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\* Mater Ecclesiae College reserves the right to change this catalog at any time.



## Letter From the President

The educational philosophy of Mater Ecclesiae is best summarized by our motto *Integra Mulier*, Latin for “the complete woman.” While acquiring the solid and comprehensive academic foundation that is necessary to fulfill their mission of leadership at the service of the Church and society, our students are also engaged in a program of formation that goes well beyond the classroom and the purely intellectual.

Our graduates are encouraged to seek leadership roles in the fields of educational, pastoral, religious and social services. The curriculum of studies is designed to educate students to value the truth about the human person, God and the culture in which they live. Students learn to think with structure, clarity, logical rigor, precision, and depth; they learn problem-solving skills and master the art of communication, developing the ability to express themselves clearly and elegantly. These intellectual skills, however, are meant to be placed at the service of others.

We offer a four-year program in Pastoral and Religious Studies that provides each student with a comprehensive liberal arts education while promoting their integral formation through the fostering of excellence in all aspects of their human personhood: intellectual, spiritual, social and pastoral. Our hope is that by placing this excellence at the service of others, both nationally and internationally, our students will transform this world that is often weighed down by its material and spiritual poverty.

A core aspect of this approach to education is our emphasis on fieldwork, ensuring that students receive all the tools they need to relate their studies to concrete issues and situations. Fieldwork comprises a social action dimension within the wider community that allows them to bridge the gap between “theory” and “practice” in pastoral ministry. Students receive first hand contact with the needs of others, and discover the true meaning and value of their studies.

Our approach of integral formation not only prepares our students for professional success; it leads them to their optimal development as persons and as Catholics, for it is founded on the development of a rich spiritual life within the context of a warm and welcoming community. Prayer and the sacraments shape each day and our community life on campus is oriented towards a spirit of service, dialogue and mutual support.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ma. Lourdes Fernández". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maria Lourdes Fernández, Ph.D.  
President, Mater Ecclesiae College

Academic Calendar 2010-2011

First Semester

*August 17*

Introductory Course for freshmen begins

*August 21-25*

Introductory Course for sophomores through seniors

*August 26*

Classes begin

*September 30*

Guest Speaker

*October 18- October 28*

Midterm Exams

*November 11*

Guest Speaker

*November 26*

Thanksgiving Day

*December 1-15*

Language/Communication Courses finals

*December 12*

Junior Debate

*December 16*

Last day of classes

*Dec. 17 - Jan. 7*

Christmas Break/Christmas Course

*January 1*

Sophomore Academic Presentation

*January 2*

Senior Academic Presentation

*January 7-23*

Semester Exams

Second Semester

*January 24*

Classes resume

*February 17*

Guest Speaker

*March 18-31*

Midterm Exams

*April 7*

Guest Speaker

*April 21-May 1*

Easter Break

*April 25-April 30*

Easter Course

*May 1*

Freshmen Academic Presentation

*May 2*

Classes resume

*May 2*

Junior Academic Presentation

*May 14-27*

Language/Communication Courses finals

*May 28*

Last day of classes

*May 30- June 15*

Final Exams

*June 16- July 6*

Summer Courses

## Nature and Purpose

### *Mission Statement*

Mater Ecclesiae is a religiously affiliated institution that offers a liberal arts degree. The mission of Mater Ecclesiae is to prepare consecrated women for leadership positions in educational, pastoral, religious and social services. The program pursues an “integral formation” that maintains quality intellectual, spiritual and social standards; forms character; and emphasizes service.

Founded on Judeo-Christian values in the Catholic heritage and in the spirit of Ex Corde Ecclesiae, Mater Ecclesiae is committed to providing a personalized, community-based and teaching-centered environment, rooted in the spirituality of the Legionaries of Christ and the Regnum Christi Movement.

Mater Ecclesiae integrates vocational development with service leadership in preparing students to pursue higher degrees and meet the educational, moral, social and professional needs of an increasingly global society. The student body at Mater Ecclesiae is international.

### *Amplification of the Mission Statement*

**A. To prepare consecrated women for leadership positions in educational, pastoral, religious and social services. The program pursues an integral formation that maintains quality intellectual, spiritual and social standards; forms character; and emphasizes service.**

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to:

#### 1. Intellectual Development:

Mater Ecclesiae is aware that students’ quest for the truth includes:

“The search for an integration of knowledge, a dialogue between faith and reason, an ethical concern, and a theological perspective.” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 15)

To this end, Mater Ecclesiae pursues:

- An interdisciplinary academic program of humanities, philosophy, theology, natural and social sciences, offering specialization in pastoral ministry, ethics, and mass media, as well as training in management administration, written and oral communication, and information technology skills.
- The development, refinement and structuring of intellectual capacities and the acquisition of dispositions and habits associated with intellectual maturity.

### 2. Spiritual Development:

Mater Ecclesiae seeks to provide:

“A faith-context that forms men and women capable of rational and critical judgment and conscious of the transcendent dignity of the human person...” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae\* 49)

- By cultivating a community that reflects its faith in its daily activities.
- By providing a rich faith environment for students, faculty and staff, offering daily Mass, spiritual counseling and sacramental life, and abundant opportunities for personal and community prayer life.

### 3. Social Development:

Mater Ecclesiae recognizes that:

“A specific priority is the need to examine and evaluate the predominant values and norms of modern society and culture in a Christian perspective, and the responsibility to try to communicate to society those ethical and religious principles which give full meaning to human life.” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 33)

Therefore, Mater Ecclesiae seeks to:

- Incorporate moral values in fieldwork and professional training opportunities in order to contribute concretely to the Church’s work of evangelization and the progress of society.
- Provide students with multiple opportunities to interact with off-campus peers and younger women in a context of leadership and cooperation.

### 4. Character Development:

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to:

“[Assisting] each of its members to achieve wholeness as human persons...” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 21)

- Through the formation of a rich and balanced human personality, harmoniously integrating essential components of character development: leadership, teamwork, responsibility, decision-making, communication skills, and professional standards.
- By combining personal attention with abundant opportunities for growth, emphasizing the acquisition of human and social virtues through fieldwork and group dynamics.

## **B. Founded on Judeo-Christian values in the Catholic heritage and in the spirit of Ex Corde Ecclesiae**

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to maintaining:

“Fidelity to the Christian message as it comes to us through the Church...” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 13)

- By studying the Catholic Church’s history, Magisterium, and official documents and teachings in order to gain understanding, through faith and reason.

\* John Paul II, Apostolic Constitution Ex Corde Ecclesiae. This document is concerned with the identity, mission and norms for Catholic Universities.

**C. To provide a personalized, community-based and teaching-centered environment, rooted in the spirituality of the Legionaries of Christ and Regnum Christi Movement.**

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to fostering:

“[A] community [that] is animated by a spirit of freedom and charity...characterized by mutual respect, sincere dialogue, and protection of the rights of individuals.” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 21)

- Through a small fertile environment that allows students, faculty and staff to live in a spirit of Christian cooperation and openness.
- By complementing a balanced academic curriculum with a broad spectrum of activities and service projects.
- By engaging students in apostolic activities.

**D. To integrate vocational development with leadership service in an international community.**

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to instilling in students

“The enthusiasm of being the trained ‘leaders’ of tomorrow, of being witnesses to Christ in whatever place they may exercise their profession.” (Ex Corde Ecclesiae 23)

- By promoting cultural dialogue and awareness in its international body of students and faculty.
- By enabling its students to acquire an enterprising spirit of service and leadership skills.
- By requiring proficiency in at least one foreign language.

**E. To prepare students to pursue higher degrees and meet the educational, moral, social and professional needs of an increasingly global society.**

Mater Ecclesiae is committed to serving the needs of the local, national and international community by forming its graduates for:

Education:

- Teaching, counseling and the administration of educational institutions in several countries as part of an international educational network associated with the Legionaries of Christ

Pastoral and Religious Services:

- Family counseling and spiritual guidance
- Integral formation of girls and young women

Social Services:

- Exercising leadership positions at the service of public welfare
- Missionary work and providing material and spiritual assistance for the underprivileged
- Promoting ethical and spiritual values through the mass media

Mater Ecclesiae provides quality liberal arts programs conducive to the pursuit of graduate and post-graduate degrees.

Mater Ecclesiae offers its graduates ongoing personal and professional opportunities for life-long learning.

## About the College

### *History of Mater Ecclesiae College*

In 1991, Mater Ecclesiae was founded in Wakefield, Rhode Island, as a formation center for consecrated women of Regnum Christi, who dedicate themselves to working in the areas of Catholic education, youth ministry, family counseling, mass media and community service.

Offering an integral formation, Mater Ecclesiae has always sought to provide consecrated women with a thorough preparation for leadership positions in these fields. In 1998 Mater Ecclesiae moved from Wakefield to Greenville, Rhode Island.

Mater Ecclesiae obtained initial approval to award the Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious and Pastoral Studies from the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, 301 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5748, (401) 222-6360.

Mater Ecclesiae College has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. Candidacy is not accreditation nor does it assure eventual accreditation. Candidacy for Accreditation is a status of affiliation with the Commission which indicates that the institution has achieved initial recognition and is progressing toward accreditation. Inquiries regarding the status of this institution affiliated with the New England Association should be directed to the administrative staff of Mater Ecclesiae. Individuals may also contact: The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Road, Bedford, MA 01730-1433, (781) 271-0022, [cihe@neasc.org](mailto:cihe@neasc.org).

### *Student Body*

The changing role of women in society is opening new doors and creating new needs, including new spiritual needs. The Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi are one way the Catholic Church is responding.

Since our beginning in 1969, we, as the Consecrated Women have striven to respond to Christ's love with a total gift of self, and have dedicated ourselves to serving humanity. We strive to become women who can make an impact among young and old, intellectuals and homemakers, business leaders and professionals. We work to establish a civilization of truth and love, a goal Pope John Paul II has said is especially entrusted to women.

The mission of our graduates is to educate and form lay people to serve the Church and imbue society with Christian values in the following fields of action:

1. Teaching, counseling, and administering educational institutions in several countries.
2. Family counseling and spiritual guidance.
3. Integral development of women through the formation and education of girls and young women.
4. Mission work and service of the underprivileged.
5. Leadership positions at the service of public welfare.
6. Promotion of ethical and spiritual values through the mass media.

## *Accessibility of Programs and Services*

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, Mater Ecclesiae is committed to making its programs and services accessible to all students. Students who need physical accommodations should contact the Academic Affairs Office and provide documentation of their needs, preferably in advance of their campus arrival, so that measures can be taken to ensure adequate accessibility and on-going support.

## *Campus and Facilities*

### **Location**

Mater Ecclesiae is located on 45 acres in a quiet residential neighborhood at 60 Austin Avenue, Greenville, Rhode Island, 20 minutes west of Providence. An hour from Boston, Massachusetts, and less than three hours from New York City, students are able to enjoy cultural visits to renowned museums, galleries and special exhibitions.

### **Residence Hall**

Mater Ecclesiae College is situated in a residential neighborhood. Residential facilities in Domus Mariae Hall provide a peaceful and secure atmosphere that is conducive to the molding of authentic Christian leaders – guides of their brothers and sisters, effective in their work, generous of heart, tireless fighters, realistic in their goals, tenacious in the face of difficulty, and supernatural in their aspirations.

Domus Mariae Residence Hall provides a supportive climate for learning, where students help one another in academic matters and share a variety of extracurricular interests.

### **Residence Hall Facilities include:**

- Outdoor basketball courts
- Chapel and oratory
- Spacious dormitories
- Dining facilities
- Laundry facilities
- 45-acre campus of woods and open fields with a natural pond
- Auditorium
- Conference and meeting rooms
- Copying and fax services
- Music rooms
- Telephone booths
- Lounges

### **Student Center**

During non-academic periods, students may gather in the student center located at the back of the auditorium. At different times throughout the year, board game tournaments are organized or classical and instrumental music played. The news is shown each night for those who are interested.

### **Academic Hall**

The academic hall has classrooms, offices, two computer labs, and three library rooms.

### **Computer Labs**

Computers for student use are located in the Academic Hall. There are two computer labs: one on the first floor for lowerclassmen and another on the second floor for upperclassmen.

### **Parking**

Student parking is available in front of the residence hall, while faculty and staff parking is behind the academic hall.

## Admission Policies

Mater Ecclesiae College is open to women who have graduated from high school and are following or discerning a vocation to consecrated life in the Regnum Christi Movement. Applications for admission to Mater Ecclesiae are accepted on a rolling basis.

### *Application Requirements*

Mater Ecclesiae recognizes that the foundations of a liberal arts education are laid in secondary school. Applicants should have completed the following preparatory units:

- ♦ English – four units
- ♦ Foreign language – two units
- ♦ Social Science – two units
- ♦ Mathematics – three units
- ♦ Laboratory Science – two units

Aware that grades reflect, at best, only the evidence of learning, and that human ability, talent, and potential is manifested in many ways, other criteria are carefully weighed in the admission process, such as experience, maturity and leadership, commitment and potential for growth, breadth of interest and seriousness of purpose. These factors are assessed through the application essay, two letters of recommendation and a personal interview during the admission process.

### **To be admitted to the Bachelor of Arts Program, all prospective students must submit the following:**

1. A completed application for admission form
2. Official transcripts of all secondary and post-secondary education. A minimum GPA of 2.5 is recommended for admission.
3. Results of College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or the ACT. Please submit to the Registrar at 60 Austin Avenue; Greenville, RI 02828.
4. Two letters of recommendation

### **Upon notification of acceptance, a student who intends to enroll must submit:**

1. A Mater Ecclesiae medical form completed by a physician
2. An up-to-date immunization record, to comply with Rhode Island State law. The Rhode Island Department of Health requires that university students submit evidence of having received the vaccines for: Tetanus and Diphtheria (booster dose within last 10 years), MMR (2 doses), Hepatitis B, Varicella, Meningococcal (recommended).
3. Final official transcripts of all high school course work

\* All documents, transcripts, and other papers submitted for admittance become the property of Mater Ecclesiae and will not be returned.

### **Home-Schooled Students**

Mater Ecclesiae welcomes applications from students who have been schooled at home because it values the diverse background and educational experience they bring to the campus.

### **Home-schooled applicants should submit the following:**

1. A completed application for admission form
2. Evidence of participation in an approved home-school program or documentation showing which courses fulfill Mater Ecclesiae's high school course requirements.

3. Results of College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or the ACT, according to above requirements.
4. Two letters of recommendation

**Upon notification of acceptance, a student who intends to enroll must submit:**

1. A Mater Ecclesiae medical form completed by a physician.
2. An up-to-date immunization record (see above for requirements).

**Transfer Students**

Transfer students are urged to consult with the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Registrar regarding a request for transfer credits. The College accepts transfer credits, but not the grades from courses taken outside of Mater Ecclesiae College. Courses accepted for credit toward the degree must be substantially equivalent to Mater Ecclesiae College courses in content, duration, and rigor. Other courses which are not equivalent to Mater Ecclesiae College courses may be transferred for credit but not applied toward a degree program. A transfer student must complete at least one fourth of their undergraduate program at Mater Ecclesiae College to graduate with a Mater Ecclesiae College degree and must complete the advanced courses in the major at Mater Ecclesiae College.

**Requirements for transfer credit:**

1. Courses were pursued at an accredited college or university
2. Upon evaluation by the Dean of Academic Affairs with faculty in that course’s department, they have comparable content to the same courses offered by Mater Ecclesiae College.
3. A grade of C (2.0) or better was earned in the individual course

**Application procedure:**

Students transferring to Mater Ecclesiae College should:

1. Complete Mater Ecclesiae College Application, noting all prior College-level studies. One of the letters of recommendation should be from a professor or official at the college last attended.
2. Submit official college transcripts from all institutions previously attended
3. Submit Official high school transcript
4. Include SAT I or ACT scores (or TOEFL scores for those who do not speak English as a first language)
5. Submit the “request for transfer of credits form” to the office of the Dean of Academic Affairs with a copy of official course descriptions from the catalog of the college(s) from which the student is seeking to transfer credit. Course syllabi from courses which the student is seeking transfer credit may be requested from the student.

**Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB)**

Mater Ecclesiae College will consider AP and IB credit for a limited number of courses. AP and IB scores may be submitted for math, science, and modern language requirements. To apply for AP credits, students must score a 4 or 5 on the respective exams (see chart below).

AP Exam	Score	Equivalent	Credits awarded
Calculus AB or BC	4 or 5	General education	Math requirement, 3
Biology	4 or 5	General education	Science requirement, 3
Chemistry	4 or 5	General education	Science requirement, 3
Environmental Science*	4 or 5	General education	Science requirement, 3
Physics (B or C exam)	4 or 5	General education	Science requirement, 3
Computer Science	4 or 5	General education	Computer Science requirement, 3
French Language or Literature	4 or 5		Modern language requirement, 3
German Language	4 or 5		Modern language requirement, 3
Spanish Language or Literature	4 or 5		Modern language requirement, 3

An official transcript of International Baccalaureate studies is required before IB credit can be verified. IB courses in which the student scored a 5, 6, or 7 on a higher level subject will be considered for transfer to the specific subject areas listed above.

### **International Students**

English is the language of instruction at Mater Ecclesiae College, all students should be able to follow English lectures and communicate adequately in English in speech and writing. Students whose native language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or must present the results of a recognized alternative test such as the test that are aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) published by the Council of Europe.

\* Minimum scores for the TOEFL: 450 (PBT), 150 (CBT), or 52 (iBT). The Common European Framework Reference qualification must correspond to level B1 or higher.

\* International students are required to maintain valid immigration status.

### **International applicants should submit the following:**

1. A completed application for admission form
2. An original or certified copy of all educational credentials with all original official seals. Photocopies of official seals can not be accepted.
3. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) results if English is not the student's native language. For further information, contact TOEFL, Educational Testing Service, CN 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151. Results of an exam aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) may be submitted in place of the TOEFL.
4. Two letters of recommendation

\* Transcripts from institutions outside of the United States will be assessed according to substantive content and comparable equivalency. Course descriptions may be necessary in order to ascertain course content.

### **Upon notification of acceptance, a student who intends to enroll must submit:**

1. A Mater Ecclesiae College medical form completed by a physician. Medical forms are available in Spanish.
2. An up-to-date immunization record (see requirements above). In addition to the immunizations required by the Rhode Island Health Department, all students from highly endemic countries should present the results of a targeted tuberculosis test.

### *Statement of Non-Discrimination*

Mater Ecclesiae College, a religiously affiliated institution that offers a liberal arts degree for women, admits qualified students of any race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin to its program. Applicants should understand that the central mission of Mater Ecclesiae College is to prepare consecrated women for leadership positions in educational, pastoral, religious and social services. All students who seek admission must sincerely desire to discern a vocation in the consecrated life in the Regnum Christi Movement, an organization of the Roman Catholic Church.

*Enrollment Status*

◆ Full Time	A matriculated student that has been formally accepted into a degree program. Any student admitted to the Bachelor of Arts program and enrolled in 12 or more credit hours a semester is considered a full-time student.
◆ Part Time	Part time students are admitted to the Bachelor of Arts program and enrolled in 11 or fewer credit hours a semester. Part time enrollment requires advance approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs.
◆ Special Student	A student who receives permission to enroll in courses as a Special Student is not admitted into the Bachelor of Arts program. Permission is subject to limitation of class sizes, with priority given to degree candidates. Requests to enroll as a special student must be submitted to the Dean of Academic Affairs.
◆ Auditing Students	A student may enroll for one or two courses without qualifying for credit on a space available basis. All course requirements must be met; however, these students are exempt from examinations.
◆ Non-Matriculated Students	A non-matriculated student enrolled in course work does not imply admittance to the Bachelor of Arts program. A student who seeks formal admittance into the program should not take more than six courses before having her application approved. Mater Ecclesiae College reserves the right not to grant credit toward a degree for courses taken before admittance into the degree program.

Financial Information

*Tuition and Fees*

**Tuition**

Mater Ecclesiae College is committed to offering students a quality education and preparing them to serve society. Mater Ecclesiae College strives to keep costs to a minimum because excessive educational debts can inhibit financial freedom and prevent full-time employment in social services, churches or non-profit organizations.

At present, Mater Ecclesiae is operating as a formation center for women’s vocational discernment, pastoral ministry and missionary outreach programs.

**Fees**

There are currently no fees for admission, deposits, tuition, or room and board.

## Academic Policies and Procedures

### *Registration*

All matriculated students are expected to enroll on a full-time basis. Students will be automatically registered in the courses offered during their applicable level of study. An academic adviser will be available to incoming students for academic advisement.

### *Academic Standing*

#### **Academic Progress**

To remain in good academic standing, students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5.

#### **Academic Probation**

A student's record may be reviewed for the following reasons:

1. Cumulative average falls below 2.5
2. Two or more W's (withdrawals) are recorded

A student, whose cumulative average falls below a 2.5 during any given semester; thereby, demonstrating an inability to make adequate progress towards graduation, may be placed on academic probation for the following semester or dismissed.

Students are required to formulate a plan to regain good academic standing in conjunction with their academic adviser and to submit progress reports during the period of probation to the Dean of Academic Affairs. At the end of the following semester, the Dean of Academic Affairs will determine the appropriate action.

Mater Ecclesiae reserves the right to request a student to withdraw from the program when the quality of scholarship does not meet the required standard or when conduct is contrary to the purposes and ideals of Mater Ecclesiae.

#### **Appeal Process**

Students may request exceptions to this policy by presenting a written description of their extenuating circumstances and their plan for re-establishment of good academic standing. After review, the Dean of Academic Affairs will advise the student in writing of the decision.

*Grading*

Grade	Description	Quality Points	Numerical Equivalent
A	Superior	4.0	95-100
A-		3.7	90-94
B+		3.3	87-89
B	Good	3.0	84-86
B-		2.7	80-83
C+		2.3	77-79
C	Satisfactory	2.0	74-76
C-		1.7	70-73
D	Unsatisfactory	1.0	65-69
F	Failure	0.0	Below 65
I*	Incomplete		
W*	Withdrawal		
AU*	Audit		

A student's academic achievement will be expressed in letter grades/numerical equivalents. The equivalent grade point average will be expressed on the student's transcripts.

\* These grades (I, W, AU) are excluded from the computation of the official GPA and do not carry quality points.

**Incompletes**

An instructor, in consultation with the Dean of Academic Affairs, will assign an Incomplete (I) when the student shows sufficient reason for postponement of course requirements, usually for valid reasons of health or family emergency. Incompletes must be resolved based on the following schedule or they will be computed as an F:

**Semester Resolution Dates**

- Fall semester Before mid-term exams of spring semester
- Spring Semester Before the first day of the fall semester
- Summer Session Before mid-term exams of the fall semester

The instructor may grant extensions, and will communicate this in writing to the Dean of Academic Affairs. Special exceptions may be considered, especially for interruptions due to fieldwork or full-time volunteer service.

**Withdrawals**

Permission to withdraw from a course must be obtained from the Instructor and the Dean of Academic Affairs before the tenth week of classes. Students are advised to consult with their academic adviser previously. If permission is obtained, the grade of W will be assigned.

**Audits**

A student may enroll for one or two courses without qualifying for credit on a space available basis.

**Course Changes**

All courses attempted will be recorded on the student's transcript. Where the student repeats a course in subsequent terms, only the highest grade earned will be used to calculate the cumulative grade point average.

### **Grading Appeal Process**

Students' grades will be available two weeks after the end of the final examination period. A student who believes a final grade has been miscalculated should consult the instructor to review the matter. If a grade change is warranted, it will be reported to the Registrar.

The student may submit a written request for a review by the Dean of Academic Affairs to appeal the Instructor's decision. No grade change will be accepted after thirty (30) days of the end of the semester unless authorized by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

### *Student Academic Honesty Policy*

Mater Ecclesiae College Students, Faculty, and Staff hold themselves and each other to the highest ethical standards of professional integrity and scholarship. Responsibility for meeting these standards falls to every member of the academic community.

Students are expected to be honest in all academic work. A student's name on any written work including assignments, reports, papers, or examinations, shall be regarded as assurance that the work is the student's own thought and a result of her own study. Work should be done in the student's own words and done without unauthorized assistance. Sources must always be properly acknowledged. When students work together, this must be indicated on what is submitted.

Students are responsible for correctly quoting, paraphrasing and citing the work of others. Mater Ecclesiae College expects students to use the MLA documentation style, and it is the student's responsibility to become familiar with MLA and utilize it. Faculty members are responsible for holding students to these professional and ethical standards, and assessing the academic honesty of student work.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism. Cheating includes: unauthorized possession of exams, communication during exam periods, altering grades, submitting the same academic work for more than one course without prior approval from both professors, and the use of notes to gain unauthorized advantage during exams. Fabrication is the invention of non-existent sources or citations. Plagiarism is presenting another person's work as one's own without duly acknowledging the source (except for ideas or concepts that are common knowledge).

Students and professors who have evidence or concerns about possible academic dishonesty should consult the dean of academic affairs, the vice-president, or the president. When a case of academic dishonesty is verified, the penalties include partial or total loss of credit for course work, depending on the gravity of the violation.

### *Permanent Academic Record*

All courses attempted and grades recorded become a permanent part of the student's academic history. If a student receives a failing grade, that grade will remain on the record. If such a course is retaken, the new registration and grade will also be recorded on the student's permanent record.

### **Transcripts**

Requests for official transcripts must be made in writing. The following information must be included: full name, Mater Ecclesiae ID number, dates enrolled, address of transcript destination, and signature. The transcript will be mailed within three (3) weeks of the written request.

**Student records and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, helps protect the privacy of student records. It is a federal law that requires a written institutional policy to be adopted and a statement of procedures covering the privacy rights of students to be made available. The Act provides the right to inspect and review educational records, to seek to amend those records and to limit disclosure of information from the records. The Act applies to all institutions that are the recipients of federal funding.

Mater Ecclesiae College maintains the confidentiality of student records and provides students with the right to inspect and review information contained in those records according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended. Students have a right to withhold disclosure. To request that information be withheld, they should submit written notification which must be received at least one week prior to the date of registration. Parents of dependent students have the right to access their children’s records. Procedures for any complaints and grievances can be requested from the Director of Student Affairs.

*Courses*

**Credits**

The value of each course is stated in terms of credit hours.

**Course Numbering System**

- 100 – 199 Freshman courses
- 200 – 299 Sophomore courses
- 300 – 399 Junior courses
- 400 – 499 Senior courses

An “even number” at the end of the course number indicates a semester course.

An “odd number” at the end of the course number indicates intensive courses. Experience has shown that not all courses have to be taught in the same number of periods or time range as regularly scheduled courses are taught.

Intensive courses are given at planned intervals in the regular academic calendar when students are not taking other courses and are able to concentrate fully on a single course. Before the course begins, the professor indicates what reading materials the students should use to prepare for the course. During the intensive course, students are focused only on the material of that course. After the formal class meetings have finished, the students proceed independently in studying the course material. The same types of evaluation criteria used in regular courses are also used for intensive courses.

**Abbreviations Used in Course Numbers**

CO	English / Communication Skills	SS	Social Sciences
PH	Philosophy	MH	Mathematics
ESL	English as a Second Language	SP	Spanish
PS	Pastoral Studies	ML	Modern Language
FR	French	SC	Science
RS	Religious Studies	HU	Humanities

*Classification of Students*

Credits	Classification
0 – 37	Freshmen
38 – 74	Sophomore
75 – 109	Junior
110 – 137	Senior

Full time: enrolled in at least 12 credit hours

*Class Attendance*

Each student is required to attend scheduled classes and lectures and to complete all examinations, assignments and other requirements as established by the instructor. Students are responsible to make up any missed coursework. A student may be required to withdraw from a course for excessive absences unless she receives an exemption granted jointly by the instructor and the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Instructors may permit students to be absent from a specific class for legitimate reasons, including health, official Mater Ecclesiae functions, fieldwork and certain extracurricular activities.

*Examinations*

**Final Examinations**

At the end of the semester, a comprehensive examination is scheduled for each course. Final examinations are scheduled during regular class hours in the two-week final examination period at the end of each semester. In the event of serious illness or emergency, arrangements may be made with the instructor to take an examination at another time. If the Dean of Academic Affairs does not excuse an absence from the final examination, the student will receive no credit for the course. Postponement of a final examination requires the issuance of a special permission from the Dean of Academic Affairs.

*Graduation Requirements for Degree Completion*

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious and Pastoral Studies will be conferred upon students who have completed the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of the prescribed curriculum – a total of 124 credit hours
2. Eight semesters of Fieldwork and satisfactory progress reports in Fieldwork education placements.
3. GPA of 2.5 or greater.

**Graduation Policy**

In addition to academic requirements for graduation, students must act responsibly in attempting to live up to the standards of wholesome Christian character and in accordance with the Mission Statement and general standards of Mater Ecclesiae.

## Academic Program

### *Bachelor of Arts in Religious and Pastoral Studies*

Mater Ecclesiae offers instruction leading to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious and Pastoral Studies. The program of studies provides a comprehensive liberal arts education that prepares consecrated women for leadership positions in educational, pastoral, religious and social services.

Freshmen courses provide students with a basis in spirituality; sophomore courses center on philosophy; the focal point of the junior is religious studies; and senior courses offer instruction in pastoral studies. Annual fieldwork placements allow students to integrate and enrich theoretical knowledge within the context of practical service opportunities. The core liberal arts courses in religious studies, pastoral studies and philosophy are supplemented by general education requirements in the social, natural and computer sciences, with additional humanities courses in communication arts, fine arts, and foreign languages. The academic program operates on a year-round academic calendar.

### *Program Objectives*

#### **I. Intellectual Maturity**

##### Program Goal (#1)

1. Students develop their intellectual capacities, by acquiring dispositions and habits associated with intellectual maturity. Students develop their intelligence, which implies the development of its principal functions: analysis, synthesis, reflection, application, memory and judgment.

#### **II. General Education**

##### Program Goals (#2-5)

2. Students draw conclusions about how the human person's vision of his identity has changed over the course of history in the Western world and of how this vision has had positive or negative effects upon his relationships with himself, the physical world, society and God.
3. Students develop a profound knowledge of the human person from a Christian viewpoint as a substantial unity of body and soul affected in his maturation by environmental, physiological, affective, and spiritual factors. They gain insight to guide others towards personal fulfillment.
4. Students understand, value and use the methodologies of the arts and humanities; the sciences, including mathematics and empirical methods of inquiry; and the social sciences, as different avenues of arriving at truth.
5. Students develop a basic knowledge of the principles of economics, finance and administrative processes, and the use of technology effectively.

#### **III. Religious and Pastoral Studies**

##### Program Goal (#6)

6. Students assimilate the fundamental Christian principles and an experiential knowledge of the Catholic faith that will equip them to practice their faith courageously and meet the pastoral needs of others.

#### **IV. Philosophy**

##### Program Goal (#7)

7. Students acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the history of philosophy and an integral knowledge of the human person, the world and God, based on the perennial philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas and other influential philosophers, and thus are able to form critical judgment to offer fitting solutions to current problems in society

**V. Communication in a Global Society**

Program Goals (#8, 9)

8. Students acquire proficiency in oral and written communication, in order to prepare them for future leadership positions.
9. Students acquire proficiency in a second modern language.

**VI. Fieldwork**

Program Goal (#10)

10. Students close the gap between theory and practice by coming into contact with real human needs so as to respond effectively.

*Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts*

Students complete a minimum of 124 credits of coursework for the degree and eight semesters of six fieldwork hours a week.

**I. General Education Requirements (48 credits)**

**II. Major Religious and Pastoral Studies (39 credits)**

**III. Minor in Philosophy (17 credits)**

**IV. Specialization in Communication in a Global Society (16 credits)**

**V. Fieldwork (4 credits)**

**I. General Education Requirements - 48 credits**

The pastoral services provided by a consecrated woman are always directed towards men and women who share a common human heritage, but who have their own personal characteristics, circumstances, and historical and cultural background. In order to offer them the required personalized assistance, a consecrated woman needs to be familiar with the many facets of contemporary society and culture, as well as the shared cultural heritage of humanity. A broad knowledge and understanding of human culture is, therefore, the necessary foundation on which a pastoral and religious studies program should be built.

The study of humanities is the principal means of entering into direct contact with our common cultural heritage. History, philosophy, literature, and the fine arts can be seen as reservoirs of human experience that collect the best of the passing centuries of cultures and societies. The social sciences, such as psychology and education, are particularly essential because of their direct bearing on the understanding of the person. A basic knowledge of the natural sciences and information technology is also a necessary complement for a better grasp of the present age.

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Term</b>
Humanities			
HU 232	Greek and Roman History	3	1 Semester
HU 234	History from the Renaissance to the Modern Period	3	1 Semester
HU 322	Development of Early Christian Thought	3	1 Semester
HU 324	Development of Western Christian Thought from the Reformation to Contemporary Times	3	1 Semester
Philosophy			
PH 272	Ancient and Medieval Philosophy	3	1 Semester
PH 274	Modern and Contemporary Philosophy	3	1 Semester
Religious Studies			
RS 154	Introduction to Sacred Scripture	3	1 Semester
RS 386	Foundations of Social and Individual Ethics	3	1 Semester
Science and Mathematics			
MH 105	Mathematical Methods	3	1 Semester
SC 173	General Physics	3	1 Semester
SC 175	Introduction to Computer Science	2	Intensive
Social Sciences			
SS 102	History and Methods of Psychology	2	1 Semester
SS 202	Developmental Psychology	2	1 Semester
SS 204	Educational Psychology	2	1 Semester
SS 253	Contemporary Socio-Political Culture	2	Intensive
SS 382	Bioethics	3	1 Semester
SS 406	Education of Women	3	1 Semester
SS 442	Economics and Finance	2	1 Semester
		<b>TOTAL 48</b>	

**II. Major in Religious and Pastoral Studies - 39 credits**

In the course requirements leading to the major in Religious and Pastoral Studies, students delve into the scientific and experiential knowledge of faith in order to assimilate the fundamental Christian principles that will equip them to meet the pastoral needs of others.

All subjects offered in the degree program have a pastoral dimension, but in order to identify the fundamental Christian principles that should guide their pastoral work, the course requirements for the major provide students with the opportunity to closely examine the primary sources of the Judeo-Christian tradition of community and pastoral service: Sacred Scripture, Christian spirituality and theology, Church dogma and liturgy.

Once students have grasped the foundational principles and the scope of their pastoral role, the course requirements in Pastoral Studies will offer them more practical training in specific aspects of pastoral work, such as providing spiritual guidance, leading spiritual exercises, and working with youth and families.

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Term
Core Requirements			
PS 366	Commandments	3	1 Semester
RS 156	New Testament	3	1 Semester
RS 180	Christian Spirituality	6	2 Semesters
RS 370	Fundamental Theology	3	1 Semester
RS 380	Christian Creed	6	2 Semesters
Dogma			
RS 362	Sacraments	3	1 Semester
Youth and Family			
PS 432	Youth Ministry	2	1 Semester
PS 434	Marriage and Family	2	1 Semester
Pastoral Skills			
PS 422 & PS 424	Spiritual Guidance I and II	4	2 Semesters
PS 442	Catechetical Methods	3	1 Semester
PS 444	Capstone Seminar I and II	4	2 Semesters
		TOTAL 39	

**III. Minor in Philosophy - 17 credits**

Philosophical studies introduce a student to ideas which have determined the course of history and which have outlined what man, “through the power of his mind,” knows about himself, the world and God. Through philosophy, a student comes face to face with the most acute theoretical and existential problems of the human person and delves into its roots. Students grow avid for the truth by learning to think profoundly in terms of being and objectivity, sharpening their critical sense and learning to detect and refute error.

Furthermore, philosophy is an invaluable aid for the faith and theological studies, both because of the notions and principles which it lends to theological speculation, and because of the process of reflection it supplies for the correct pursuit of the discourse on God.

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Term
PH 162	Introduction to Anthropology	2	1 Semester
PH 164	Logic and Epistemology	3	1 Semester
PH 234	Natural Theology	3	1 Semester
PH 262	Philosophical Anthropology	3	1 Semester
PH 266	Metaphysics	3	1 Semester
PH 288	Ethics	3	1 Semester
		TOTAL 17	

**IV. Specialization in Communication in a Global Society - 16 credits**

In the modern context of sophisticated communications technology and an increasingly global society, the consecrated woman’s ability to communicate is essential to her pastoral mission. Excellence in the art of communication will be a necessary prerequisite for leadership in any field. In addition to receiving instruction in communication theory, students receive ample opportunity throughout the four years of the program to exercise and develop their skills in both oral and written expression.

Due to the international mission of the consecrated woman, all students are also required to attain at least an average proficiency in Spanish in addition to their proficiency in English. Those who are proficient in both languages may enroll in French or pursue independent study of another language.

Mater Ecclesiae supplements the communications curriculum with numerous co-curricular activities, such as debates, academic presentations and student publications.

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Term
English / Communication Skills Requirements			
CO 102	Communication Skills I	2	1 Semester
CO 104	Communication Skills II	2	1 Semester
CO 202	Literary Techniques I	2	1 Semester
CO 204	Literary Techniques II	2	1 Semester
CO 302	Argumentation, Debate and Essay Writing Techniques I	2	1 Semester
CO 304	Argumentation, Debate and Essay Writing Techniques II	2	1 Semester
CO 402 & 404	Writing for Media I & II	4	2 Semesters
		TOTAL 16	

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Term
Modern Languages (Spanish or elective equivalent)			
SP 134	Spanish I	3	1 Semester
SP 136	Spanish II	3	1 Semester
FR 144	French I	3	1 Semester
FR 146	French II	3	1 Semester
ML 274	Special Topics	3	1 Semester
ML 276	Special Topics	3	1 Semester
ESL 154	ESL Seminar I		Remedial
ESL 254	ESL Seminar II		Remedial
		TOTAL 6	

**V. Fieldwork - 4 credits, 8 semesters**

The consecrated woman has a mission as an apostle, a messenger of God. Her education cannot be limited to the intellectual sphere, but must also include the essential elements of pastoral and apostolic formation. As part of her integral formation, these elements must permeate the consecrated woman’s entire identity: spiritual, intellectual and human.

It is not enough for the student to want to do pastoral work; she also has to know how to do it effectively. Fieldwork provides students with the tools they need to relate their studies to concrete issues. The continuity of this hands-on work experience throughout the degree program complements the intellectual formation students receive in spirituality, philosophy, theology, and pastoral studies. Fieldwork allows them to bridge the gap between ‘theory’ and ‘practice’ in pastoral ministry; not only to learn how to carry out an apostolate, but also to experience what their future life will be like. This firsthand contact with the faithful and their needs, helps students to discover the true meaning and value of their formation, studies, personal call and mission.

Fieldwork also comprises a social action dimension within the community. The student, in conjunction with her adviser, will select from the following pastoral fields: education, mass media, families, youth, women, evangelization, social work and the promotion of authentic Christian living. Age, maturity and qualities of the students are considered to see what is best for each one.

A student may also propose an independent study program by identifying a need or concern in her community, developing and implementing a response, evaluating the results, and presenting the process and outcome. The Director of Experiential Learning is available for guidance, consultation and evaluation. Professional skill-building seminars in Developmental Psychology, The Art of Leadership, and Developing Youth Leadership Skills are also offered. Students are encouraged to keep a journal of their fieldwork experience and are required to submit weekly progress reports. Students receive advice, training and on-site guidance and evaluation. A personalized orientation is key to motivating, and involves helping with planning, reviewing the student’s difficulties and achievements, and guiding her in the maturing of her apostolic zeal.

Note: Students dedicate six hours per week to field work.

## Fieldwork Areas and Sample of Opportunities

### Education

- Training of lay catechists and the implementation of catechetical programs and youth programs at schools and local parishes.
- Administration of religious education programs in the Diocese of Providence.
- Organization of various campus academic activities: seminars, conferences, and round tables designed to stimulate thought and social awareness on campus.
- Work within the Mater Ecclesiae Academic Offices with student tutoring and administrative assistant work.

### Youth and Family

Students assist in:

- Formation of clubs for young girls and teens, focusing on both recreation and service.
- Organization and coordination of summer camps or youth retreats.
- Development of study courses and spiritual renewal retreats for family centers.

### Social Work and Promotion of Authentic Christian Living

In conjunction with local community and church service organizations, students share their time and professional skills in a spirit of charity.

- Assisting in various social service fields: homeless shelters, crisis pregnancy homes, hospitals, etc
- Education and family support for immigrants.

### Mass Media

Students participate in media analysis and related educational workshops.

- Assistance in the publications office at Mater Ecclesiae.
- Editing and writing for magazines and newsletters.
- Translation projects.
- Designing and editing promotional materials.

### Leadership Opportunities

Some students will be asked to identify a need at Mater Ecclesiae, develop a response, implement the initiative with a selected audience, evaluate the results, and present the process and its outcomes. Initiatives in the past have involved fundraising projects. Some students have also had the opportunity to intern at United Nations conferences.

### International Opportunities

Opportunities exist for students to participate in fieldwork experiences abroad. Students, in consultation with their academic adviser and the Dean of Academic Affairs, may apply for eligibility.

Previous placements have included missionary work in Argentina, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as in various parts of the United States; leading cultural and religious pilgrimages in Rome and France; and community service training in Chile.

Opportunities are available in areas of Christian education, missionary work, and leadership conventions and camps, for a period of one to six weeks during the summer session.

### Resource Center

The Office of Experiential Learning provides a resource center for information on community service opportunities, work-sharing initiatives, and service project models. Services include a pamphlet and booklet display, lending library with books and videos on youth leadership activities, information on workshops, and other resources. Students are welcome to drop in.

## Course Descriptions

### *General Education Requirements*

#### **HU 232 Greek and Roman History (3 cr)**

This is an interdisciplinary study of the classical roots of contemporary Western civilization. Social and political history, literature and art from ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, early Christianity and Byzantium are examined.

#### **HU 234 History from the Renaissance to the Modern Period (3 cr)**

This is an interdisciplinary study of the classical roots of contemporary Western civilization. Social and political history, literature and art from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Enlightenment through to the 20th century are examined.

#### **HU 322 Development of Early Christian Thought (3 cr)**

This class explores the history of the development of Christian thought, dogma and its theological formulation. Topics include early Church history, the patristic era, medieval times, and the influence of Scholasticism.

#### **HU 324 Development of Western Christian Thought from the Reformation to Contemporary Times (3 cr)**

This course expands upon the Church's pattern of development after the Greek Schism and throughout the modern and contemporary period, including the First and Second Vatican Councils.

#### **MH 105 Mathematical Methods (3 cr)**

This is an introduction to the spirit and application of mathematics. Topics include logic, numbers, geometry, finance, probability, statistics and computer applications for students in pastoral management fields.

#### **PH 272 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (3 cr)**

In this systematic and critical evaluation of the history of philosophy, students study the important Western philosophical movements from Pre-Socratic times to the Scholastic period, taking into account historical and cultural influences on individual philosophers.

#### **PH 274 Modern and Contemporary Philosophy (3 cr)**

Students are encouraged to reflect critically on the different systems of thought, especially from the end of Scholasticism to the 20th century, in order to compare and to discern how different philosophies influence the modern world. Students develop the ability to discover the premises on which individual philosophers have built their thought systems.

#### **RS 154 Introduction to Sacred Scripture (3 cr)**

This course examines the structure, development and theological content of the Bible, as well as Scriptural analysis and exegesis. Historical and geographical information about Judeo-Christian peoples provide a context for the study of the Bible as one of the main bodies of Judeo-Christian literature. Familiarity with the Sacred Scriptures as a whole is developed to better understand the culture and origins of the Bible as well as its place within Christianity.

#### **RS 386 Foundations of Social and Individual Ethics (3 cr)**

This is an introduction to social and individual ethics. Emphasis is placed on the means to establish a proper balance between personalism and the good of the community, individual liberty and law, moral principles and their application through individual conscience judgments in concrete circumstances.

#### **SC 173 General Physics (3 cr)**

The course is a general introduction to the principles of physics. The Course presents a general introduction to science, the essential elements of motion and the causes thereof, energy and momentum, vibrations and waves, and electricity and magnetism. Classroom activity will amplify, explain, and complement the reading. Exams will be based on both classroom work and the assigned reading.

#### **SC 175 Introduction to Computer Science (2 cr)**

This is an introductory course with a cursory overview of computer systems, file-management, Windows and individualized skills development in word processing. The primary focus is on the development of practical spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel. In addition to guided instruction, hands-on labs are an integral part of this course.

**SS 102 History and Methods of Psychology (2 cr)**

The purpose of this course is to have the students gain an in-depth knowledge of psychology as a science, studying the major schools of psychology. The themes of perception, motivation, knowledge, conduct and personality are covered with special attention.

**SS 202 Developmental Psychology (2 cr)**

Students obtain knowledge of the development of the human person from birth to old age, with a particular emphasis on adolescence. Through their understanding of human interests, needs and developmental stages, they will gain the necessary tools for educating & forming others in their pastoral work.

**SS 204 Educational Psychology (2 cr)**

This course provides principles, as well as practical applications, for enabling educators to clarify objectives and solve problems in educational settings. It complements the study of history and methods of psychology by further investigating learning process and its impact on motivation; constructive discipline and classroom management; the process of effective study; learning problems; and the transfer of training. It also provides knowledge of the means of personality integration (mental hygiene) as well as assessing and charting effective learning.

**SS 253 Contemporary Socio-Political Culture (2 cr)**

Students explore the theories, ideologies and structures that exercise a notable influence on the actions of people in society today. Various topics will be explored each semester: religion and spirituality in the 20th and 21st centuries, environmental issues, sources of the world's economic system, demographic theories, political systems and international organizations, the effect of international politics on the family, and moral relativism.

**SS 382 Bioethics (3cr)**

Fundamental bioethical principles and criteria are examined to understand and point to answers regarding the moral challenges medical science poses to morality. Emphasis is placed on the dignity of the human person within the framework of advances in scientific research and technique.

**SS 406 Education of Women (3 cr)**

This course is course is a multifaceted study of women which enables the student to approach the question, "Who is Woman?" The goal of the course is to provide the learner with adequate tools to form and educate young girls and women in the 21st century by providing a basic understanding of the anthropological, biological, sociological, and spiritual aspects of the "feminine genius".

**SS 442 Economics and Finance (2 cr)**

This course provides student with fundamental notions of economy and administration and applies them to the running of schools and institutes: objectives of administration, administrative decision-making, planning-organization-execution, control and evaluation, areas of administration, productive administration, financing of personnel and offices.

*Communication in a Global Society*

**CO 102 Communication Skills I (2 cr)**

This course focuses on basic oral and writing skills, complemented by an emphasis on style and literary techniques. Writing labs emphasize cross-curricular exercises.

**CO 104 Communication Skills II (2 cr)**

This course develops public speaking skills, enabling students to be more effective in transmitting their message. Activities include practice in delivery techniques, preparing and presenting formal and informal speeches, and completing oral and written critiques.

**CO 202 Literary Techniques I (2 cr)**

This course surveys the literary foundation of Western Civilization and helps students to channel various genres and styles into their own artistic expression.

**CO 204 Literary Techniques II (2 cr)**

This course continues to survey the literary foundation of Western Civilization and helps students to channel various genres and styles into their own artistic expression.

**CO 302 Argumentation, Debate, and Essay Writing Techniques I (2 cr)**

This course approaches essay writing and debate through a study of the elements of argument. Students analyze these elements in selected essays, developing skill in writing and speaking persuasively. Focus is on achieving a clear, concise, and convincing prose style. Prerequisite: CO204.

**CO 304 Argumentation, Debate, and Essay Writing Techniques II (2 cr)**

This course, a continuation of Argumentation, Debate, and Essay Writing Techniques I, approaches essay writing through the elements of style and the elements of argument. Students analyze these elements in several essays, developing skill in writing and speaking persuasively. Focus is on blending style and substance effectively. Prerequisite: CO302.

**CO 402 Writing for Media I (2 cr)**

This course emphasizes the perfection of writing skills and introduces the student to journalistic writing with appropriate readings and analysis.

**CO 404 Writing for Media II(2 cr)**

This course is a continuation of CO 402. It emphasizes the perfection of writing skills and introduces the student to journalistic writing with appropriate readings and analysis.

**Modern Languages**

Each student is required to attain oral and written proficiency in a second language.

Modern language offerings currently include: Spanish, French, Special Topics and English as a Second Language. Course elements include conversation, grammar, composition and literature. Spanish language courses are enriched by two days a week of on campus immersion (spiritual and social activities) and various language activities. Emphasizing a communicative approach, language classes are centered on laboratory sessions, which provide a dynamic environment to develop basic conversational skills.

Language classes are adapted to various learning levels. Depending on the language level, students may have the opportunity to pursue independent studies in Special Topics and/or to learn another language. To assess language skills, every student will undergo a placement exam at the beginning of their year of studies. The placement exam consists of an interview assessing life experience and communication skills as well as a written exam evaluating comprehension, grammar and writing skills.

**ESL 154 English as a Second Language (Remedial)**

This is a course for non-native English speakers. It develops listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Language laboratory provides individual guidance for intensive training and practice in basic writing and communication skills. Prerequisite: Instructor's approval according to placement exam.

**ESL 254 English as a Second Language Seminar II (Remedial)**

This course places emphasis on oral fluency and written proficiency in English. Development of English communication skills with a focus on the following: vocabulary, grammar, comprehension and conversation. Prerequisite: ESL 154 or instructor's approval according to placement exam.

**FR 144 French I (3 cr)**

This course emphasizes the practice of conversational skills for everyday usage. Fundamentals of grammar and pronunciation are reviewed and vocabulary acquisition is developed. Prerequisite: Instructor's approval according to placement exam.

**FR 146 French II (3 cr)**

Students are expected to achieve a functional level of fluency. Exercises in reading, writing and pronunciation are supplemented by further work in grammar and vocabulary. A communicative approach is emphasized.

**ML 274 Special Topics (3 cr)**

Special Topics – Group and or individual investigation of a special topic approved by their adviser, independent study of another language, or special courses that enrich the departmental offerings but are not regularly offered.

**ML 276 Special Topics (3 cr)**

Special Topics – Group and or individual investigation of a special topic approved by their adviser, independent study of another language, or special courses that enrich the departmental offerings but are not regularly offered.

**SP 134 Spanish I (3 cr)**

This course emphasizes the practice of conversational skills for everyday usage. Fundamentals of grammar and pronunciation are reviewed and vocabulary acquisition is developed. Prerequisite: Instructor's approval according to placement exam.

**SP 136 Spanish II (3 cr)**

Students are expected to achieve a functional level of fluency. Exercises in reading, writing, and pronunciation are supplemented by further work in grammar and vocabulary. A communicative approach is emphasized. Prerequisite: SP 134 or instructor's approval according to placement exam.

*Pastoral Studies*

**PS 366 Commandments (3 cr)**

A study of the divine law as promulgated in the Decalogue. It examines each commandment and its implications in evaluating human behavior in order to attain happiness and self-realization.

**PS 422 Spiritual Guidance I and II (4 cr)**

This course deals with the aims, motives and qualities of counseling as well as the techniques of listening, understanding, dialoguing and guiding, which are essential for all counselors to possess and use correctly. It also describes the various applications of counseling in accordance with the different character types, various life situations and needs. In this course, students are trained to be guides for women of all ages.

**PS 432 Youth Ministry (2 cr)**

This course gives the basic concepts of pastoral ministry with youth. Emphasis is placed on the most effective principles and methods used today in youth work, and practical guidelines for current situations and difficulties.

**PS 434 Marriage and Family (2 cr)**

This course gives the basic concepts of pastoral ministry with youth. Emphasis is placed on the most effective principles and methods used today in work with families, and practical guidelines for current situations and difficulties.

**PS 442 Catechetical Methods (3 cr)**

Students explore the nature, sources, content and method of Christian catechetics, and its relationship to various ages and groups of people.

**PS 444 Capstone Seminar I and II (4 cr)**

In this course students undertake supervised reference and research work on a topic of interest related to the field of religious and pastoral studies, and are expected to reflect upon and to engage in discussion upon a variety of topics related to their field of study. They are required to submit a research proposal for approval, make a formal presentation of their research, lead a seminar discussion and submit a final research paper. The use of primary sources and appropriate research techniques is emphasized. Topics will vary from year to year depending on student interest.

*Philosophy*

**PH 162 Introduction to Anthropology (2 cr)**

This course explores the reality of the human person as a composite unity of body and soul, with the concomitant powers of understanding, willing, feeling and loving. It also examines the person's freedom and subjectivity. Based on the views of St. Thomas Aquinas, it is a fundamental course that underlies many of the others.

**PH 164 Logic and Epistemology (3 cr)**

Students examine the basic principles and rules of logical analysis, study the nature of knowledge, its sources and the certainty of those sources, and apply the results to religious faith.

**PH 234 Natural Theology (3 cr)**

This course probes the possibility of knowing God's existence through the light of human reason and from an existential and human perspective. Three aspects are discussed: the existence of God, his nature, and how the world relates to God.

**PH 262 Philosophical Anthropology (3 cr)**

The objectives of this course are to understand what it means to be a human person; the marvel and dignity of being a person; the substantial unity of the human person, body and soul as one person. To understand the unique and manifold relation between person and body. To understand spiritual affectivity, the role of "the heart." To understand human freedom in all its dimensions, the nature of true freedom, the relation between freedom and determinism.

**PH 266 Metaphysics (3 cr)**

This course explores the Thomistic system of metaphysics, probing into the idea of being, transcendental properties, substance and accident, act and potency, matter and form, and efficient and final causality. Students are encouraged to reflect on the fundamental questions and characteristics of existence, seeing the relations between this abstract science and the world around them.

**PH 288 Ethics (3 cr)**

Students study human acts, the morality of acts, conscience and how the human person makes morally binding decisions on the basis of objective and subjective motivations, intentions, knowledge and other factors.

*Religious Studies*

**RS 156 New Testament (3 cr)**

This is an introduction to the study of the New Testament, the Synoptic Gospels, and Johannine literature. Emphasis will be placed on the theological and historical meaning of the New Testament and the student will be introduced to the methodological principles used in the study of Sacred Scripture.

**RS 180 Christian Spirituality (6 cr)**

This course studies the nature, characteristics and fundamental principles of what is called the "spiritual life." It addresses life as a vocation, with particular focus given to the evangelical counsels, especially in the context of the consecrated vocation.

**RS 362 Sacraments (3 cr)**

This course explores the nature and celebration of the seven sacraments, their historical development and their foundation in Christ. It examines the nature of external signs and their efficaciousness.

**RS 370 Fundamental Theology (3 cr)**

This course studies the basic dogmas of Christianity regarding the phenomenon of faith, the divine inspiration of Scripture and Tradition, and the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**RS 380 Christian Creed (6 cr)**

Students comprehensively examine the basic tenets of Christian faith as presented in the classic confessional statement of the Council of Constantinople, 381 AD, the Nicene Creed. The Creed provides a structure for investigating the foundational beliefs of the Catholic Church and the areas of theology that correspond to those beliefs. Participants in the course will gain knowledge of the history and development of the Church's beliefs. Topics include the Trinity, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, the Mother of God, and eschatology. Prerequisite: RS 180 Christian Spirituality.

Program Cycle

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree Program in Religious and Pastoral Studies consists of 124 credit hours of course work. A typical pathway for full-time students who plan to complete the program in four years would be as follows:

*Academic Year I*

**Fall Semester**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
RS 154	Introduction to Sacred Scripture	3
RS 180	Christian Spirituality	3
PH 162	Introduction to Anthropology	2
PH 164	Logic and Epistemology	3
MH 105	Mathematical Methods	3
CO 102	Communication Skills I	2
		TOTAL 16

**Spring Semester**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
RS 156	New Testament	3
RS 180	Christian Spirituality	3
SS 102	History and Methods of Psychology	2
SC 173	General Physics	3
CO 104	Communication Skills II	2
		TOTAL 13

**Spring Intensive Course**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
SC 175	Introduction to Computer Science	2
		TOTAL 2

*Academic Year II*

**Fall Semester**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
HU 232	Greek and Roman History	3
PH 272	Ancient and Medieval Philosophy	3
PH 266	Metaphysics	3
PH 288	Ethics	3
SS 202	Developmental Psychology	2
CO 202	Literary Techniques I	2
		TOTAL 16

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**Spring Semester**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
SS 204	Educational Psychology	2
HU 234	History from the Renaissance to the Modern Period	3
PH 274	Modern and Contemporary Philosophy	3
PH 234	Natural Theology	3
CO 204	Literary Techniques II	2
PH 262	Philosophical Anthropology	3
		TOTAL 16

**Spring Intensive Course**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
SS 253	Contemporary Socio-Political Culture	2
		TOTAL 2

*Academic Year III*

**Fall Semester**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
HU 322	Development of Early Christian Thought	3
RS 380	Christian Creed	3
RS 370	Fundamental Theology	3
RS 386	Foundations of Social and Individual Ethics	3
CO 302	Argumentation, Debate, and Essay Writing Techniques I	2
		TOTAL 14

**Spring Semester**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
HU 324	Development of Western Christian Thought from the Reformation to Contemporary Times	3
RS 362	Sacraments	3
RS 380	Christian Creed	3
SS 382	Bioethics	3
PS 366	Commandments	3
CO 304	Argumentation , Debate, and Essay Writing Techniques II	2
		TOTAL 17

*Academic Year IV*

**Fall Semester**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
PS 422	Spiritual Guidance I	2
PS 432	Youth Ministry	2
PS 442	Catechetical Methods	3
SS 442	Economics and Finance	2
PS 444	Capstone Seminar I	2
CO 402	Writing for Media I	2
		TOTAL 13

**Spring Semester**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
PS 424	Spiritual Guidance II	2
SS 406	Education of Women	3
PS 434	Marriage and Family	2
PS 446	Capstone Seminar II	2
CO 404	Writing for the Media II	2
		TOTAL 11*

\* Those who participate in fieldwork training gain enough credit to be classified as full-time students.

**Other Requirements**

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
	Fieldwork Training	4
	Modern Language	6
		TOTAL 10

*Honors Projects*

Various opportunities are available for students who desire to pursue a more challenging academic program through co-curricular academic activities. Students are urged to consult their academic advisers to propose a personal or group program of study to complement their current academic program as well as to integrate fieldwork experience and community service initiatives. Previous projects have included the development of seminars and courses for women on ethics, virtues, and human anthropology.

**Honors Reading Program**

As one possible path to pursuing honors studies, the College offers the honors reading program. The education provided by Mater Ecclesiae College is meant to be a stimulus for a lifelong pursuit of wisdom and knowledge. It seeks to whet the intellectual appetite so that the individual will constantly look to broaden her knowledge and better understand realities and events by means of thoughtful reflection and inquiry. A marvelous stepping stone to this end comes through acquiring solid reading habits of books known for their excellence and profundity.

This consists in the student's selection of eight books of perennial value, each from a different subject area. The books provide a complement to the subjects that are studied as part of the academic program, but also enrich and deepen the student's perspective. After completing each book, the honors student must write an analytical evaluation of the work. For the sake of building up this capacity and interest for quality reading, the corresponding book report assignments are geared towards forming the habit of analyzing and judging written material for its contents

and context. Given that the themes covered are of perennial value, the student is then capable of further applying the principles and ideals she has gleaned through her reading to the context of the world in which she lives. At the end of the honors program and before graduation, the student should submit a portfolio of the eight book evaluations to the dean of academic affairs.

**General Guidelines for the Reading Selections**

1. In reading each selection, the student is required to:
  - a. Research the author’s life and works .
  - b. Research the historical and cultural context in which the work was written.
  - c. Adequately assimilate the work’s general structure.
  - d. Adequately assimilate the work’s objective, conclusions and most significant contributions.
2. After having read and studied each work, the student will turn in a paper in which the four objectives listed in number 1 are exposed. This paper should be turned in to her academic guide, who should then examine the paper to assure it has accomplished the setout objectives.
3. Given that some of the recommended works are very long, or, are too short, further specifications will be given for what constitutes material for a single book report.
4. When the student has completed all of her readings and assignments, she is to submit electronically to the college a compilation of all eight book reports along with an index.

**Reading Choices**

In the interests of achieving a broader basis of knowledge particularly in themes related to Mater Ecclesiae’s major, the eight works chosen should each belong to a different area.

Area	Topic
Area 1	Philosophy
Area 2	Theological Sources
Area 3	Pontifical Magisterium
Area 4	Dogma Christology Ecclesiology General Dogmatic Theology
Area 5	Moral Theology
Area 6	Apologetics
Area 7	Spirituality
Area 8	Current Situation of the Church, Culture and Society
Area 9	History of the Church and History of Theology
Area 10	Pastoral Studies, Catechesis and Human Sciences

**AREA 1: Philosophy**

**Section 1: Philosophy**

Author	Work
ANSELM OF AOSTA	Proslogion
FABRO, C	God in Exile: Modern Atheism*
GARRIGOU-LAGRANGE, R.	God, His Existence and His Nature
GILSON, E.	Elements of Christian Philosophy
GILSON, E.	The Spirit of Medieval Philosophy
HESCHEL, A.J.	Man is Not Alone; a philosophy of religion Man’s Quest for God

LEWIS, C.S.	The Four Loves
LEWIS, C.S.	Miracles
MORE, T.	Utopia
ORTEGA Y GASSET, J.	Man and People
OTTO, R.	The Idea of the Holy
PASCAL, B.	Pensées
PIEPER, J.	In Defense of Philosophy
PLATO	The Republic
PLATO	The Phaedo
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	Summa Theologica: On the existence and essence of God Prima Pars QQ 2-4 and 6-11 and the QQ on the final end of human life, Prima Secundae, QQ 1-5 You can choose either of these two options, sources of classic Christian Philosophy.

**Section 2: Ethics**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
LEWIS, C.S.	The Abolition of Man
MACINTYRE, A	After Virtue
MANGE, M.A. - LEÓN, J.L	El sentido del sufrimiento*
PIEPER, J.	The Four Cardinal Virtues
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	Summa Theologica Prima Secundae QQ 6, 7 and 17 and QQ. 18 to 21 on the morality of actions
VON HILDEBRAND, D.	Christian Ethics

**AREA 2: Theological Sources**

**Section 1**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
ANONYMOUS	Didache or 'The Apostles' Doctrine
ANONYMOUS	Letter to Diognetus
ST. ATHANASIUS	The Life of Antony
ST. AUGUSTINE	On Christian Doctrine
ST. AUGUSTINE	The Confessions of St. Augustine any group of four chapters that he calls "books" 4,5,7,8, 9 and 11 are especially recommended.
LETTERS OF ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH	
LETTER AND MARTYRDOM OF ST. POLYCARP OF SMYRNA	
ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM	Catechesis
ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA	The Life of Moses
ST. IRENAEUS OF LYONS	Irenaeus against the heresies
ST. JUSTIN	First and Second Apology
ACTS OF THE MARTYRS	
THE SHEPHERD OF HERMAS	

**Section 2: Sacred Scripture**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
BARCLAY, W.C.	Commentaries on Sacred Scripture The Collection has Barclay's commentary for each book of the Bible. Any book constitutes a work. Although the author is protestant, the reader should be able to detect this influence when it appears.
BRUNOT, A.	St. Paul and his Message
DE VAUX, R.	Ancient Israel: Its Life and Institutions
DE LA POTTERIE, I.	La oración de Jesús*
FARMER, W.R.	International Bible Commentary. The articles contained in p. 3-145 constitute one work. Or the content of p. 151-300. Or you can choose the commentary on 10 books of the Bible as a work, 5 from the Old Testament, 5 from the New.
POPE PAUL VI POPE PIUS XII POPE BENEDICT XV POPE LEO XIII	Sancta Mater Ecclesia Divino Afflante Spiritu Spiritus Paraclitus Providentissimus Deus *constitute one book
PASTOR RAMOS, F.	Pablo, un seducido por Cristo*
RAVASI, G.	Los Salmos* The study of the introduction and at least 8 Psalms

**AREA 3: Magisterium**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
Second Vatican Council	Constitutions: Lumen Gentium, Gaudium et Spes Decrees: Perfectae Caritatis, Apostolicam Actuositatem and Unitatis Redintegratio Documents: Dignitatis Humanae, Gravissimum Educationis and Nostra Aetate
Pope John Paul II	Social Encyclicals: Labores Excerens, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, Centessimus Annus
Pope John Paul II	Moral Encyclicals: Veritatis Splendor, Evangelium Vitae, and Fides et Ratio
Pope John Paul II	Encyclicals on the Trinity: Redemptor Hominis, Dives in Misericordia, Dominum et Vivificantem
Pope John Paul II	Family Documents: Apostolic Exhortation, Familiaris Consortio, Letter to the Family, Apostolic Letter, Mulieris Dignitatem
Pope John Paul II	Pastoral Priorities: Slavorum Apostoli, Redemptoris Missio, and Ut Unum Sint

**AREA 4: Dogma**

**Section 1: Christology**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
ADAM, K.	The Son of God (required reading)
ARIAS REYERO, M.	Jesús, el Cristo*
FRIAR LUIS DE LEON	The Names of Christ
LATOURELLE, R.	Man and His Problems in the Light of Christ
PELIKAN, J.	Jesus through the Centuries: His place in the History of Culture

**Section 2: Ecclesiology**

Author	Work
DE LUBAC, H.	The Splendor of the Church
SCHONBORN, CH.	Loving the Church
VON BALTHASAR, H.	The Christian State of Life

**Section 3: General Dogma**

Author	Work
JOHN PAUL II	ONE of the following: God, Father, and Creator Jesus, Son, and Savior The Spirit, giver of life and love
LATOURELLE, R.	The Miracles of Jesus and the Theology of Miracles
MARIN, A ROYO	Teología de la perfección cristiana
RATZINGER, J.	Introduction to Christianity
ROUSSELOT, P.	The Eyes of Faith*
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	Summa Theologica Prima Pars QQ 33 to 38 on the Trinity

**AREA 5: Moral**

Author	Work
ARREGUI, J.V. & RODRIGUEZ, C.	Inventar la sexualidad*
CUERVO, F.	Principios morales de uso más frecuente*
GEACH, P.T.	The Virtues: the Stanton Lectures*
FINNIS, J.	Moral absolutes : tradition, revision, and truth
GARCIA DE HARO, R.	Cristo, fundamento de la moral*
GRISEZ, G. & SHAW, R.	Fulfillment in Christ : a summary of Christian moral principles
LAUN, A.	La conciencia*
PINCKAERS, S.	Morality : the Catholic view
RATZINGER J., et alia	Principles of Christian Morality
SARMIENTO, A.	Moral de la persona y renovación de la teología moral*
SICARI, A.	Breve catequesis sobre el matrimonio*
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	Summa Theologica Prima Secundae QQ. 90 to 97 Treatise on Law
WOJTYLA, K.	Love and Responsibility

**AREA 6: Apologetics**

Author	Work
DESCOUEMONT, P.	Guide des difficultes de la vie quotidienne (French)
LEONARD, A.M.	Demandez et vous recevrez : dieu exauce-t-il nos prieres? (French)
PEDRAZ, J.L.	I wish I could believe
PEDRAZ, J.L.	¿De veras el cristianismo no convence?*

**AREA 7: Spirituality**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
ST. BONAVENTURE	The mind's road to God
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES	Introduction to the Devout Life
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES	On the Love of God
LOUIS OF GRANADA	The Sinner's Guide
GALOT, J.	The Heart of Christ
DE MONTFORT, L.M.	True Devotion to Mary
GUARDINI, R.	Sacred Signs
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS	The Spiritual Canticle
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS	The Living Flames of Love
KEMPIS, T.	The Imitation of Christ
NOUWEN, H.	The Return of the Prodigal Son
ST. TERESA OF AVILA	The Life of Teresa of Jesus; the Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila
ST. TERESA OF AVILA	The Way of Perfection
ST. TERESA OF AVILA	Interior Castle
VON HILDEBRAND, D.	Transformation in Christ

**AREA 8: Current Situation of the Church, Culture and Society**

**Section 1: The Church Today**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
LEWIS, C.S.	Mere Christianity
RATZINGER, J.	Church, Ecumenism and Politics

**Section 2: Cultural and Social**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Work</b>
GUARDINI, R.	The End of the Modern World
GUARDINI, R.	Power and Responsibility
ORWELL, G	1984: a novel
RATZINGER, J.	A turning point for Europe? : the church in the modern world--assessment and forecast
SCHOOYANS, M.	Bioethics and population : the choice of life

**AREA 9: History of the Church and History of Theology**

ST. AUGUSTINE	The City of God from the last 12 of 22 books, a group of four books count as one book: the origin of the city of the world and the city of God; the favorable or unfavorable course of each city or the last four books, their outcome.
BORGES, P.	Quién era Bartolomé de las Casas
EUSEBIUS PAMPHILI	The History of The Church from Christ to Constantine
JEDIN, H.	Papal Legate at the Council of Trent
REDONDO, G.	The Church in the Contemporary World

AREA 10: Pastoral Studies, Catechesis and Human Sciences

Author	Work
AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO, JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, GREGORY NAZIANZUS AND GREGORY OF NYSSA	Servir a los pobres con alegría*
CONGREGATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION	Guidelines for the Study and Teaching of Social Doctrine of the Church in the Formation of Priests (on the network in Spanish)
FRANKL, V.	Man's Search for Meaning
ST. GREGORY the GREAT	Pastoral Rule (Regula Pastoralis) (available on New Advent CD-Rom)

\* These books are currently on MEC's wish-list.

### Campus Life and Student Services

The social environment of Mater Ecclesiae College is based on a life of community. Although there are many similarities between a “religious institution” and a college residence, similarities of external characteristics, activities and pedagogical methods, Mater Ecclesiae is much more than a mere group of students living together under the same roof.

Due to the mission that we share as consecrated women, an atmosphere of living and active charity pervades every aspect of the campus, consisting of a delicate combination of trust, friendship, respect, openness, mutual witness and support. Expressed in fraternal charity, communion of ideals and closeness of faculty and administrators to students, this community environment gives birth to a fraternal collaboration that will continue afterwards as students and alumni exercise their pastoral ministry side by side.

#### *Student Body*

The student body of Mater Ecclesiae College reflects its world-wide scope. About 45 percent of the student body is of international origin, coming from Canada, Mexico, Australia, Brazil, El Salvador, Germany, New Zealand, Italy, Poland, and South Africa. Students range in ages from seventeen to twenty-seven, with an average age of twenty-one. Fourteen percent hold previous undergraduate or graduate degrees from other institutions. All students live on campus in the residence hall.

The College has consistently high retention and graduation rates. For the past five years an average of 92.5 percent of freshmen continue on to their sophomore year, and the four year retention rate is 89.5 percent. This high retention of students is an result of the select nature of the students and their unique fit to the program.

#### *Family Atmosphere*

Mater Ecclesiae aspires to be personalized in order to foster community life through teamwork, collaboration, and solidarity. In each class, students are divided into teams so that there will be a greater affinity in academic interests and in spiritual and human maturity among the members.

The support of a team is a catalyst for fervor and responsibility. Student-led small groups favor the atmosphere of charity and cooperation at Mater Ecclesiae, and much of the in-house work and outreach is done in teams. The fruits of teamwork are the art of cooperation, spirit of service, and mutual encouragement and are evident in abun-

dant student initiatives. In team life, students organize complementary academic activities, cooperate in the care of the campus, host social events (coffee houses, picnics and field trips) and plan apostolic activities, including Come and See Weekends and Friends Weekends for prospective students to visit our campus and experience our distinctive character first-hand. Community life is also manifested as students organize and host appreciation days for the President, Vice-President, Deans of Students and faculty.

The New Student Orientation Program is designed to introduce new students to campus life. During the last week of August, freshman and transfer students participate in a three-day introductory course which highlights all aspects of integral formation; including policies, academic course descriptions and expectations, introductory questionnaires, library skills, cultural knowledge and introduction to the areas of fieldwork education. Peer mentors also facilitate the transition to life at Mater Ecclesiae, as all new students are paired with other students.

A Parent's Program is offered during Freshman Orientation to answer parents questions about Mater Ecclesiae. This also includes a retreat.

### *Student Services*

#### **Library**

The primary mission of the Mater Ecclesiae Library is to ensure that faculty and students have access to the library and information resources that are necessary to support Mater Ecclesiae's educational programs and fulfill its academic mission.

The library also strives to meet the co-curricular intellectual, cultural, and social needs of the students and faculty and to serve its alumnae, administrators, and employees.

#### **Academic advisers**

Each student has an academic adviser to help her on an ongoing basis. This individual attention is the most effective tool for academic success and a great aid for personal growth. Academic advisers help each student attain greater self-knowledge; set academic goals for developing their intellectual aptitudes and areas of interest; review their progress; and find workable solutions to overcome specific challenges or special learning needs.

Each student can approach her adviser at any time for academic needs or academic policy concerns.

Academic advisement allows the Mater Ecclesiae faculty to be attentive to student needs, to motivate, and to help resolve difficulties, expand horizons, and provide direction in assignments and research. The main areas of focus include the following:

- Habits of intellectual work (convictions, interest, and breadth of horizons)
- Methodology of study (classes, study periods, memory, note-taking, disciplined reflection)
- Intellectual skills (analysis, synthesis, reflection, application, judgment, use of memory)
- Fulfilling personal potential (time management, intellectual capacity, dedication)
- Assimilation of subject matter
- Participation in foreign language, academic presentations, debates, academic contests
- Development of writing and public speaking skills

#### **Peer Tutoring and Mentoring**

Individual and group tutorial sessions are available for students who have specific learning needs in a particular subject area. Students can request these services through their academic advisers, and are then matched with student tutors who have an excellent grasp of the subject and have been recommended by faculty members. Faculty members themselves are available to advise students and provide additional support when needed.

Mentors are available upon request for students seeking to develop their written and oral communication skills. Faculty provides critiques of presentations, practice sessions and development of communication techniques. They also assist students with writing assignments, organizing and developing ideas, writing for a specific audience, evaluating evidence, writing critical analyses, reports, and research papers, and learning how to proofread and edit.

### **New Student Orientation**

The New Student Orientation Course is meant to integrate incoming students with the larger student body and help them become familiar with life at Mater Ecclesiae College. Students are introduced to all aspects of campus life, from the academic program to their rights and responsibilities as students, as well as all student facilities and services, including academic, residential, social and spiritual.

### *Campus Life Services*

#### **Campus Ministry**

Father Jose Alonso, L.C., is the chaplain at Mater Ecclesiae College; the assistant chaplain is Father Edward McIlmail, L.C. Pastoral and spiritual activities include sacramental ministry, retreats, talks and presentations and all liturgical rites. The chaplains' office is located near reception in the Domus Mariae Residence Hall. Chaplains are readily available to meet the spiritual needs of students and faculty. All services are offered free of charge and are highly recommended.

Mater Ecclesiae College is specifically committed to the formation of consecrated women of Regnum Christi and is, therefore, dedicated to steeping the students in Regnum Christi spirituality.

The goal of spiritual formation is to put the student in contact with the true sources of spiritual life: sacraments, prayer and the Gospel. The center of the day at Mater Ecclesiae College is the celebration of the Eucharist; all students, faculty and staff are invited to gather for this as a collegiate community.

#### **Campus Ministry Activities & Programs**

All students are introduced to prayer through talks, retreats, spiritual guidance, personal dialogue, and freshmen classes. Students' prayer life will grow and deepen during their times of personal prayer so that by graduation they are women well grounded in prayer.

Students are encouraged to meet in small teams each week for a Gospel reflection, to discuss Regnum Christi spirituality, and to pray the rosary together.

#### **Liturgical Ministry**

Students are asked and encouraged to participate in the liturgy and help prepare for it. Student volunteers take turns setting up for the celebration of Mass and Benediction and reading in Mass as lectors. Those with musical talent are encouraged to sing as soloists in Masses on special feast days.

### *Leadership Development*

#### **Student Development**

As stated in Mater Ecclesiae's Mission Statement, "...the program pursues an 'integral formation' that maintains quality intellectual, spiritual and social standards; forms character; and emphasizes service."

The four areas of Mater Ecclesiae's integral formation are intellectual formation, spiritual formation, character formation and social formation. This formation covers all aspects of the human person and challenges students to reach their full potential. (Refer to the Mission Statement.)

To foster the integral formation of all students, Mater Ecclesiae College provides a substantial co-curricular pro-

gram and a wide-variety of extra-curricular activities and student services in order to assist students in achieving academic and personal growth, to enhance the learning process and to provide opportunities for developing each student's personal potential as a contributing member of society.

Student services are designed to identify and meet student needs by promoting an environment that is conducive to the integral development of the student.

Students are highly encouraged to take responsibility for their own education by making the most of all the opportunities the College offers, particularly the one-on-one guidance available to them upon request in each of the four areas of formation, as well as by participating actively in student life and setting and pursuing challenging personal goals.

### **Student Leadership Opportunities**

The mission of Mater Ecclesiae College is to prepare consecrated women for leadership positions in educational, pastoral, religious and social institutions. Consecrated women are called to be leaders through their conviction and personal witness of the faith and their ability to transmit the Gospel message. Students need to learn to be responsible and authentic, to have strong will power, to be organized and to be distinguished in their dress and manner. Leadership involves all facets of life: spiritual, moral, intellectual, social, and human.

Each person follows a unique path in their leadership development, and Mater Ecclesiae College prides itself on the personal guidance given each student to reach this goal. Some tools available for all students to develop leadership qualities include the following:

- Personal character dialogue
- Responsibilities on campus that help students develop essential leadership qualities such as a vision of the whole, personal commitment, and responsibility
- Fieldwork experience

Through personal orientation from their Dean of Students and their academic adviser, each student can discern which activities will help to develop her potential and help her grow in her capacity to lead others. Students also have the opportunity to help in the recruitment office by offering presentations to prospective students. The possibilities are endless, and with the personal help of her Dean of Students, each student can make the most of the many opportunities to develop her personal leadership.

### **Student Government/Senate**

Due to the fact that Mater Ecclesiae College student body is made up of consecrated women, student government exists according to the specific nature of the consecrated vocation, specifically via channels through which each student is invited to participate in and provide direct input into campus life.

The institution has various structures and channels of student representation through which students voice their satisfaction, concern and suggestions, and help implement initiatives and changes in college life.

### **Class Leaders**

The class leader is the spokeswoman of her class.

- Student comments, questions, group concerns regarding classes, methods of instruction, assignments, etc., are brought to the attention of the dean of academic affairs, teachers, etc., by the class leaders.
- Class leaders communicate frequently with the chief administrative officers, and teachers to ensure that the student voice is being heard.

As with all structures at Mater Ecclesiae College, although there are class leaders, students are free to approach the Dean of Academic Affairs or any CAO directly at any time.

### *Co-curricular Program*

The co-curricular program at Mater Ecclesiae College consists of those non-credit activities that support academic program objectives and the integral development of the students. The program includes debates, academic presentations, academic contests, public speaking, lecture series, cultural activities, cultural visits, and current events courses. These activities take place outside the classroom and usually involve the whole student body. The co-curricular program promotes dialogue and academic freedom, providing students with the opportunity to examine current events and topics of interest from a variety of angles and viewpoints. The co-curricular activities frequently incorporate and build off of current events in order to help the students increase their awareness and understanding of the modern world and contemporary world views.

#### **Debates**

Sophomores and juniors prepare debates that focus on a specific area of academic study and provide additional opportunities for forensics. Through individual Lincoln-Douglas debates and team value debates, students develop argumentation and judgment skills and expand their ability to communicate. Preparation for debate also serves as training in liberal thinking, as students are required to prepare both sides of the argument. This helps students to develop their own convictions and their capacity to defend the truth.

#### **Academic Presentations**

Every class prepares an annual academic presentation for the student body, faculty, and staff. The topic of this presentation will be related to the particular theme of their studies, or to some aspect of history, the doctrine and life of the Church, or a current world situation. The dynamics within the presentations vary from round tables to symposiums, audiovisual presentations, musical interludes, poetry recitations, and debates. Academic presentations are formal expositions that provide an opportunity for written, oral and artistic expression, professional creativity, and teamwork. Students have the opportunity to research, write, edit, choreograph and prepare audio-visual presentations. The topics of previous presentations have included the cultural influence of the mass media, the drama of man in Shakespeare, sacraments in the life of the Church, the pilgrim Church: a journey to the light, and youth leadership.

#### **Academic Contests**

Academic contests are offered as a means of supporting and enhancing the general education program. Four contests are held each year on varying themes in the areas of politics and social studies, philosophy, theology, culture, language, and the arts. Over a four to six week period, students are provided with study materials related to the selected theme. A final competition closes the contest. Contests often provide students with the opportunity to assimilate, memorize and transmit general information on a topic, or to focus on an aspect of the chosen theme that is of specific interest to them. Academic contests enrich the co-curricular program by helping students sharpen their critical thinking skills and powers of judgment, strengthen their memory, and improve their oral and written communication skills. The different dynamics used, including debates, round table discussion, panels, and interviews make the contests highly enjoyable as well.

#### **Public Speaking**

In addition to the communication classes, students are given various public speaking opportunities throughout the year. They may be invited to present the College to the various groups that come for Open Houses or private visits, to present a conference to the rest of the student body, to present different parts of campus life to incoming students during the orientation courses, to act as lector during liturgical celebrations, or to be master of ceremonies or deliver a declamation at a special campus events. Students are encouraged to use these and other occasions as a means to fine-tune their speaking abilities. Their academic advisers are available to help them prepare and to provide feedback afterward.

### **Lecture Series**

A lecture series is offered throughout the year consisting of 4 to 5 lectures by visiting professors, renowned scholars, or public figures. Topics include current events, culture, politics, philosophical topics, theological and religious issues, and historical developments.

### **Cultural Activities**

Cultural activities, held two or three weeks at Mater Ecclesiae College, complement the general education program, with particular emphasis on the liberal arts – art, literature, history, etc. Although the cultural activities follow a four year cycle of general themes, the specific topics they address can vary considerably, often in response to current events. The general themes are modern and contemporary art; social and political leaders of the 20th century; the popes of the 20th century; and Christianity and world religions: dialogue between faiths.

### **Cultural Visits**

There are two cultural visits each semester. These visits are daylong excursions to different museums and sites of cultural, historic, or religious significance. The cultural visits for each year of the program correspond to the academic content of that year. Freshmen students visit religious and historic sites that correspond to their religious and general education studies; sophomores visit specific art museums to complement their humanities courses; juniors make visits to history and science museums that support their courses in the social sciences studies; and the seniors' cultural visits revolve around national and international affairs and education, all areas that correspond to their social science and pastoral studies.

The Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Isabella Gardener Museum, the Museum of Natural History, the John F. Kennedy Museum and the United Nations Head-quarters are among the different sites visited. Students are encouraged to use the cultural visits to study specific topics in greater depth and to integrate this knowledge with their study of leaders and leadership skills by recognizing how the ideas, discoveries and concepts of individuals they study have had and continue to have a real effect on the world.

### **Current Events Seminar**

These sessions address contemporary issues of religious, political, social and scientific significance by providing an overview of national and international headlines and by analyzing more in-depth articles on topics of particular interest or importance. In addition to complementing the general education program, the Current Events Seminar offered at Mater Ecclesiae forms students in critical thinking skills and provides them with a working knowledge of the world, preparing them for future leadership positions.

### **Writing Club/Book Discussion Club**

Students with an interest and talent in writing and editing are invited to join the Writing Club where they have the opportunity to learn and practice different forms of writing from opinion pieces and book reviews to creative writing and apologetics. Student writing is regularly published in the college publications, as well as magazines, newspapers, and websites. The book discussion club chooses 3-4 books to be read throughout the year and then prepares and hosts an open discussion to analyze the book's content, structure, and implications and to share insights and reflections.

### **Student Publications**

- Mater Ecclesiae Digest: a biannual journal of Catholic thought bringing together the study, reflection, and discussion of students and faculty members at Mater Ecclesiae College. Its contents include a wide range of editorials, reflections about various world issues, discussions, in-depth articles, and book reviews which surround a common theme.
- Dialogos: a biannual collection of the best creative work from Mater Ecclesiae College students. Its contents offer a wide variety of genre surrounding a common theme.
- MEC Newsletter: Provides photos, testimonies, and summaries of campus events.

## **Music Appreciation**

Students are taught to develop the ability to listen perceptively, to appreciate various styles of classical music, and to gain a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical backdrop behind the particular works studied. A representative selection of musical pieces and a variety of musical styles are covered, ranging from the Middle Ages to the present day.

## **Choral Workshop**

Mater Ecclesiae students meet for a choral workshop in which they learn to read music, train their voice and harmonize. Weekly choral workshops provide music theory, and opportunities for students to learn three and four part harmonies. Music pieces are chosen from Gregorian, Baroque, classical, and contemporary selections. Over the four years of the program, students are exposed to a wide variety of musical forms, styles, time periods and cultures.

## *Extra-curricular Activities*

Mater Ecclesiae College offers a variety of extra-curricular activities to meet the special interests and recreation needs of the student body. Students have the opportunity to come together with others to develop talents, foster creativity, exercise leadership skills, and participate more fully in community life. These groups evolve and develop spontaneously over the years according to student interests and opportunities.

## **Music**

Students with an interest and talent in music, whether this be singing or playing an instrument, are encouraged to participate in the choir or the orchestra. The group meets weekly and, in addition to performing for the student body on special occasions, often performs for guests. Over the past few years Mater Ecclesiae's choir has recorded five CDs, with most of the songs written by students.

Chorus provides opportunities for singers and musicians to participate in a choir dedicated to the study and performance of choral and popular music in several languages (Spanish, Italian, French, Latin, and English). The choir has performed for students' families and visitors of Mater Ecclesiae College, at national and international conventions.

The Mater Ecclesiae Choir has released the following CDs: "Cast the Nets" © 2003, "Making all Things New" © 2005, "In His Presence" © 2005, "And the Word became Flesh" © 2006, "Behold Your Mother" © 2007, and "Life in Christ" © 2009, and "I Can Love You Still" in 2010.

## **Art**

Mater Ecclesiae's Art Room is always busy. Students with an artistic bent have access to a variety of mediums. They are often asked to design and produce seasonal cards and gifts, as well as programs, table settings and decorations for feast days. The year's biggest project is to prepare a life size Nativity Scene that usually includes the surrounding town and countryside of Bethlehem, complete with inhabitants, as well as the stable or cave where the Holy Family is found. This "Christmas Room" is unveiled after Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

## **Garden**

Most of the landscaping at Mater Ecclesiae College has been done by students. As each generation tries to leave a lasting mark before graduating, projects for further development and continued improvement of the grounds, such as work on Our Lady's Grotto, are regularly undertaken.

## **Sports**

Sports are necessary to preserve and increase good mental and physical health, and to foster friendship. Sports are seen as a great opportunity to know and form character and to exercise such valuable virtues as diligence, self-exertion, will power, generosity, charity, and openness to others. All students regularly set aside time to play basketball,

volleyball, softball, field Frisbee, or run in the open field. Occasionally, students will organize intramural sports tournaments and sports clinics.

### **Residence Life**

Education involves the entire person. To ensure the integral formation of all students, Mater Ecclesiae College provides a wide-variety of student services in order to assist students in achieving academic and personal growth, to enhance the learning process and to provide opportunities for developing each student's personal potential as a contributing member of society.

Student services are designed to identify and meet student needs by promoting an environment that is conducive to the integral development of the student in all her dimensions: spiritual, social, and interpersonal.

### *Community Welfare and Student Conduct Policies*

#### **The Student Handbook**

Policies on campus discipline are published in the Student Handbook. Attendance at Mater Ecclesiae College implies acceptance of these policies. The Vice-director of student affairs is responsible for the implementation and oversight of these policies.

#### **Alcohol and Illegal Drug Policy**

Mater Ecclesiae College's campus is a drug free environment, in order that students may live according to the dignity of the human person, and be free to fully achieve the goals of the rigorous academic program. No student, faculty member or visitor may use, possess, distribute, sell or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. Violations to this policy will lead to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate dismissal from enrollment at Mater Ecclesiae College. Such violations may also have legal consequences. Students with questions on this policy or issues related to drug or alcohol use on the campus should raise their concerns with the president, Director and/or Vice-director of student affairs without fear of reprisal.

#### **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is a form of misconduct that undermines the integrity of the human person. All students of Mater Ecclesiae College are entitled to a professional academic environment free of unsolicited and unwelcome sexual overtures.

The President of Mater Ecclesiae College is responsible for maintaining current information on applicable laws, and institutional rules and regulations in order to explore with complainants the full ramifications of their allegations and to explore with those accused the full ramifications and significance of their alleged behavior. Action will be taken according to the outcome of these procedures.

#### **Students with Disabilities**

Provisions have been made for students with disabilities following federal regulations and complying with American Disabilities Association. See the business office for further details.

## Directory

### *Administration*

Lourdes Fernández, Ph.D. President  
Daire Ryan, Vice-President & Director of Financial & Administrative Affairs  
Lauren Hawkesworth, Vice-Director of Student Affairs  
Patricia Camarero, Ph.D. Dean of Academic Affairs  
Mary Patt Pirie, Director of Experiential Learning  
Julie Lepore, M.L.I.S. Librarian  
Naoise Johnston, M.I.St. Academic Secretary  
Deb Bauer, Ph.D. (ABD), Director of Institutional Advancement  
Maritza Silva, Business Manager

### *Full-time Faculty*

#### **José Antonio Alonso**

S.T.D. (ABD), Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University  
S.T.L. Ph.L., Pontifical Gregorian University  
Assistant Professor, Theology

#### **Deb Bauer**

Ph.D. (ABD), Candidate, Capella University  
M.A. Theology and Christian Ministry, Franciscan University of Steubenville  
B.S. School Health Education, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  
Assistant Professor, Theology, Catechetics and Fieldwork

#### **Patricia Camarero**

Ph.D., Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University  
Ph.L., Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University  
B.A., Development and Education, Anahuac University  
B.A. studies, Philosophy, Pan-American University  
Philosophical studies, University of Navarra  
Professor, Philosophy

#### **Lourdes Fernández**

Ph.D., Education, Capella University  
M.Ed., Guidance and Counseling, Providence College  
B.S. Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey  
Professor, Social Sciences

#### **Joan Kingsland**

STD, STL, STB John Paul II Institute for Marriage and the Family, Lateran University  
MA in Liberal Arts, Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, University of Toronto  
BA in Liberal Arts, Thomas Aquinas College  
Professor, Theology

#### **Laura Mayers**

M.S. Diagnostic Evaluations, Minot State University  
B.S. Elementary Education and Education of the Deaf, Minot State University  
Instructor, Social Sciences

#### **Maria Reinagel**

M.A. Marriage and Family Studies, John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family Studies  
B.A. Liberal Arts, Thomas Aquinas College  
Assistant Professor, Pastoral Studies

#### **Jennifer Ristine**

M.A. Theology, Catholic Distance University  
B.A., Education, Western Illinois University  
Instructor, Theology

*Part-time Faculty*

**Roger Anderson**

Executive Assistant to the President, Bryant University  
Ph.D., Management, University of Oregon  
M.A., History, Providence College  
M.B.A., University of Wyoming  
B.A., Business, Augustana College  
Professor, Humanities

**Maria Aoyama**

M.A., Bilingual Education, Brown University  
B.A., Spanish and French, Rhode Island College  
Assistant Professor, Modern Languages

**Donald DeMarco**

Professor Emeritus, St. Jerome's University  
Adjunct Professor, Holy Apostles College and Seminary  
Ph.D., M.A., Philosophy, St. John's University  
S.T.L., Gregorian University,  
B.A., Philosophy, Stonehill College  
Professor, Social Sciences

**Nikola Derpich**

S.T.D. (ABD), Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University  
S.T.L., S.T.B. Theology, Regina Apostolorum Pontifical  
University  
Instructor, Theology

**Barbara Hampson**

M.A. in Teaching, Spanish, Rhode Island College  
B.A. in Teaching, Spanish and French, Rhode Island College  
Instructor, English as a Second Language

**Naoise Johnston**

M.I.St., University of Toronto  
B.A., Philosophy and English, University of Saskatchewan  
Professor, Capstone Semiar

**Joan LaPlante**

M.A., English, Middlebury College  
B.A., English, Rhode Island College  
Assistant Professor, English

**Carmella McGowan**

M.Ed., Instructional Technology, Rhode Island College  
B.A., University of Rhode Island  
Instructor, Computer Science

**Edward McIlmail**

M.A., Theology, Holy Apostles College & Seminary  
B.A., Theology and Philosophy, Regina Apostolorum  
Pontifical University  
B.S.J. Journalism, Northwestern University  
Instructor, Theology

**Siobhan O'Connor**

M.Ed., Franciscan University of Steubenville  
B.A., Honors in Dramatic Literature, Bishops'  
University  
B.A., Development and Education, Anahuac University  
Instructor, English

**Jose Felix Ortega**

M.A., Accounting, Center for Financial Studies  
M.A., Financing, Center for Financial Studies  
Instructor, Economy and Finance

**Stephen Schwarz**

Professor, Philosophy, University of Rhode Island  
Ph.D., Philosophy, Harvard University  
M.A., B.A. Fordham University  
Professor, Philosophy

**Fritz Wenisch**

Professor, Philosophy, University of Rhode Island  
Habilitation (Philosophy), University of Salzburg  
Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Salzburg  
Matura, Bundeslehrerbildungsanstalt Salzburg  
Professor, Philosophy

**Mark Wimbush**

Ph.D., Oceanography, Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
M.A., B.A., Physics, Oxford University  
Professor, Physics

*Campus Ministry*

**Chaplain: José Alonso, LC**

S.T.D. (ABD), Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University  
S.T.L., Ph.L., Pontifical Gregorian University

## Directions to Mater Ecclesiae College

Mater Ecclesiae College is located at 60 Austin Ave, Greenville, Rhode Island, 02820.

By Car: Greenville is on Route I-295. Take exit 7B and follow Route 44 west. Go straight through nine traffic lights, turning right onto Austin Avenue shortly after the fire department; Mater Ecclesiae College is half a mile on the left.

By Air: T.F. Green Airport, a 25-minute drive from Greenville, is the nearest airport and is served by all major airlines.

By Bus: Greyhound and Bonanza bus lines have terminals in Providence, Rhode Island, located 20 minutes away.

By Train: Amtrak serves Providence, Rhode Island, located 20 minutes east of Greenville.

