



What is the University Core?

The university core curriculum is a four-year, cohesive program of study anchored by this question: As students of a Catholic, Jesuit, and Humanistic University, how do we educate ourselves to become people for a more just and humane global community? Each year, as students progress through the program, they will address a main theme and question that support the anchoring question.

YEAR ONE Understanding & Creating	YEAR TWO Being & Becoming	YEAR THREE Caring & Doing	YEAR FOUR Imagining the Possible
The first year of the CORE is dedicated to helping students answer the question “How do we pursue knowledge and cultivate understanding?”	The second year of the CORE is dedicated to helping students answer the question “Who are we and what does it mean to be human?”	The third year of the CORE is dedicated to helping students answer the question “What principles characterize a well lived life?”	The fourth year of the CORE is dedicated to helping students answer the question “What is our role in the world?”

Required Courses + First Year Seminars + Broadening Courses

The CORE curriculum requires each student take a First Year Seminar, a set of required courses each year, as well as broadening courses. Broadening courses intersect with the core themes and extend students’ appreciation for the humanities, arts, and social/behavioral sciences. Broadening courses can be taken at any time throughout the four years. In total the CORE is 45 Credits.

How to Find Courses to Fulfill Requirements

Log into Zagweb and click Student tab, click on Student Profile, and then choose “Registration and Planning.” Select “Browse classes” and select term (i.e. Spring 2022) from the drop-down menu. Click on “Advanced Search” to view options like attributes. Leave the Subject field blank to pull all subjects, or choose by specific subjects, then click in the attribute box to find the attribute of choice (e.g., “Core: Global Studies”) and click “Search.” A list of courses fulfilling that attribute will appear. Please note that if you search for more than one attribute at a time, the list will include courses that fulfill either, and not necessarily both, core areas).

Sample First Year Seminars

- ENGL 193, FYS: Freaks, Geeks, and Outsiders Will provide students with the opportunity to explore and analyze what makes someone “freakish” or aberrant; what it means to be a “geek.”
- MDLA 193, FYS: Multilingual Spokane. In this FYS, we will explore the linguistic landscape of Gonzaga and the Spokane community.
- RELI 193, FYS: Violence and the Humanities. What insights and tools do the humanities disciplines offer students who wish to grapple with the problem of violence today?

Designations

Designations represent key skills and values of Jesuit education and are embedded within core courses, major/minor courses, and elective courses. Students must complete two courses designated as Writing Enriched (in addition to Writing), one course designated as Global Studies (in addition to World/Comparative Religion), and one course designated as Social Justice.

Visit www.gonzaga.edu/CORE for more details about CORE requirements, designations and first-year seminars.

University CORE Curriculum Checklist

Yearly Theme & Question	Course	Cr	Course Taken	Sem/Yr	Grade
Year 1: Understanding and creating: How do we pursue knowledge and cultivate understanding?	DEPT 193 First-Year Seminar	3			
	ENGL 101 Writing [WE]	3			
	PHIL 101 Reasoning	3			
	COMM 100 Communication & Speech	3			
	MATH (above Math 100)	3			
	DEPT 104 Scientific Inquiry (Year 1 or 2)	3			
Year 2: Being and becoming: Who are we and what does it mean to be human?	PHIL 201 Philosophy of Human Nature	3			
	RELI Christianity & Catholic Traditions ²	3			
Year 3: Caring and doing: What principles characterize a well lived life?	PHIL 301 or RELI Ethics ²	3			
	RELI World or Comparative Religion [GS] ^{2,3}	3			
Year 4: Imagining the possible: What is our role in the world?	DEPT 492 Core Integration Seminar	3			
Broadening Courses & Designations					
Broadening Courses ² Taken at any time during years 1-4	History (HIST, CLAS)	3			
	Literature (ENGL, CLAS, MDLA)	3			
	Fine Arts & Design (MUSC, THEA, VART)	3			
	Social & Behavioral Science (CRIM, ECON, POLS, PSYC, SOCI, WGST)	3			
Designations ^{2,3} Writing-Enriched (ENGL 101 + 2) Global Studies (World/Comp Rel. + 1) Social Justice	Writing-Enriched	[3]			
	Writing-Enriched	[3]			
	Global Studies	[3]			
	Social Justice	[3]			
Total credits		45 [+ up to 12 credits]			

1Certain major-specific courses will double-count to also fulfill University Core requirements. Please consult with your academic advisor.

2For list of approved core courses, see registration information myGU : University Core

3Courses with designations double count for both core/major/minor and for the designation. Therefore, with careful planning students should be able to complete designations within the core, their major, and/or minor. In some cases, students will need to complete additional courses to fulfill the designations.