



ACADEMIC PROGRAM GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

I. INTELLECTUAL MATURITY

Program Goal (#1)

1. Students develop their intellectual capacities, by acquiring dispositions and habits associated with intellectual maturity. Students develop their intelligence, which implies the development of its principal functions: analysis, synthesis, reflection, application, memory and judgment.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students analyze, that is, they divide the whole into its parts or constitutive elements, with the aim of establishing a hierarchy of ideas and a relation between them.
2. Students synthesize, that is, they are able to say concisely and exactly what is found in many pages; they know how to form a significant ensemble with the elements found in different sources; they can distinguish the essential from the accidental and the peripheral.
3. Students reflect, demonstrating an ability to fathom the essence of things. They think and consider things or ideas thoroughly with profundity, clarity and precision. They assimilate and interiorize what is studied to be able to express it in their own words.
4. Students apply what they have learnt, using abstractions (concepts, general ideas, rules, principles, methods, or theories) appropriately and creatively in concrete particular situations.
5. Students train their memory, retaining information with the possibility of recalling it in the opportune moment to apply and use what is remembered.
6. Students judge arguments, propositions, problems, situations, activities, etc... based on their logical foundations and in correspondence with objective reality.

II. GENERAL EDUCATION

Program Goals (#2-5)

2. Students draw conclusions about how the human person's vision of his identity has changed over the course of history in the Western world and of how this vision has had positive or negative effects upon his relationships with himself, the physical world, society and God.
3. Students develop a profound knowledge of the human person from a Christian viewpoint as a substantial unity of body and soul affected in his maturation by environmental, physiological, affective, and spiritual factors. They gain insight to guide others towards personal fulfillment.
4. Students understand, value and use the methodologies of the arts and humanities; the sciences, including mathematics and empirical methods of inquiry; and the social sciences, as different avenues of arriving at truth.
5. Students develop a basic knowledge of the principles of economics, finance and administrative processes, and the use of technology effectively.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students identify the universal attributes that characterize the human person throughout history.
2. Students explain and apply a Christian anthropological understanding of the human person.
3. Students identify the contribution of important historical, social, political, literary and philosophical figures and movements of Western Civilization.
4. Students distinguish between the physiological, psychological and spiritual factors that influence the person's development and the formation of a balanced and mature personality.
5. Students classify the stages of human development with a focus on the adolescent and young adult periods.
6. Students compare and contrast psychological theories.
7. Students understand and employ pedagogical principles.
8. Students apply principles of Christian humanism to contemporary and personal experiences and problems.
9. Students will be able to solve basic math problems.

10. Students understand concepts used to describe the physical world.
11. Students use basic information technology effectively.
12. Students apply scientific, mathematic, economic and administrative concepts to world situations, especially in the context of schools and other service institutions.
13. Students develop the capacity to appreciate a variety of audio and visual art forms and have the ability to identify elements of artistic composition in music and painting.
14. Students develop the capacity to classify the artist's use of technique while retaining the moral freedom to judge the artist's message.
15. Students distinguish and integrate the knowledge acquired in one discipline and relate it to others.

III. RELIGIOUS AND PASTORAL STUDIES

Program Goal (#6)

6. Students assimilate the fundamental Christian principles and an experiential knowledge of the Catholic faith that will equip them to practice their faith courageously and meet the pastoral needs of others.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students acquire a profound knowledge and critical understanding of the major divisions and content of theology.
2. Students become morally courageous Catholic leaders who effectively and affectively transmit the principles taught in class through their example and words.
3. Students demonstrate an ability to support and defend controversial issues regarding fundamental Christian principles and the tenets of the Catholic faith.
4. Students employ catechetical and pastoral principles in line with the teachings of the Catholic Church.
5. Students demonstrate an understanding of the numerous concerns of the Church and the Holy Father and respond with a loyal attitude of seeking for adequate solutions.
6. Students apply a deep understanding of the principles of the spiritual life in their own lives and to guide lay men and women on the path to holiness.
7. Students esteem and reference Sacred Scripture, tradition and the Church's Magisterium in their study and research.
8. Students apply the Word of God to temporal realities taking into account the sensitivity of contemporary man.
9. Students acquire knowledge and mastery of pastoral techniques for the formation and guidance of families and youth.

IV. PHILOSOPHY

Program Goal (#7)

7. Students acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the history of philosophy and an integral knowledge of the human person, the world and God, based on the perennial philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas and other influential philosophers, and thus are able to form critical judgment to offer fitting solutions to current problems in society.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students interpret the ultimate and perennial problems of philosophy, including the existence and nature of God, human nature, and the relationships between faith and reason.
2. Students apply philosophical methods of enquiry.
3. Students analyze philosophical texts of important philosophers and philosophical movements and identify their influence on the foundations of Western Civilization.
4. Students distinguish acts of man from human acts and evaluate their moral quality according to Christian principles.
5. Students apply philosophical principles to pastoral matters, theology and other disciplines.
6. Students judge the root of current problems and propose solutions from a Christian philosophical outlook
7. Students articulate a personal and organic philosophical outlook of God, the world and the human person that is consistent with the Christian philosophical patrimony.

V. COMMUNICATION IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY

Program Goals (#8, 9)

8. Students acquire proficiency in oral and written communication, in order to prepare them for future leadership positions.
9. Students acquire proficiency in a second modern language.

Learning Outcomes

English / Oral Communication

1. Students summarize and apply basic communication theory in order to identify effective and non-effective communication.
2. Students identify and demonstrate effective delivery skills.
3. Students identify and present content appropriate to varied purposes, settings and audiences.
4. Students assess strengths and weaknesses in order to improve their speaking style.
5. Students refine their listening skills.
6. Students develop a personal speaking style and build confidences.

English / Written Communications

1. Students demonstrate proficiency in the grammatical and structural elements of composition.
2. Students research, document, and critically evaluate sources.
3. Students appreciate various literary genres and authors that have profoundly influenced Western Civilization.
4. Students utilize proper reading techniques.
5. Students identify and demonstrate effective use of stylistic elements.
6. Students identify and provide content appropriate to purpose and audience in a variety of formats.
7. Students compose and design a publishable work and seek its publication.
8. Students assess their own strengths and weaknesses in written communication.

Modern Languages

1. Students communicate effectively in a foreign language, with an awareness of cultural diversity.
2. Students acquire proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing in a foreign language.

VI. FIELDWORK

Program Goal (#10)

10. Students close the gap between theory and practice by coming into contact with real human needs so as to respond effectively.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students apply the principles and knowledge obtained in courses and seminars to fieldwork situations.
2. Students demonstrate effective leadership skills: communication, teamwork, delegation, programmed use of time, working with a view to outcomes, and prioritizing.
3. Students refine interpersonal communication skills, both formal and informal.
4. Students offer spiritual assistance and explain the supportive role it plays for the individual, family and society.
5. Students identify, analyze and develop appropriate responses to community needs.
6. Students recognize ethical issues and respond appropriately.
7. Students design and direct age appropriate pastoral activities.