

### **Program Overview**

Receiving an education in General Studies is to follow in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences. The term “liberal arts” dates back to the middle ages, and is derived from the Latin word *liber*, which means free. The degree’s chief aim is to equip an individual with the ability to think freely and critically. A General Studies degree from St. Mary’s University College allows students to have flexibility in their programs, based on their areas of interest.

The **three-year Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in General Studies** has been designed to engage students in the study of the breadth and depth of human intellectual experience. This degree culminates in a full-year seminar that affords students the opportunity to consolidate their learning through an interdisciplinary project.

The program reflects the commitment of St. Mary’s University College to a liberal arts education as valuable for its own sake since it provides individuals the opportunity to discover and eventually realize their human potential. Students enrolled in this program will learn through a broad and extensive, multi-disciplinary approach to think critically and communicate clearly. Such skills are in keen demand for a variety of careers including the fields of education, business, government services, health care, technology, and ministry.

### **Admission**

New students may apply directly to the program when they apply for admission. Current Liberal Arts and Sciences students, with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0, must complete a *Program Information Form* available through the Enrolment Services office.

### **Program Requirements**

Once admitted to the degree program, students will be assigned a program advisor and provided with contact information. Students are strongly recommended to meet with their advisor on a regular basis throughout the program. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure they have met the requirements for graduation.

This planning guide is designed to help students keep track of their progress in meeting degree requirements. Course descriptions may be found in either the St. Mary’s University College online calendar or hard copy calendar.

### Specific Course Requirements

#### A. Liberal Arts Core (18 credits)

- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 200: Literature in English from the Middle Ages to the Present (6 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ HIST 200: History of Ideas (6 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ PHIL 351: Ethics (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ THEO 201: Reading Biblical Texts: Meaning in the Judeo-Christian Tradition (3 credits)

#### B. Special Requirements (21 credits)

- \_\_\_\_\_ HMKN 201, 203 or 205 (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 credits in a language other than English (*may include LING 301*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 credits in Mathematical Sciences (*CPSC 215, MATH, STAT, PSYC 312*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in Natural Sciences (*ASTR, BCEM, BIOL, CHEM, HMKN 205, PHYS, SCIE*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ IDST 400: Interdisciplinary Seminar (6 credits) (*to be taken in the final year of the program*)

#### C. Electives (51 credits) \*be attentive to Jr./Sr. requirements

- \_\_\_\_\_ elective: \_\_\_\_\_ (3 credit)
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### 90 Credit Degree

#### Junior/Senior Requirements

No more than 45 credits may be taken at the 200 level for credit towards the degree; 45 credits must be taken at the 300/400 level.

#### Program Standing

In order to remain in the program, you must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students who do not meet this requirement may not graduate.

#### Residence Requirement

All students must complete at least 45 credits at St. Mary's University College.

#### Graduation

In your final term of study, you must submit an *Application to Graduate*. Application forms are available at the Enrolment Services Office or on our website: [www.stmu.ab.ca](http://www.stmu.ab.ca).

Deadline to submit applications for June 2012 convocation is April 1, 2012.

#### Notes

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This guide is for your convenience only and should not replace the St. Mary's University College Calendar, which is the final authority regarding degree program requirements and academic regulations.