

# CORE CURRICULUM

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## Liberal Arts Learning Goals

St. Catherine University is committed to the liberal arts as the broad base of learning and to the pursuit of excellence for its students. It offers academic curricular and co-curricular programs in an atmosphere that stimulates each student to pursue a full and meaningful life and provides opportunities, both intellectual and personal, for students to develop leadership abilities, spiritual values, and responsible commitments to society.

Along with the depth of knowledge provided by the student's chosen major at St. Catherine, students will have opportunities to acquire broad knowledge in a variety of disciplines to serve as a foundation for a lifelong process of learning. The University has identified seven themes of a St. Catherine education encompassing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that it seeks to develop in its graduates.

Based on the University's commitment to women, the liberal arts, and the Catholic traditions of intellectual inquiry and social teaching, an education at St. Catherine University emphasizes:

**Leadership and Collaboration:** The ability to lead and influence for ethical and responsible action and for systemic change; the ability to work well with others, especially in joint intellectual effort.

**Ethics and Social Justice:** The ability to apply ethical standards to judge individual and collective actions; the development of attitudes and behaviors that reflect integrity, honesty, compassion, and justice in one's personal and professional life.

**Diversity and Global Perspectives:** The ability to understand and analyze the impact of diversity and systems of power and privilege on the individual and society; the ability to decipher and honor multiple and global perspectives in creating mutual understanding; the ability to imagine and take action toward justice.

**Critical and Creative Inquiry:** The ability to gather, analyze and critically evaluate information to develop reasonable arguments, sound judgments, and effective solutions. This ability is founded on a broad knowledge of the achievements of human creativity and of the variety of disciplinary approaches for exploring truths.

**Discipline-Based Competence:** The ability to demonstrate in-depth knowledge, values and skills in at least one major field of study and to relate disciplinary approaches to those of other fields. (Applies to all degree programs except the associate of arts liberal arts and sciences degree program.)

**Effective Communication in a Variety of Modes:** The ability to read, write, speak, view and listen effectively; the ability to present information in a clear and engaging manner.

**Purposeful Life-long Learning:** The ability to continue personal and professional development based on ongoing self-assessment, feedback from others, and new learning.