



# INTEGRATIONS CURRICULUM

## Embracing the *wicked questions*

Remember when you moved from arithmetic to algebra? You'd finally grown confident in making computations . . . and then the questions all changed. Suddenly you found yourself examining both sides of the equation – searching for X and looking for ways to keep everything in balance.

That's what the leap to college is like. You finally feel like you know what you know and then wham. You're face-to-face with wicked questions.

**What are wicked questions?** They're the world's biggest questions. The ones that few ask because they feel impossible to answer. A wicked question highlights two apparently contradictory goals, both of which must be kept in balance in order to make progress on the challenge at hand.

*"How do we solve climate change while maintaining financial stability for big industries?"*

*"How do we stop the flow of misinformation while respecting the right of free speech?"*

It will take big, creative thinking and innovation to answer these questions. And it

will require people from seemingly unrelated fields to blend their ideas. That's the heart of the Integrations Curriculum – empowering you to think in broader, more collaborative, more original ways. **Empowering you to ask and answer wicked questions.**

Through the Integrations Curriculum, you'll learn how to make connections between your academic coursework, your campus life experiences and your own life and the world around you. Integrated learning – the ability to see relationships among the arts, the sciences and the humanities – is a valuable, real-life skill that makes CSB/SJU graduates highly sought-after by employers and the nation's top graduate programs.

The Integrations Curriculum is yours. You will get an education that builds on the skills and experiences you bring with you to CSB/SJU while exposing you to new topics, new perspectives and career possibilities you may not even know exist. You'll have a top-tier academic experience and be prepared for a rapidly changing world.

Wicked questions come naturally with that changing world – expect to see Bennies and Johnnies leading the work for answers.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the Integrations Curriculum, students will have advanced adeptness in **12 skill areas highly valued in all career fields.**

### Analyzing Texts

Elicit and construct meaning from texts.

### Collaboration

Interact effectively in a group while incorporating diverse perspectives.

### Common Good

Develop a conception of a moral life that incorporates concern for the common good.

### Gender

Examine the social construction of gender and related individual and systemic inequities.

### Information Literacy

Identify, evaluate and responsibly use information.

### Metacognition

Optimize one's own thinking and learning processes.

### Quantitative Reasoning

Solve quantitative problems and develop and communicate arguments supported by quantitative evidence.

### Race and Ethnicity

Examine the social construction of race and ethnicity and resulting inequities.

### Religious Engagement

Analyze religious engagement with society.

### Speak

Construct ideas, opinions and information in appropriate oral forms.

### Theological Reasoning

Think critically about sources, doctrines, and themes of the Christian tradition.

### Write

Construct ideas, opinions and information in appropriate written forms.

### At CSB/SJU, we understand you're a scholar, but you're also a lot more:



You're a future professional who will probably have multiple careers. Some of those career paths may not even exist yet.



You're a member of many different communities, on campus and beyond.



You're an individual with your own unique education, experiences, relationships and aspirations.

COLLEGE OF

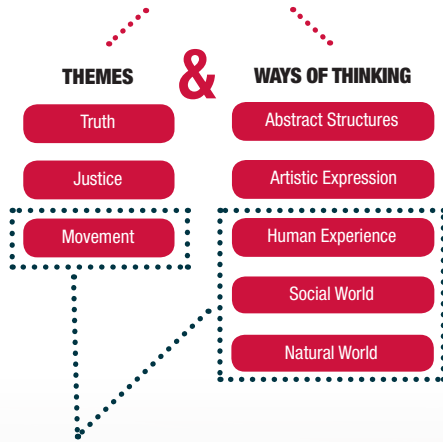
Saint Benedict  Saint John's  
UNIVERSITY

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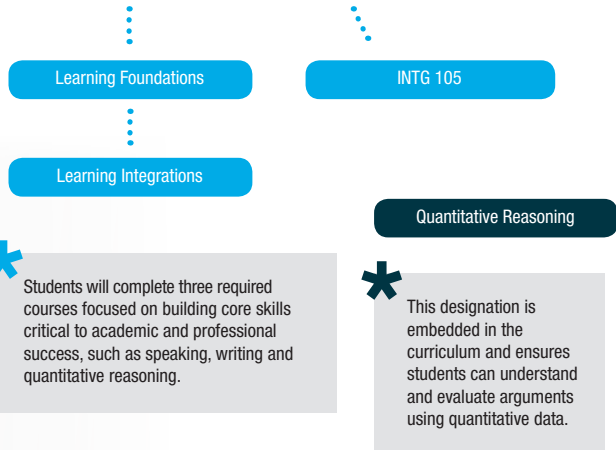
## MAKING CONNECTIONS ACROSS ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES

\* Students will complete five required courses in the key learning traditions, called Ways of Thinking. These courses cover all academic disciplines, allowing students to customize their academic exploration. Themes embedded in many of these courses will showcase how seemingly unrelated fields can be connected.



\* Students will take one course in each Way of Thinking. Three of those courses must be on the same theme.

## MARKETABLE SKILLS FOR A LIFETIME



\* Students will complete three required courses focused on building core skills critical to academic and professional success, such as speaking, writing and quantitative reasoning.

\* This designation is embedded in the curriculum and ensures students can understand and evaluate arguments using quantitative data.

## CONNECTED LEARNING

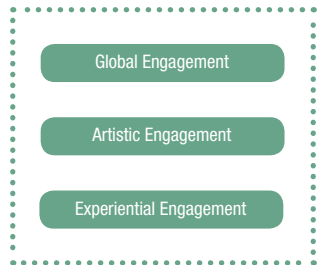
## CORE SKILLS

## ENGAGED LEARNING

## PURPOSEFUL LEARNING

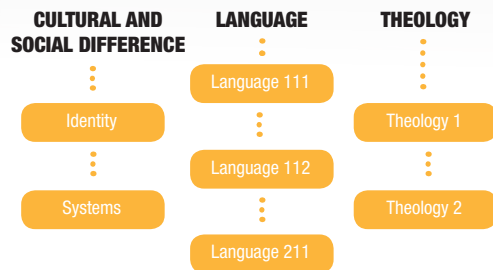


### THINK BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



\* Active learning happens inside and outside of the classroom. Students will participate in three experiential activities and submit a reflection prompt guiding them to relate their academic experience to their environment and activities.

### EXPOSURE TO MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES



Benedictine

\* This designation is embedded in the curriculum and ensures students develop an awareness of a Benedictine perspective (practices, values and heritage).

\* Students will complete seven required courses that collectively enable them to think critically about their place in the world and how they can make a difference.

\* **INTEGRATED PORTFOLIO**

Students will fill their Integrated Portfolio with artifacts of their time at CSB/SJU through a program called Portfolium. Artifacts can be anything but will likely include papers, engagement prompts, projects, presentations, research summaries and performances. This portfolio will then serve as an academic resume for the student's use after graduation - reflecting the skills and experiences they received through the Integrations Curriculum.