TWO-YEAR PROGRAM (AS)

GENERAL STUDIES

The General Studies program provides a starting point for many Maria College students. It is designed for students who wish to enter a career program but lack prerequisites and/or a level of skill needed for acceptance into a specific program, and also for those who wish to pursue postsecondary education for enrichment or to further develop career goals.

The general studies student must successfully complete 64 credits as follows:

1. 12 credits—three in religious studies and an additional three in philosophy or religious studies, along with six credits in English, which must include English 111.

2. 20 credits of a liberal arts core in areas of humanities (English, nonstudio art, music, etc.), natural sciences (mathematics, science, etc.), social sciences (psychology, sociology, economics, etc.), and religious studies/philosophy, with a reasonable distribution in three of the four areas.

3. 30 credits of free electives.

4. 2 credits of First Year Experience

Students are encouraged to consider a block of courses in a particular career field to facilitate future employment or education.

Try a class online.

At Maria, we’re all about supporting students, and that goes for those taking online classes, too. We think that for our diverse community, with families and work and very full schedules, learning online can only enhance the experience. Course work for an online class can be completed at convenient locations and times, usually within a regular semester. While most work is done remotely, some courses may require on-campus meetings for labs or exams.

Mission

The mission of the General Studies program at Maria College is to provide students with a quality education that will allow them the opportunity to use their learned skills to open a variety of avenues for their futures, especially in areas that involve caring service to others. The program’s curriculum is grounded in the humanities and is intended to nurture a respect for the value, dignity and diversity of all people. It is reviewed and revised by dedicated faculty in order to maintain its relevancy and usefulness to students, as well as its high academic standards. Also, the curriculum is delivered through flexible scheduling options—day, evening, weekend or online formats—and in small classes, promoting a warm, encouraging environment that allows students to grow.

Program Learning Outcomes

By the completion of the General Studies program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the skill of problem solving, use scientific reasoning, perform specific calculations, and/or apply logical organizational skills.

2. Critically analyze written and oral material.

3. Demonstrate basic knowledge of human needs, values, achievements and diverse cultures.

4. Speak and write technically correct English in order to express oneself with clarity and purpose.

5. Access a variety of information resources (e.g., computer, library, databases), then evaluate the quality of and effectively use the information.