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.

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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.
**Integrations Curriculum**

**MAKING CONNECTIONS ACROSS ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES**

**THEMES**
- Truth
- Justice
- Movement

**WAYS OF THINKING**
- Abstract Structures
- Artistic Expression
- Human Experience
- Social World
- Natural World

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.

**CONNECTED LEARNING**

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

**ENGAGED LEARNING**

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.

**CORE SKILLS**

**MARKETABLE SKILLS FOR A LIFETIME**

**LEARNING FOUNDATIONS**

**INTG 105**

**PARAMETERS FOR SUCCESS**
- This designation is embedded in the curriculum and ensures students can understand and evaluate arguments using quantitative data.

**PURPOSEFUL LEARNING**

**EXPOSURE TO MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES**

**CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DIFFERENCE**
- Identity
- Systems

**LANGUAGE**
- Language 111
- Language 112
- Language 211

**THEOLOGY**
- Theology 1
- Theology 2

**Theology 11**

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

**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.