours
HUST 197	Myth, Legend, History	3 hours
HUST 212	High Society	3 hours
ICS 201	Introduction to Intercultural Studies	3 hours
MUS 241	Music Appreciation	3 hours
MUS 242	American Popular Music	3 hours

**Science for the Citizen  
Natural Science**

- 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.



**Achieve Natural Science Learning Outcomes through two of the following (at least one of which must be a laboratory course):**

BIO 105	Cells to Life	4 hours
BIO 106	Mendel, Darwin and the World We Live In	4 hours
BIO 120	Human Genetics and Society	3 hours
BIO 153	Foundations of Biology I	4 hours
BIO 154	Foundations of Biology II	4 hours
CHEM 101	Chemistry in Context	4 hours
CHEM 118	Integrated General, Organic and Bio-Chemistry	5 hours
CHEM 121	Principles of Chemistry I	4 hours
ENVS 171	Introduction to Environmental Science	3 hours
PHYS 101	Introductory Topics in Physics: Motion	3 hours
PHYS 102	Introductory Topics in Physics: 21st Century Energy	4 hours

**Social Science II**

- 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.

**Achieve Social Science II Learning Outcomes through one of the following:**

ECON 251	Principles of Macroeconomics	3 hours
ECON 252	Principles of Microeconomics	3 hours
PSYC 157	Introduction to Psychology: Science for the Citizen	3 hours
SOC 153	Sociological Imaginations	3 hours
SOC 203	Social Problems	3 hours
SOC 204	Social Psychology	3 hours
SOC 220	Contested Masculinities	3 hours
SW 334	Social Welfare Policy and Service	3 hours

## Arts for Living

### Creative and Performing Arts

- 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.

### Achieve Creative and Performing Arts Learning Outcomes through the following (3 hours):

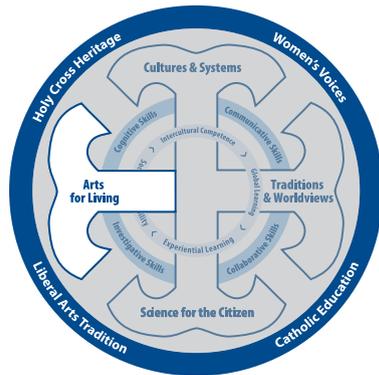
ART 101	Drawing I	3 hours
ART 102	Drawing II	3 hours
ART 103	2D Design	3 hours
ART 104	3D Design	3 hours
ART 125	Silkscreen	3 hours
ART 141	Art Encounter	3 hours
ART 211	Ceramics: Introduction to Clay	3 hours
ART 212	Throwing on the Wheel	3 hours
ART 221	Photography I	3 hours
ART 236	Sustainable Textiles	3 hours
ART 237	Handmade Paper & Felt	3 hours
ART/COMM 266	Introduction to New Media	3 hours
COMM 103	Introduction to Communication	3 hours
DANC 240	Introduction to Dance	3 hours
MUS 111-131	Applied Music	1-2 hours
MUS 150	Voices in Time	3 hours
MUS 181	Theory I: Fundamentals of Music	3 hours
THTR 135	Introduction to Theatre	3 hours
THTR 205	Introduction to Acting	3 hours
THTR 265	Play Analysis	3 hours

### Professional Arts

- 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.

### Achieve Professional Arts Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

BUAD 221	Principles of Management	3 hours
BUAD 240	Financial Success Strategies for Women	3 hours
BUAD 346	Personal Ethics & Corporate Culture	3 hours
EDUC 201	Foundations for Teaching in a Multicultural Society	3 hours
GERO 201	Gerontology: Policies and Services	3 hours
SW 202	Introduction to Social Work	3 hours
SW 235	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	3 hours
SW 236	Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	3 hours
SW 340	Working with Diverse Populations	3 hours
SW 362	Perspectives in Gerontology	3 hours



## Mathematical Arts

- 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.

### Achieve Mathematical Arts Learning Outcomes through one of the following:

MATH 102	Liberal Arts Mathematics	3 hours
MATH 104	Finite Mathematics	3 hours
MATH 105	Elements of Calculus I	3 hours
MATH 115	Calculus for the Life Sciences I	4 hours
MATH 131	Calculus I	4 hours
MATH 133	Theory and Application of Calculus	4 hours
MATH 231	Calculus III	4 hours

## ADDITIONAL SOPHIA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

**Saint Mary's courses:** All courses which satisfy Sophia requirements must be taken for a grade, and must be taken at Saint Mary's unless an exception is approved by Academic Affairs and First Year Studies.

**Writing Proficiency:** A student may earn basic proficiency by registering for courses designated with a "W" after the course number in the Schedule of Classes. At the end of the semester, a portfolio review team and the instructor will determine whether the student qualifies for basic proficiency. If so, notification of this certification will be made on the student's grade report and on her permanent record. A transfer student who has earned a "B" or better in a composition course at the former college may submit at the end of her first semester a portfolio of papers written in Saint Mary's courses. The evaluation committee will review the portfolio for basic writing proficiency. The Advanced Writing Proficiency requirement is satisfied within the major course of study.



# LO1

**Knowledge (LO1) Requirements in the Arms of the Cross:** Each line below represents an area with particular learning outcomes attached to it. Each course addressing those learning outcomes can be used only once to satisfy an LO1 requirement.

## Cultures & Systems

Literature  
History  
Languages I  
Languages II  
Social Science I

## Traditions & Worldviews

Philosophical Worldviews  
Religious Traditions I  
Religious Traditions II  
Histories

## Science for the Citizen

Natural Science (w/lab)  
Natural Science (lab opt.)  
Social Science II

## Arts for Living

Creative & Performing Arts  
Professional Arts  
Mathematical Arts