

# Academic Programs

## DEGREE PROGRAMS

### Bachelor of Arts Degree

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree is a four-year, 120 credit-hour course of study. The BA is awarded upon successful completion of all requirements which includes a core curriculum consisting of Biblical Studies, General Education and Major Requirements.

### Minimum Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Pillar College, the student must complete Biblical/Theological Studies (30 in the traditional program and 18 in the LEAD program), at least 57 credits of General Education Core Curriculum, and the department requirements for the major of study.

### Major Requirements

A major is a sequence of courses in a subject-matter area or discipline which, when accompanied by appropriate supporting courses, leads to a degree. Completion of a major is shown on both the student's diploma and academic transcript.

### Concentration Requirements

Students have the option of choosing a concentration (or specialization area) within their major of study. A concentration is a sequence of at least 12 semester credits of designated courses within a major designed to accommodate specific interests of students. Completion of a concentration is shown on a student's academic transcript, but not on the diploma. Students are encouraged to utilize their department and free electives to earn the concentration.

### Core Curriculum Requirements

Pillar College requires all students in the traditional degree program to complete a common core curriculum consistent with Pillar College's Philosophy of Education. Below is an outline of the recommended degree requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in the Traditional Program:

<b>Biblical Studies Core Requirements</b>		<b>21 credits</b>
BIBL 101	Old Testament Survey	3
BIBL 102	New Testament Survey	3
BSCM 101	Spiritual Formation	3
CHHS 200+	Church History	3
THEO 201	Introduction to Christian Doctrine	3
BIBL 201	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	3
BIBL 230	Life and Teachings of Christ	3
<b>General Education Core Requirements</b>		<b>57 credits</b>
BSCM 250	Introduction to Innovation and Creativity	3
COMM 121	College Foundations	3
COMM 101	Media, Technology & Society	3
COMM 150	Principles of Public Speaking	3
ENGL 101/2	English Composition I and II	6
ENGL 200+	World Literature I or II	3
HIST 200	Western Civilization I and American Government	6
MATH 101	Contemporary Math	3
PHIL 101	Survey of Worldviews	3
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
ECON-101	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
SCI Elective	Natural Science Elective	3
ELECTIVE	General Education Electives	15
<b>Core Major Requirements</b>		<b>33 credits</b>
<b>Free Elective Requirements</b>		<b>9 credits</b>

## **General Education Curriculum**

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General education at Pillar College seeks to provide an educational and social environment that will affirm and reinforce Christian faith and at the same time strengthen the ability to engage in serious scholarship. The integration of faith and knowledge and the ability to evaluate content in the light of Christian truth are therefore important components of general education at Pillar College, along with the impartation of 21st century knowledge and skills that will enable students to embody the faith and capably communicate the gospel.

### **General Education Learning Goals:**

1. Christian Maturity
2. Content Mastery
3. Integration of Faith and Knowledge
4. Global and Cultural Awareness
5. Oral, Written, & Media Communication Skills
6. Creative Thinking
7. Problem Solving
8. Critical Analysis and Reasoning
9. Scientific and Quantitative Literacy
10. Information Literacy
11. Technological Competence
12. Collaboration

Pillar College seeks to introduce students to both the breadth of knowledge and the lifelong project of integrating that knowledge. With the exception of a few electives, all students at Pillar College take the same core courses in general education. This enables members of the faculty to integrate their own work with material common to students' core courses, facilitating understanding of how all of the course material interrelates.

A solid, coherent general education has many important benefits. It creates a community of academic discourse which flows out beyond the classroom into students' social lives and equips graduates with the flexibility that they need to adapt to a constantly changing 21st century job market. It prepares students to excel in their major disciplines and provides the skills they need to become lifelong learners. General education inculcates habits of reading and thinking which will continue to be of use for an entire lifetime.

### **General Education Core Requirements:**

A core of general education studies representative of the breadth of general studies and equivalent to approximately half of the total credits required for the degree (30 credits for an Associate degree or 57 credits for a Bachelor degree).