

# MAGIS CORE CURRICULUM

Humanistic education rooted in Jesuit ethos, guides Fairfield's commitment to "preparing young women and men for others" through a distinctive academic experience. Crucial to student success in academia and as future professionals in the workplace, the *Magis* Core Curriculum engages students to establish their own values and understanding of the world while emphasizing excellence in writing, critical reasoning, synthesis of solutions, communication, and an understanding of the "why" and "how" of associated human behaviors.

The *Magis* Core Curriculum is a discipline-based, tiered learning experience (Tier I: Orientation; Tier II: Exploration). Further, it requires students to experience interdisciplinary learning, be engaged with social justice issues, and undertake intensive writing both within the discipline and across the curriculum. The *Magis* Core provides a common experience for all undergraduates, one that is grounded in the humanistic tradition and is thus a hallmark of a Fairfield education.

## Tier I: Orientation

The Orientation Tier requires seven courses (ideally completed in the first two years of undergraduate study). ***Students will not use curricular credits (e.g., transfer or AP credits) to be exempt from elements of Tier 1, to ensure that all students have a common Orientation experience.***

Code	Title	Credits
<b>English</b>		
ENGL 1001	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition	3
<b>History</b>		
Select one HIST 1000-level course or AMED 1115 or AMED 1116		3
<b>Mathematics</b>		
Select one MATH 1000- or 2000-level course, based on placement <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Modern or Classical Language</b>		
Select one language course based on placement <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Philosophy</b>		
PHIL 1101	Introduction to Philosophy	3
<b>Religious Studies</b>		
Select one RLST 1000-level course		3
<b>Modern/Classical Language or Mathematics</b>		
Select one additional course in Modern/Classical Languages or Mathematics <sup>3</sup>		3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>21</b>

<sup>1</sup> MATH 1011 may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>2</sup> If starting a new language, a placement exam is not necessary.

<sup>3</sup> Placement is based on the initial course taken to fulfill Modern/Classical Languages or Mathematics.

## Tier II: Exploration

The Exploration Tier requires eight courses, to be completed throughout four years of undergraduate study. Each department listed below determines which of its courses fulfill the Tier II Exploration requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Behavioral and Social Sciences</b>		
Select two courses from the following fields:		6
	Communication	
	Economics	
	Politics	
	Psychology (except PSYC 2610- Behavioral Neuroscience)	
	Sociology and Anthropology (except ANTH 1200 and ANTH 1210)	
<b>History, Philosophy, Religious Studies</b>		
Select two 2000- or 3000-level courses from two different disciplines		6
<b>Literature</b>		
Select one course from the following fields:		3
	Classics	
	English	
	Modern Languages and Literatures	
<b>Natural Sciences</b>		
Select two courses from the following fields:		6
ANTH 1200	Biological Anthropology	
ANTH 1210	Biomedical Anthropology	
	Biology	
	Chemistry and Biochemistry	
	Physics	
PSYC 2610	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>		
Select one 1000-level course from the following fields in Visual and Performing Arts:		3
	Art History and Visual Culture	
	Film, Television, and Media Arts	
	Music	
	Studio Art	
	Theatre	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>27</b>

## Signature Elements

The Signature Elements requirements include seven courses, which may be covered by Orientation, Exploration, and major courses. Courses approved for these Signature Elements will be appropriately noted in the online registration system.

## Interdisciplinary

Select either one designated team-taught course, one cluster course, or one individually taught course. All courses fall within the Orientation and Exploration areas. (Attribute: MSID)

## Social Justice

Select one course providing an introduction to social justice (Attribute: MSJ1), one second-level social justice course (Attribute: MSJ2), and one social justice course with a focus on race broadly construed, studied intersectionally with gender and class (Attribute: MSJR). The MSJ1 course must be fulfilled within the Orientation and Exploration tiers. For the MSJ2 and MSJR courses, at least one of them must be fulfilled within the Orientation and Exploration tiers. The remaining course may

be fulfilled either within the Orientation and Exploration tiers OR within a major.

### **Writing Across the Curriculum and Writing in the Discipline**

Select two courses within the Orientation and Exploration areas, plus one additional course fulfilled within either the Orientation and Exploration tiers (Writing Across the Curriculum, Attribute: MWAC) or within a Major (Writing In the Discipline, Attribute: MWID).