

PHILOSOPHY/THEOLOGY (P)

GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

PREFATORY STATEMENT

The philosophy/theology component of the general education curriculum is intended to lead students to a critical understanding of God, the world and the human person.

Goals

THEOLOGY/RELIGIOUS STUDIES:

Students who have completed the theology/religious studies component of the general education curriculum will be able to explain how Christian scripture and tradition address fundamental questions regarding God, the meaning of human existence, the possibilities of human community, and the nature of truth and knowledge, justice and the good. The overall goal is that students achieve an understanding of faith which enables them to integrate it into their whole lives.

PHILOSOPHY:

Students who have completed the general education philosophy and ethics requirements will be able to analyze and discuss the writings of past and present philosophers; to explain the basic philosophical issues implicit in the experiences of self and the relation of self to others and to God; to analyze and discuss the history of ethical theory and related moral issues in business, computing, health, science, technology, the law and the environment; and to reflect philosophically and ethically on their own personal, professional and civic lives.

Objectives: All students will

1. identify and read important texts, placing them both in historical and conceptual contexts, and write analyses and arguments pertaining to these texts
2. identify and discuss major philosophical and theological movements, events, people and ideas, and write analyses and arguments pertaining to them
3. discuss both the integration of and the tension between faith and reason
4. articulate the Catholic understanding of God and the sacramental dimension of God's presence to humankind
5. make both theoretical and practical use of Western philosophical and theological approaches to ethics in understanding and dealing with issues of justice and the good
6. apply technological and philosophical insights to issues of science and technology in the 20th century
7. synthesize their liberal arts education and integrate their liberal arts education with the professional training by means of theoretical and historical principles in both philosophy and theology.