LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
CORE CURRICULUM-
ASSOCIATE PROGRAMS

Associate Degree Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Requirements

Courses
Students enrolled in one of St. Catherine University’s associate degree programs are required to complete a minimum of 30 credits in the liberal arts and sciences. The required core liberal arts and science courses are listed under the Standard Core tab on this page.

Individual programs may require additional liberal arts and science courses to support the professional sequence of courses and/or meet accreditation requirements. See individual programs for details.

Core Competencies
In addition to liberal arts and science coursework, all students (except those in the OTA Online program) must successfully complete the following work-ready liberal arts and sciences core competencies:

- Critical reading, thinking and writing
- Leadership
- Communication
- Mathematics
- Problem solving
- Sentence fluency
- Statistical thinking
- Teamwork

The competencies must be completed by the deadline imposed by the student’s program. If no deadline is imposed by the program, the student must complete all of the competencies by the end of their penultimate semester. Competency examinations are offered on a regular basis and may be repeated. Students are advised to contact their program director or advisor for details. Students earn three certifications for these eight competencies.

Minimum Grade Requirement
A student who fails to meet minimal grade requirements in a program-required liberal arts and sciences course will not graduate until she or he has done one of the following:

- Re-registered for and satisfactorily repeated the entire course (if the course is not offered for variable credit) or the necessary segments of the course (if the course is offered for variable credit), or
- Satisfactorily completed a course elsewhere and transferred the credits to St. Catherine University. NOTE: Students should have such courses approved prior to registration to be sure that these credits will transfer and fulfill the requirements for graduation.

Courses
The liberal arts and sciences core curriculum consists of a minimum of 30 Credits

- Core Course – CORE 1000W The Reflective Woman: The Reflective Practitioner (RTW)
- Behavioral Science – PSYC 1000 General Psychology
- Literature – One course
- Natural Science – BIOL 2400 General Anatomy and Physiology with Lab or other natural science course with lab
- Philosophy – PHIL 2030W Healthcare Ethics Healthcare Ethics (RTW) or PHIL 2020W Introduction to Ethics (RTW)
- Social Science – SSCS 2040W Power, Inequality and Social Change (RTW)
- Theology – THEO 2040W The Sacramental Life (RTW)
- Electives – At least six additional credits of liberal arts and sciences course work
- Reading, Thinking and Writing (RTW) – Two RTW-WI courses. NOTE: The courses must be taken at St. Catherine University to meet the RTW requirement.

1 Each program will designate which of the two philosophy courses (PHIL 2030W or PHIL 2020W) is required for their program of study. Students should refer to the individual program section of the catalog for specific information.

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Students who enroll in an associate degree program at St. Catherine University Fall 2017 or later who have completed a bachelor’s degree prior to enrolling in the associate degree program are subject to one of the following core requirements, depending on where the student earned her/his bachelor’s degree.

Previous B.A. or B.S. Degree from St. Catherine University
Associate degree students who earned a baccalaureate degree from St. Catherine University prior to enrolling in the associate degree program must complete the associate degree core competencies (see the Overview tab or Standard Core tab for details about the core competencies).*

*OTA Online students do not complete the competencies.
Previous B.A. or B.S. Degree from Another Institution

Associate degree students who earned a baccalaureate degree prior to entering an associate degree program at St. Catherine University must complete two RTW courses: CORE 1000W and THEO 2040W (if the student has no transfer course in theology). If the student transferred a theology course to the associate program, the student must complete CORE 1000W and one other RTW course (other than THEO 2040W). Associate degree students must also complete the associate degree competencies (see the Overview tab or Standard Core tab for details about the core competencies).*

*OTA Online students do not complete the competencies.