Work Skills and the Uncommon Core: Nazareth College

Linking liberal arts preparation and professional development
Founding Philosophies of Core

• Courses should be linked to world experiences
• Courses should be integrated, not stand alone
• A Nazareth education will prepare you for your life’s work, not just a job
• Students should be able to build to deeper and more meaningful learning and doing
Critical components of the Core

- Perspective-Enduring Questions courses
- Integrative Studies Courses
- Core Milestone Experience
- Capstone
First Year--PEQs

- Interdisciplinary, focus on broad issues
- Professional goal--get students in the habit of forming questions, crafting paths to answering them, and articulating why the question is important
- Career Coaches
Second Year

- Add Integrative Studies courses
- Designed to get students to think across disciplinary lines, think through how issues relate, develop problem-solving skills
- Also adds Experiential Learning pathway
- Again, Career Coach
Third Year

● Core Milestone Experience
● Pulls IS sequence together into a broader understanding or even another question
● Goal--think creatively, make connections, communicate effectively, present a clear and convincing argument
Fourth Year--application
● Seen in Capstone
● Participation in student research event
● Work with Career Coach
Key intersecting components

- Career Coaches, Center for Life’s Work
- SPARK--enables EL pathway
- Enhanced Student Employment
Integrative Core Curriculum:
John Carroll University

Both..And
Liberal Arts & 21st Century Skills
in the Jesuit Tradition

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Interim Provost and Academic Vice President
First Principles of the Core

Commitment to Liberal Education

21st Century Skills for Employment and Beyond

Integrative Curriculum with Six Themes:

• Foundational Competencies
• Language Study
• Distribution Courses
• Integrated Courses
• Jesuit Heritage
• The Major
Foundational Competencies & Language Study

Foundational Competencies
• Written Expression
• Oral Expression
• Quantitative Analysis
• Technological/Information Literacy

Language Study
• Continue language study
• New language
Liberal Arts & Sciences

Integrated Courses

Liberal Arts & Sciences

• Humanities
• Natural Sciences
• Social Sciences

Integrated Courses

• Engaging the Global Community
• Linked Courses
Jesuit Heritage

Philosophy
• Knowledge and Reality
• Values and Society

Theology & Religious Studies
• Two Courses

Issues of Social Justice
• Offerings in multiple disciplines

Creative and Performing Arts
Extending the Core to the Major

Additional Writing

Oral Presentation

Capstone Experience
  ● Synthesize and apply disciplinary knowledge and skills.
  ● Foster reflection on undergraduate learning and experience.
  ● Demonstrate emerging professional competencies.
  ● Apply, analyze, and/or interpret research, data, or artistic expression.
  ● A course, created work or product, or some form of experiential learning.
Our Core...Takeaways

• University Learning Goals
  • Intellect, Character, Leadership, & Service
• Integrated across disciplines and the undergraduate experience
• Blends liberal education, Jesuit tradition, and career readiness

JCU's Integrated Core Curriculum
In Life...

Act with Compassion

Lead with Integrity

Live for Justice
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