CORNERSTONE CORE CURRICULUM (CCC)

Cornerstone Core Curriculum Requirements

Consist of 14 core and 2 overlay requirements. See below for additional detailed information on each of these requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
First Year Course Requirements		
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
World History Course Area		3
Philosophy Requirements		
Either Level One or Level Two (but not both) -- must be Ethics designated. If approved, philosophy courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as Philosophy Level Two and as a Mission Overlay course.		
Philosophy Level One		3
Philosophy Level Two		3
Theology & Religious Studies Requirements		
If approved, Theology & Religious Studies courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as CCC Theology and as a Mission Overlay course.		
Theology		3
Religious Studies		3
Diversity & INT 151 Requirements		
A student's Diversity course may not count for any other CCC course area requirement or as their Mission Overlay course. If approved, Diversity courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive Overlay requirement. INT 151 may not count for any other CCC requirements. This course must be taken in the first two years		
Diversity		3
INT 151	Inequality in American Society	1
Math & Natural Science Requirements		
If approved, Math & Natural Science Requirements may count toward overlay requirements.		
Mathematics		3-4
Natural Science		4
Social Science Requirement		**3**
If approved, such Social Science Requirement may count toward a student's overlay requirements.		
Non-Native Language Requirement		**3-4**
A single Non-Native Language course may not count as an overlay course but a second language course fulfills a student's Mission Overlay requirement.		
Literature Requirement		**3**
If approved, Literature courses may count toward a student's overlay requirements.		
Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design Requirement		**3**
If approved, Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design courses may count toward a student's overlay requirements.		
Overlay Requirements		
Writing-Intensive		3
If approved, Writing-Intensive courses may double count as major courses, minor courses, electives, or as any CCC course area requirement except for the first-year courses (World History and Rhetoric and Composition).		
Mission-Overlay		3
Mission Overlay courses may double count as major courses, minor courses, elective courses, or any of the following CCC course areas: Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design, Literature, Mathematics, Natural Science, or Social Science.		
Total Hours		**47-49**

First Year Course Requirements
Rhetoric and Composition

The Jesuit tradition in higher education has long emphasized the virtue of *eloquentia perfecta*, the realized ability to communicate reasonably, responsibly, ethically, and with eloquence, through both speech and writing. In ENG 101, students will develop written and oral communication skills, learning how to compose effectively in a variety of formats for both academic and public audiences. Additionally, students will utilize rhetorical principles to engage in critical analysis of a range of texts by diverse authors across genres and mediums.

World History

The courses that count for the World History requirement examine the development of human societies in multiple places around the globe across extended periods of time. The focus on World History is consistent with training students to be global citizens, emphasizing the study of cross-cultural and global interactions. The courses that satisfy the World History requirement will involve a common assignment sequence that includes a library use/information literacy component, introducing students to academic research.

Students select one of the following three courses, each of which satisfies the World History requirement:

- Globalization in World History
- Empires in World History
- Movements in World History

Philosophy Requirements
Philosophy Level One (one course; 3 credit hours)

The study of philosophy is central to Jesuit education. So too are the skills that philosophy cultivates, especially the ability to reason well and to appreciate rival perspectives concerning value and meaning.

All students take a Level One philosophy course (100s level designation), which serves as the pre-requisite for a second course (Level Two). Exactly one of a student's CCC philosophy courses must be ethics designated. So if a student takes a non-ethics Level One course, then their Level Two course must be ethics. If a student takes an ethics Level One course, then their Level Two course must be non-ethics.

If approved, philosophy courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as Philosophy Level One and as a Mission Overlay course.

Philosophy Level Two (one course; 3 credit hours)

The study of philosophy is central to Jesuit education. So too are the skills that philosophy cultivates, especially the ability to reason well and to appreciate rival perspectives concerning value and meaning.

All students take a Level Two philosophy course (200s or higher level designation), for which their Level One course serves as a prerequisite. Exactly one of a student's CCC philosophy courses must be ethics designated. So if a student takes a non-ethics Level One course, then their Level Two course must be ethics. If a student takes an ethics Level One course, then their Level Two course must be non-ethics.

If approved, philosophy courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as Philosophy Level Two and as a Mission Overlay course.

Theology & Religious Studies Requirements
Theology (one course; 3 credit hours)

Inspired by St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, all Jesuit colleges and universities reserve a central curricular place for the study of theology. Theology courses help students to understand how Christian and Catholic traditions have developed over time, addressing both ethical and theologically fundamental questions. Students are required to take any course designated as CCC Theology.

If approved, such courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as CCC Theology and as a Mission Overlay course.

Religious Studies (one course; 3 credit hours)

Religious Studies courses prepare students to act as global citizens in a religiously diverse world and to understand the responsibilities and commitments of persons with different faith traditions. Students are required to take any course designated as CCC Religious Studies.

If approved, Religious Studies courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive overlay. Students may not double-count the same course as Religious Studies and as a Mission Overlay course.

Diversity & INT 151 Requirements
Diversity (one course; 3 credit hours)

Diversity courses may be offered by any department in the university. Students will have a mutually reinforcing educational experience with the 1-credit Inequality in American Society course by examining issues of diversity through the lens of a particular discipline.

A student's Diversity course may not count for any other CCC course area requirement or as their Mission Overlay course. If approved, Diversity courses may count for a student's Writing Intensive Overlay requirement.

Inequality in American Society (one course; 1 credit hour)

Inequality in American Society (INT 151) is a one-credit stand-alone seminar course required for all undergraduate day students in their first two years. The course will be Pass/No Penalty. The purpose of the course is to help students learn about the intersection of racial, economic, and gender inequality and how to be an engaged citizen in response.

This course may not count for any other CCC requirements. This course must be taken in the first two years.

Math & Natural Science Requirements
Mathematics (one course; 3 or 4 credit hours)

Mathematics is a discipline that involves the study of numbers, patterns, relationships, and structures and provides the tools and language for describing natural phenomena in precise terms. It provides a foundation for logical thinking, problem-solving, and quantitative analysis across various disciplines.

Students take one approved course -- three credit hours or four credit hours -- offered by the Math Department. If approved, courses may count toward overlay requirements.

Natural Science (one course; 4 credit hours)

Natural Science courses promote scientific literacy through the study of fundamental scientific principles and concepts, the method of scientific inquiry, and the role/application of science in everyday life. Students study nature and the interactions that humans have with it including creating new materials, engineering products deemed useful to humans, and recognizing the impact of human activities on the natural world including human life.

All courses that satisfy the Natural Science requirement are four credit hours (with roughly six contact hours per week). Courses may take the form of a lecture course plus a lab section, or a more integrated experiential format in which lecture and lab are combined during the same meeting times.

Information about lecture-lab courses designed for non-science majors can be found by clicking HERE (https://www.sju.edu/offices/academic-admin/gep/sciences-courses/).

If approved, Natural Science courses may count toward overlay requirements.

Social Science Requirement
Social Science (one course; 3 credit hours)

Courses that count for the Social Science Course Area requirement introduce students to methods for analyzing human behavior at the individual, group, or societal levels. Students learn theoretical approaches for studying human behavior, as well as the methodologies used to gather social scientific data and craft interpretive arguments from that data.

Approved courses may be offered by the following departments or programs:

- Economics
- Education

- Linguistics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

If approved, such courses may count toward a student's overlay requirements.

Non-Native Language Requirement
Non-native Language (one course; 3 or 4 credit hours)

Non-native language study is an important component of a liberal arts education and prepares students for participation in a diverse and multicultural world. Students must take one course though a second course (in sequence) fulfills a student's Mission Overlay requirement.

Placements in language courses are based on the student's high school record and score on the SJU placement test. A student must take the course(s) in which s/he was placed in order for those courses to satisfy the GEP language requirement. Level changes for foreign language classes will be considered only in extraordinary situations. If a student believes that they cannot successfully complete the course in which they were placed, the student in most instances will not be permitted to change to a lower level. The only alternative is for the student to begin a new language.

A single course may not count as an overlay course but a second language course fulfills a student's Mission Overlay requirement.

Literature Requirement
Literature (one course; 3 credit hours)

Analyzing literary works that are rich with ambiguity and potential develops more refined critical sensibilities, working against formulaic or conventional habits of thought. In this way, the study of literature contributes not only to critical thinking skills but cultivates the central Ignatian value of "discernment."

Approved courses may be offered by the following departments:

- English, Writing, and Journalism
- Languages and Linguistics

If approved, Literature courses may count toward a student's overlay requirements.

Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design Requirement
Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design (one course; 3 credit hours)

Courses in this area engage students in the arts through their own creative products or their critical reflection on works of art, design, writing, music, theater, and/or film. Approved courses may be offered by the following departments:

- Art and Art History
- Communication and Media Studies

- English, Writing, and Journalism
- Music, Theater, Film

If approved, Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design courses may count toward a student's overlay requirements.

Overlay Requirements
Writing-Intensive (one overlay course)

Writing-Intensive courses build and refine student writing skills and prepare students to effective writers in their professional lives. Students have the opportunity to study and practice effective writing through a particular disciplinary lens.

If approved, Writing-Intensive courses may double count as major courses, minor courses, electives, or as any CCC course area requirement except for the first-year courses (World History and Rhetoric and Composition).

Mission-Overlay (one overlay course)

Mission Overlay courses pursue one or more of SJU's Jesuit, Catholic mission-based values. Students are required to take one overlay course from any of the following sub-categories:

- Ethics and Social Justice
- Faith and Reason
- Global Citizenship

Mission Overlay courses may double count as major courses, minor courses, elective courses, or any of the following CCC course areas: Fine and Performing Arts, Creativity, and Design, Literature, Mathematics, Natural Science, or Social Science.

While a student's first Non-Native Language course may not double count as Mission Overlay, a student may take a second Non-Native Language course in sequence to satisfy the Mission Overlay requirement