



Bachelor of Arts, 3-Year Concentration in General Studies

Program Planning Guide 2025/2026

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 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.

The program reflects the commitment of St. Mary’s University 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 students may be admitted to the program by submitting a *Change of Program Form* to the Enrolment Services Office for processing.

Program Requirements

Students are strongly recommended to meet with an academic 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. Course descriptions may be found in the St. Mary’s University calendar.

A. Liberal Arts Core (18 credits)

- _____ ENGL 200A: Studies in Literature: Middle Ages to 1660 (3 credits)
- _____ ENGL 200B: Studies in Literature: 1660 to the Present (3 credits)
- _____ HIST 200A: History of Ideas: Antiquity to the Reformation (3 credits)
- _____ HIST 200B: History of Ideas: Scientific Revolution to 20th Century (3 credits)
- _____ PHIL 351: Ethics (3 credits)
- _____ RLGS 205: Reading Biblical Texts (3 credits)

B. Special Requirements (15 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 312A)
- _____ / 6 credits in Natural Sciences (ASTR, BCEM, BIOL, CHEM, HMKN 205, PHYS, SCIE)

C. Electives (57 credits) **be attentive to Jr./Sr. requirements*

- _____ elective: _____ (3 credits)
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90-Credit Degree**Junior/Senior Requirements**

45 credits must be taken at the **300- or 400-level**.

Directed Studies

Students are allowed a **maximum of 9.0 credits** hours of directed studies in their degree program.

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.

Graduation

In the final year of study, an *Application to Graduate* must be submitted by October 1.

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