

Magis Core Curriculum

Information for Current Students

NOTE: The Magis Core Curriculum applies to all and only Creighton University undergraduate students who first enrolled as degree-seeking students in Fall Semester 2014 or later. Students who first enrolled as degree-seeking undergraduate students prior to Fall Semester 2014 must satisfy the Core Curriculum requirements of their college of enrollment that existed prior to Fall Semester 2014.

Overview

The Magis Core Curriculum serves as the cornerstone of Creighton University education, laying a shared foundation for all undergraduate students in order to shape responsible citizens of the global community. In the Jesuit tradition, Magis is “the more”, aspiring toward excellence. As Catholic, the Magis Core Curriculum provides a framework to challenge students to pursue truth in all forms through the living tradition of the Catholic Church. As Jesuit, the Magis Core Curriculum is deeply rooted in Ignatian values and the Jesuit intellectual tradition, engaging students through intimate learning communities in critical dialogue about the ultimate questions of life.

The components that constitute the Magis Core Curriculum are intentionally selected to provide a congruous liberal educational experience for all undergraduate students. Students across all colleges interact, challenge ideas, and gain a deeper appreciation for diverse perspectives and experiences, thus promoting a culture of inquiry and mutual respect. A variety of course delivery methods, including distance education, are designed to foster student engagement. The Magis Core Curriculum promotes students’ ethical reasoning and critical thinking, and prepares students to respond to life’s challenges with discerning intelligence and thoughtful reflection. Committed to the inherent worth and dignity of each person, students gain an appreciation of ethnic and cultural diversity in all its forms, and develop a commitment to exploration of transcendent values and the promotion of justice.

Foundations

The Foundations components are foundational in several ways. First, they insure that students have foundational skills in self-expression, that is, in writing and in speaking. Second, students are introduced to three domains of critical thinking that have, from the beginning of the Jesuit educational tradition, been seen as foundational: (a) thinking critically about human experience through the study of history and literature; (b) thinking critically about religion through the study of theology; and (c) thinking

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critically about thinking itself through the study of philosophy. The Foundations components should normally be completed within the first year of undergraduate study.

Contemporary Composition

This component introduces students to the essentials of academic writing. While themed around specific topics (see examples below), all courses will present the theory and the practice of rhetoric and composition, teaching students how to construct well-organized and well-supported arguments.

PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that fulfill the Contemporary Composition component include the following:

ENG 150 Contemporary Composition: College Composition	3 credits
ENG 154 Writing About Energy	3 credits
ENG 155 Cortina Composition	3 credits
ENG 157 Contemporary Composition: Advocacy and Knowledge	3 credits

Critical Issues in Human Inquiry

This multi-disciplinary component of the first-year experience would introduce students to significant questions in humanistic scholarship through a high-impact educational experience. Critical Issues in Human Inquiry courses will emphasize critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication, and engagement with diversity and social justice. COREQUISITE: Oral Communication. Courses that fulfill the Critical Issues in Human Inquiry component include the following:

ARH 170 Cities and People: Urban Planning and Ethical Decisions	3 credits
ARH 171 Art Crime	3 credits
CNE 170 Love, Marriage and the Family in Classical Antiquity	3 credits
CNE 171 War in Literature	3 credits
CNE 172 Muhammad in Muslim Life and Thought	3 credits
COM 170 Communication Across Cultures	3 credits
COM 171 Friendships and Our Changing Social World	3 credits
COM 172 Princesses, Brides and Mothers	3 credits
COM 173 Health, Communication and Media	3 credits
EDU 170 Diversity and Justice in Education	3 credits
ENG 170 Literature in Life: Literature Engaging Life	3 credits
ENG 171 Literature in Life: Autobiography	3 credits
ENG 172 Race and Identity	3 credits
ENG 173 Anchors Aweigh! Transatlantic Travels in Literature	3 credits
ENG 175 The Tumult of a Great City: The City, Inequality... (pending)	3 credits
HIS 170 Liberation	3 credits
HIS 171 Waging Peace in the Twentieth Century	3 credits
HIS 172 Globalization and Leadership in Africa	3 credits

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HIS 173 Colonial Legacies in Asia	3 credits
HIS 174 Discovering Paradise	3 credits
HIS 176 Controversies in Science and Medicine (1900-1990)	3 credits
HIS 177 Seeking God in the Pre-Modern West	3 credits
MIL 170 Introduction to Critical Thinking and the Army I (pending)	3 credits
MIL 171 Introduction to Critical Thinking and the Army II (pending)	3 credits
SPN 170 Musical Perspectives: Hearing in Hispanic World	3 credits
SWK 261 The Social Welfare Needs of Vulnerable Populations	3 credits
THL 175 The Human Induced Climate Crisis: Origins and Solutions	3 credits

Oral Communication

The Oral Communication component introduces the subject matter of how to give a speech and lays the foundation on which students can then build a speaking competency. Argument construction (and fallacies), speech organization, verbal and visual support, use of technology, delivery, audience analysis, topic selection, research, information literacy and *eloquentia perfecta* would all be covered. Students will deliver speeches in their Critical Issues in Human Inquiry course based on what they have learned in their Oral Communication course. COREQUISITE: Critical Issues in Human Inquiry. Courses that fulfill the Oral Communication component include the following:

COM 101 Communicating Critical Issues	1 credit
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Mathematical Reasoning

The Mathematical Reasoning component is (1) problem-based in that it explicitly discusses real-world applications of mathematics relevant to students in business, nursing, the humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences, depending on the intended audience; and (2) focuses on communicating mathematically in myriad forms. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that fulfill the Mathematical Reasoning component include the following:

MTH 141 Applied Calculus	3 credits
MTH 205 Mathematics for the Modern World	2 credits
MTH 231 Mathematics for the Biological Sciences (pending)	3 credits
MTH 245 Calculus I	4 credits
MTH 249 Modeling the Physical World I	3 credits

Philosophical Ideas

The Philosophical Ideas component explores philosophical ideas about the nature of reality, the scope of human knowledge, and the nature of a good human life through the study of primary philosophical texts. Students will study the theories and concepts that philosophers of the Western tradition have used to explore such ideas. The course will culminate in students' developing and defending their own

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answers to some of the philosophical questions explored in the course. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Philosophical Ideas component include the following:

PHL 110 Philosophical Ideas: Reality, Knowledge, and the Good Life	3 credits
PHL 111 Philosophical Ideas: Law	3 credits
PHL 112 Philosophical Foundations of the Sciences	3 credits
PHL 113 Philosophical Ideas: Nature, Time and God	3 credits
PHL 118 Philosophical Ideas: Wisdom	3 credits

The Christian Tradition

The Christian Tradition component gives students a first taste of the lively, complex, and often tumultuous ways that Christians have, over the centuries, sought to bring critical reason to the understanding of their faith. It surveys the major teachings, history, practices, and personalities of the Christian tradition; it sets these out within a balanced account of the three principal traditions of contemporary Christianity (Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant). PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy The Christian Tradition component include the following:

THL 110 The Christian Tradition: Then and Now	3 credits
THL 111 The Christian Tradition: Portraits of Christians Through the Centuries	3 credits
THL 112 The Christian Tradition: Global Visions	3 credits
THL 113 The Christian Tradition in Dialogue	3 credits
THL 114 The Christian Tradition: Exploring the Great Questions (pending)	3 credits

Explorations

The life of the mind requires exploring, and at this level, students are asked to begin exploring widely. The genius of the university is its wide-ranging and enormously sophisticated array of disciplines. In this phase of study, students begin to explore that array, its vast and varied approaches to the profound reaches of human knowledge. All students have certain intellectual strengths that feel natural to them. All too often, students can be reluctant to explore more widely, to move outside their comfort zones. This level of exploration will push students to discover new domains and to uncover their own often hidden capabilities. The Explorations components should normally be completed within the first three years of undergraduate study.

Ethics

An essential first step toward helping students to become men and women for others in order to create a better, more just world is the critical study of various fundamental philosophical or theological theories about the nature and sources of moral obligation, moral virtue, justice, wisdom, and a good

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human life. The Ethics component involves both the study of fundamental moral theories and the use of those theories in complex practical situations. PREREQUISITE: Philosophical Ideas.

Courses that satisfy the Ethics component include the following:

PHL 270 Philosophical Ethics	3 credits
PHL 271 Philosophical Ethics: Cortina Community (pending)	3 credits
PHL 275 Philosophical Ethics: Energy and Environment (pending)	3 credits
THL 270 Theological Ethics: Applying Moral Principles	3 credits
THL 272 Theological Ethics: Sexual and Gender Issues (pending)	3 credits
THL 273 Theological Ethics: Moral Perception and Moral Blindness	3 credits

Fine Arts (Magis Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum only)

The Fine Arts component will provide students with the opportunity to engage in the arts through creative processes as well as through formal study and to explore non-linear modes of thinking, problem-solving, and expression. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Fine Arts component include the following:

ARH 210 History of Western Art and Architecture I	3 credits
ARH 211 History of Western Art and Architecture II	3 credits
ARH 375 Italian Renaissance Art and Architecture (pending)	3 credits
ART 105 Art Fundamentals	3 credits
ART 153 3D Foundations	3 credits
ART 154 Clay Modeling I	3 credits
ART 155 Welded Metal Sculpture I	3 credits
ART 156 Bronze Casting Sculpture I	3 credits
ART 247 Introduction to Printmaking	3 credits
ART 271 Photo Studio I: Beginning Black and White Photography	3 credits
DAN 101 Introduction to Dance	3 credits
DAN 221 Intermediate Modern Dance	1-2 credits
DAN 231 Intermediate Tap/Jazz Dance	1-2 credits
DAN 241 Intermediate Ballet	1-2 credits
ENG 130 Creative Writing	3 credits
GDE 324 Digital Foundations for the Web (pending)	3 credits
ITA 535 Exploring Italy (FLPA course)	3 credits
MUS 212 University Chorus	1 credit
MUS 218 Symphonic Band I	1 credit
MUS 220 University Orchestra I	1 credit
MUS 271/THR 271 Voice Class	3 credits
MUS 313 Chamber Choir	1 credit
THR 131 Acting I	3 credits
THR 154 Costume Construction	3 credits

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THR 161 Theatre Appreciation	3 credits
THR 215 Makeup Design	3 credits

Foreign Language (Magis Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum only)

The Foreign Language component may be satisfied by the demonstration of basic competence in a modern or ancient language. Students of modern languages are introduced to the essential elements of basic communication in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). Students of ancient languages focus on reading skills while writing, speaking, and listening skills are developed to a much smaller degree. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Foreign Language component include the following:

ARA 112 Beginning Arabic for Daily Life II	4 credits
CHN 112 Beginning Chinese for Daily Life II	4 credits
FRN 112 Beginning French for Daily Life II	4 credits
GER 112 Beginning German for Daily Life II	4 credits
GRK 112 Beginning Greek II	4 credits
ITA 112 Beginning Italian for Daily Life II	4 credits
JPN 112 Beginning Japanese for Daily Life II	4 credits
LAT 112 Beginning Latin II	4 credits
RUS 112 Beginning Russian for Daily Life II	4 credits
SPN 112 Beginning Spanish for Daily Life II	4 credits

Global Perspectives in History

The Global Perspectives in History component will introduce students to the distinctive disciplinary methods of historical inquiry with the intention of guiding them toward the ability to explain how significant historical developments have shaped human societies and cultures. Global Perspectives in History courses will offer a broad view of the past that supports an examination of change and continuity over a significant period of time; link particular regions with larger chronological and geographical trends in history; and analyze a combination of relevant thematic concerns such as race, gender, nation, politics, and economy. PREREQUISITE: Critical Issues in Human Inquiry. Courses that satisfy the Global Perspectives in History component include the following:

CNE 280 Sport & Athletics in the Ancient Mediterranean (pending final approval)	3 credits
HIS 271 Conquest, Piracy, and Slavery: A History of the Atlantic	3 credits
HIS 272 Global Perspectives in History: Europe and the World	3 credits
HIS 273 Global Perspectives in History: History of Science and Medicine (pending)	3 credits
HIS 275 The Twentieth Century as "The American Century"	3 credits
HIS 276 Asia and the World: Global Perspectives (pending)	3 credits
HIS 279 Medieval Encounters (pending)	3 credits
HIS 280 Global Perspectives in History: Rights and Revolutions (pending)	3 credits

Literature

Through an in-depth look at a specific period, form or theme in literature, the Literature component will examine how imaginative language represents and shapes the richness of what it means to be human. Attention will be paid to the transformative power of the human imagination and the role of the imagination in how we understand and explain our world. PREREQUISITE: Critical Issues in Human Inquiry. Courses that satisfy the Literature component include the following:

CNE 230 Make 'Em Laugh: Serious Topics in Humorous Greek & Roman Literature	3 credits
ENG 220 World Literature I : Antiquity to Renaissance	3 credits
ENG 221 Literature of the World II: Seventeenth Century to the Modern World	3 credits
ENG 223 Studies in Native American Literature	3 credits
ENG 225 Dead Men Tell No Tales: Pirate Literature Through the Ages (pending)	3 credits
GER 200 Love in 19th and 20th Century German Literature and Film (pending)	3 credits
SPN 425 Introduction to Literary Analysis (pending)	3 credits
SPN 426 Survey of Latin-American Literature (pending)	3 credits

The Biblical Tradition

The Biblical Tradition component introduces students to the Bible, the Old and New Testaments, through the discipline of Biblical Studies. It examines the central narratives of the Bible, but its unique emphasis is on introducing students to the sophisticated historical, social-contextual, and critical methodologies that shape any contemporary interpretation of the Bible. PREREQUISITE: The Christian Tradition. Courses that satisfy The Biblical Tradition component include the following:

THL 215 The Biblical Tradition: Ancestors and Heroes	3 credits
THL 216 The Biblical Tradition: The Human Question (pending)	3 credits
THL 217 The Biblical Tradition: Social Justice in the Old Testament	3 credits
THL 235 The Biblical Tradition: Sickness & Healing in the Gospels (pending)	3 credits
THL 236 The Biblical Tradition: New Testament	3 credits
THL 237 The Biblical Tradition: Early Christian Community and Identity	3 credits
THL 238 The Biblical Tradition: The Johannine Literature	3 credits

Understanding Natural Science

The Understanding Natural Science component helps students to understand the nature of science, the strengths and limitations of the scientific approach, the differences between science and other ways of understanding the world, the key role of science in technological developments and *vice versa*, and the mutual influence of science and society on each other. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Understanding Natural Science component include the following:

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ATS 105 The Science of Climate Change (pending)	2 credits
BIO 201 General Biology: Organismal and Population	3 credits
CHM 111 Fundamentals of General Chemistry	3 credits
CSC 121 Computers and Scientific Thinking	3 credits
ERG 157 Energy in Society and Contemporary Composition (Co Req: ENG 154)	2 credits
ERG 213 Three Dimensional Design	2 credits
NSC 111 Time's Arrow: The Evolving Universe	2 credits
PHY 105 Frontiers in Astronomy	2 credits
PHY 157 Sustainable Energy	3 credits
PHY 187 Conceptual Physics	2 credits
PHY 201 General Physics for the Life Sciences (Co Req: PHY 205)	3 credits
PHY 213 General Physics I (Co Req: MTH 245 and PHY 205)	3 credits
PHY 221 Modeling the Physical World I (Co Req: MTH 249)	3 credits

Understanding Social Science

The Understanding Social Science component introduces students to social science through courses that begin with an overview of what it means to “understand social science” as the study of society and human nature using theories and quantitative or qualitative analysis of data, and then present in detail fundamental concepts and theories from at least one social scientific discipline. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Understanding Social Science component include the following:

ANT 111 Introduction to Anthropology: Human and Cultural Diversity (pending)	3 credits
ANT 112 Introduction to Anthropology: Culture, Energy, & Sustainability (pending)	3 credits
ANT 113 Introduction to Anthropology: Social and Cultural Determinants of Health	3 credits
COM 211 Communication Studies: Relationships, Work and Culture	3 credits
EDU 211 Exploring Child and Adolescent Development	3 credits
PLS 101 Introduction to Politics	3 credits
PLS 105 Introduction to International Politics	3 credits
PLS 121/AMS 121 American Government and Politics	3 credits
PSY 201 Introductory Psychology	3 credits
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology: Self and Society	3 credits
SWK 275 Human Behavior and Social Environment	4 credits

Integrations

As students approach completion of their undergraduate education, they need to begin to integrate what they have learned about themselves and their world. At this stage of undergraduate study, students' programs of study will have diverged into various specialized fields of study in the various colleges and schools of the university. Different forms of integrative study will be appropriate depending

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upon in which college the student is enrolled. Integrations components will normally be completed within the third and fourth years of undergraduate study.

Doing Natural Science (Magis Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum only)

This component consists of a three-credit lecture course including fundamental concepts and methods of a particular scientific field, with a co-requisite one-credit laboratory in which students have an experience of scientific investigation and communication. PREREQUISITE: Understanding Natural Science. Courses that satisfy the Doing Natural Science component include the following:

ATS 113/114 Introduction to the Atmospheric Sciences/Lab	4 credits
BIO 202/206 General Biology: Cell and Molecular/Lab	4 credits
ERG 221 Electronics Design	4 credits
PHY 109/110 Introductory Astronomy/Lab	4 credits
PHY 202 General Physics for the Life Sciences II	3 credits
PHY 206 General Physics Laboratory II	1 credit
PHY 214 General Physics for the Physical Sciences II	3 credits
PHY 222 Advanced General Physics: Modeling the Physical World II	3 credits

Doing Social Science (Magis Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum only)

The Doing Social Science component is designed to further students' knowledge of society and human nature within a social scientific discipline. Students will apply their knowledge of social scientific methods (quantitative or qualitative) in order to interpret social science data as related to specific social science questions and to critique social scientific studies. PREREQUISITE: Understanding Social Science. Courses that satisfy the Understanding Social Science component include the following:

COM 320 Leadership: Theories, Styles and Skills	3 credits
COM 459 Environmental Communication (pending)	3 credits
COM 360 Organizational Communication Theories (pending)	3 credits
COM 361 Interpersonal Communication (pending)	3 credits
COM 440 Gender Communication (pending)	3 credits
COM 442 Cultural Communication (pending)	3 credits
COM 472 Communication in Close Relationships (pending)	3 credits
COM 474 The Dark Side of Personal Relationships (pending)	3 credits
PLS 322 The American Presidency (pending)	3 credits
PLS 325 American States and Regions (pending)	3 credits
PLS 332 Interest Group Politics (pending)	3 credits
SPN 415 Social Stratification in the Dominican Republic (pending)	3 credits

Intersections

The focus of the Intersections component will be on big questions that employ critical thinking skills to address issues of diversity, service, and social justice. Students and instructors will work at the

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intersection of intellectual inquiry and personal experience as they seek together to understand intersections in the world at large. In the best Ignatian tradition, these courses will involve research and writing as well as reflection, collaboration, and debate. PREREQUISITE: Critical Issues in Human Inquiry and Sr. standing. Courses that satisfy the Intersections component include the following:

ARH 456 Art and War	
COM 475 Resistance, Performance, and Rhetoric	3 credits
COM 478 Perspectives on Work-Life: Balance, Wellness and Justice (pending)	3 credits
CSC 448 Freedom and Security in a Digitally-Divided Society	3 credits
EDP 461 The Crucified People of Today (pending)	3 credits
PHL 404 Bioethics and Society (pending)	3 credits
PHL 425 Science, Ethics and Society (pending)	3 credits
SPN 371 Singing Social Justice (pending)	3 credits
SPN 375 Hispanic Health and Health (pending)	3 credits
THL 343 Ecclesiology in Global Context (study abroad course - pending)	3 credits
THL 363 Social Justice in Selected Global Faith Traditions (pending)	3 credits

Ultimate Questions (Magis Arts & Sciences Core Curriculum only)

This component explores ultimate questions about some of the deepest and most mysterious dimensions of human experience: e.g., the existence and nature of God, the nature and ultimate destiny of the human person, the nature of the cosmos and humanity's place within it, the search for salvation and the pursuit of holiness, the nature of religion and religious experience. No Jesuit education is complete without such a sustained grappling with these ultimate realities. PREREQUISITES: Philosophical Ideas, The Christian Tradition, and The Biblical Tradition. Courses that satisfy the Ultimate Questions component include the following:

THL 300 Ultimate Questions: Jesus Christ, Yesterday and Today	3 credits
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Designated Courses

In addition to the components of the Magis Core Curriculum listed above, students must complete 5 designated courses, 1 in each of 5 different areas. It is expected that students will complete most of these designated courses as part of their major programs of study. The rest of these courses should be completed as part of another Explorations- or Integrations-level component of the Magis Core Curriculum.

Designated Ethics

Courses that receive a designation in ethics will develop and integrate ethical thinking in a chosen academic discipline, profession, or sphere of responsibility. Each such course will involve at least one significant assignment that requires structured ethical reflection on some dimension of the student's

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current or future projects. PREREQUISITE: Ethics. Courses that satisfy the Designated Ethics component include the following:

CSC 448 Freedom and Security in a Digitally-Divided Society	3 credits
NUR 474 Applied Nursing Ethics (pending)	3 credits
PHL 404 Bioethics and Society (pending)	3 credits
PLS 331 Managing in the Public and Nonprofit Sector (pending)	3 credits

Designated Oral Communication

Designated Oral Communication courses will involve intensive instruction in at least one form of oral communication that is specifically intended for a particular audience. Each such course will involve at least one significant oral communication assignment. PREREQUISITE: Oral Communication. Courses that satisfy the Designated Oral Communication component include the following:

COM 459 Environmental Communication	3 credits
NUR 353/372 Principles of Population-Based Healthcare	3 credits
THL 492 Senior Seminar	3 credits

Designated Statistical Reasoning

Designated Statistical Reasoning courses will involve intensive instruction and the application of statistical methods in solving problems within a discipline. Each such course will involve at least one significant assignment or project that utilizes statistics as an essential tool for analyzing data and drawing well-founded conclusions. The goal is to equip the student with the theory and methodology that are essential to solving problems in a data-rich world. PREREQUISITE: Mathematical Reasoning. Courses that satisfy the Designated Statistical Reasoning component include the following:

PHY 109/110 Introductory Astronomy/Lab	4 credits
PLS 310 Political Science Research Methods (pending)	4 credits

Designated Technology

Designated Technology courses will involve intensive instruction and the application of technology in solving problems within a discipline. Each such course will involve at least one significant assignment or project that utilizes technology as an essential tool for information gathering, analysis, and presentation. Beyond the simple use of a search engine or word processing program, students will effectively use discipline-specific software tools, as appropriate, and reflect on the role of technology in that discipline. In conjunction, students will explore the power and limitations of technology in both professional and societal terms. PREREQUISITE: None. Courses that satisfy the Designated Technology component include the following:

COM 360 Organizational Communication Theories (pending)	3 credits
PHL 340 Philosophy of Language (pending)	3 credits
PLS 310 Political Science Research Methods (pending)	4 credits
PHY 553 Computational Physics	3 credits
THL 350 Archaeology of Israel and Jordan (pending)	3 credits

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Designated Written Communication

The goal of Designated Written Communication courses is to help students develop writing skills that are appropriate to a specific discipline, which will normally be the student's major field of study.

Designated Written Communication courses must be upper-division courses that involve intensive instruction in at least one form of writing oriented toward a specific audience; at least one significant written assignment, on which the student receives substantial instructor feedback during the drafting and revision stages; and an introduction to the practice of sustained professional writing in a field and the best practices and conventions in that field. PREREQUISITE: Contemporary Composition. Courses that satisfy the Designated Written Communication component include the following:

JRM 220 Professional Writing	3 credits
NUR 471 Care Management and Outcomes Improvement III	3 credits