



# 2019-2022 ACADEMIC CATALOG





**ST. JOHN VIANNEY COLLEGE SEMINARY**

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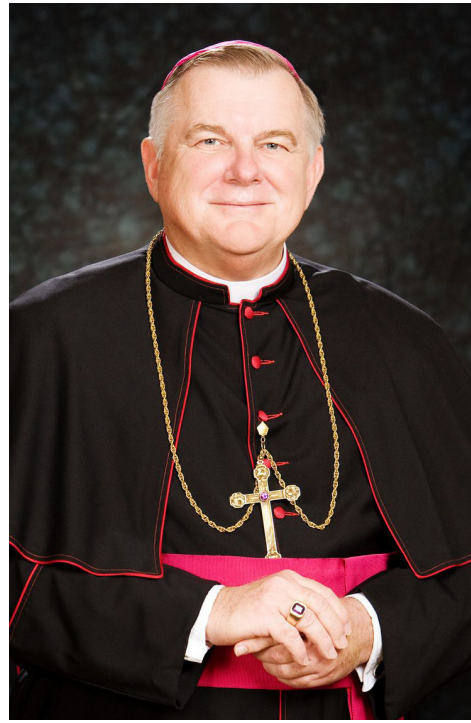
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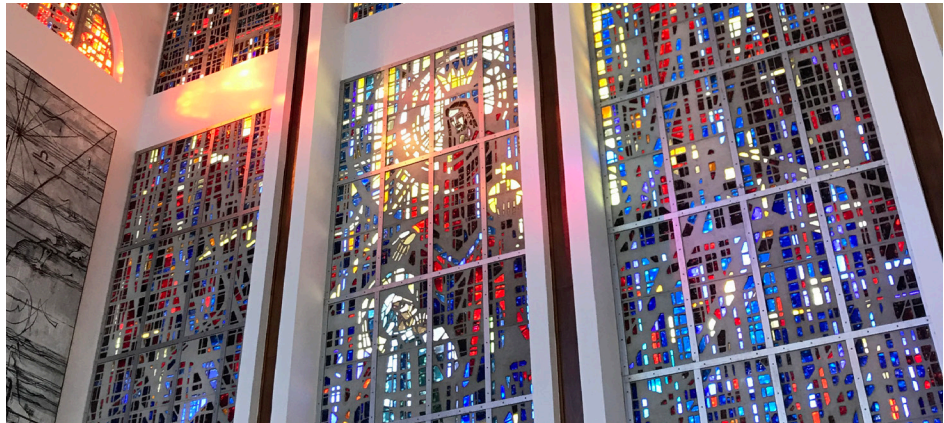
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# Letter from our Rector-President



Very Rev. Ferdinand R.S. Santos, MBA, PhD  
Rector - President

Dear friends in Christ,

Welcome to our family at Saint John Vianney!

For sixty-years now, Saint John Vianney College Seminary has served to educate and form young men discerning a call to the Roman Catholic priesthood. For sixty-years, these grounds have been hallowed by the earnestness, enthusiasm, and commitment these young men have shown as they've sought to respond to the gift of vocation which they received.

Saint John Paul II, in his apostolic exhortation, *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, once said that, while trusting in Christ's promise to always give his people, shepherds after his own heart, the Church must nonetheless "cooperate with God's action and contribute to the creation and preservation of conditions" that will "allow the seed of vocation God himself planted, to take root and bear abundant fruit."

As such, the formation of future priests, the good pope added, is "one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of the evangelization of humanity", because it is a "continuation in time of Christ's own work."

St. John Vianney has continuously served as an instrument of this important work of securing for God's People, ministers and servants after Christ's heart. And despite the myriad challenges faced by the Church today, St. John Vianney continues to be blessed with young men who are on fire with zeal for the Gospel. Serious with their studies, and always in earnest about their spiritual, human and pastoral formation, they are nevertheless down-to-earth, kind, compassionate and generous with their time, energy and talents.

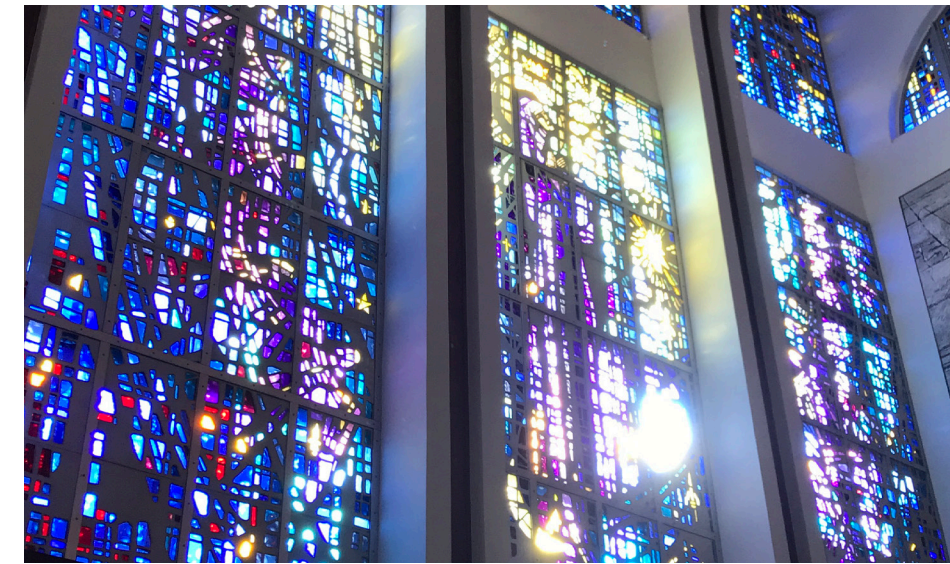
They are faithful to the teachings of the Church and have a profound love for the poor and those in need. But most importantly, they are deeply spiritual men whose dedication to prayer and the spiritual life has been truly inspiring. God-willing, they will become one day, deeply spiritual priests.

Sixty-years after first opening its doors, St. John Vianney continues to have a very healthy group of young men who, despite possessing tremendous potential to become successful in any secular field they could have chosen, have nevertheless decided to take the first tentative steps towards living a life of true discipleship and friendship with Christ. Please continue praying for them. Now, more than ever, the Church needs truly good men, truly holy priests.

With you in begging the Lord to send more laborers to his harvest,

Very Reverend Ferdinand R.S. Santos, Ph.D.  
Rector-President

# General Information



## History and Development

Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll, first Archbishop of Miami, founded St. John Vianney in September of 1959, less than one year after the establishment of the diocese. He called the Seminary "the first and most important project of this new diocese." From its earliest days, the Seminary provided excellent priestly formation for the young diocese and other parts of Florida. Archbishop Carroll entrusted the Seminary to the care of the Congregation of the Mission – Vincentian Fathers – who remained at the Seminary until 1975.

St. John Vianney originally combined a four-year high school with a two-year junior college program preparing young men for major seminary studies. High school classes began in 1959 followed by the college program in 1960. St. Raphael's Chapel, famous for the beauty of its architecture and artwork, was dedicated in 1966 as the centerpiece of the Seminary's campus and life.

In 1975, responsibility for the care and operation of the Seminary returned to the Archdiocese.

At this time, the Seminary was restructured to meet the changing needs of a rapidly expanding Florida Church. The high school program closed in 1976 and St. John Vianney developed a four-year college seminary program in 1977 focusing on a major in philosophy. With this change came the new name – St. John Vianney College Seminary.

The College Seminary recognized early the great need for priests who could minister in both English and Spanish in order to serve in the multicultural parishes

of Florida. To meet this need, the College Seminary initiated its bilingual and multicultural program in 1975. Successive generations of faculty and students have cultivated and benefitted from this unique aspect of the College Seminary. Today St. John Vianney is among the few institutions nationwide offering a bilingual academic and formation program. The multicultural environment of the city of Miami and of the College Seminary community offers a unique formative opportunity to the students by teaching them to appreciate and value the richness of cultures present in the Church they will serve.

Chartered in 1961 under the laws of the State of Florida, the college seminary is annually licensed by the Commission for Independent Education. In December 1970, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Inc., (SACSCOC) accredited the two-year Associate in Arts degree program. In December 1980, SACSCOC accredited the college seminary to award a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Since then, the institution has continued to be accredited by SACSCOC; most recently, in June 2007. In 2019 the institution was approved to offer a M.A. in Philosophy, both on Campus and Online.

Archbishop Edward McCarthy, the second Archbishop of Miami, dedicated the Maytag Memorial Library and Administration

Building in 1983. The modern library facility has become the center of academic life and research for the college seminary's faculty and students, as well as others outside the college seminary community. Through the years, the Maytag Library has expanded to become the largest bilingual collection of philosophy and theology in Florida.

In 1982, St. John Vianney began a Pre-Theology Program to serve the needs of those candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood who have completed their baccalaureate degrees and are preparing to enter graduate studies in theology. These candidates enter this two-year degree program (B. Phil) to fulfill the necessary requirements in philosophy and theology laid down by the Program of Priestly Formation and the Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis. In 1985, the College Seminary further expanded its services by opening its academic program to non-seminary students. Beginning with the 2019-20 academic year, entering pre-theologians who meet the requirements for admission to the new M.A. in Philosophy, will have the option of registering in the Master of Arts in Philosophy program.

Under the leadership of Archbishop John Clement Favalora, the third Archbishop of Miami, St. John Vianney continued to move forward to meet the challenges of a new century. Presently, under the leadership of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, the college seminary takes pride in its service to the Florida Church, continuing its tradition

of providing excellent priestly formation to dioceses and religious communities. St. John Vianney also meets the needs of a variety of non-seminary students who seek out superior academics in a bilingual, multicultural context. Archbishop Thomas Wenski, like his predecessors has made sustaining the tradition of excellent priestly formation at St. John Vianney one of the highest priorities of the Archdiocese of Miami.

## Location

St. John Vianney College Seminary is located in metropolitan Miami-Dade County, which includes the city of Miami. South Florida living offers a rich mosaic of experiences and vistas. The local Church is a dynamic microcosm of the Universal Church, where the Mass is celebrated in seventeen different languages each Sunday. The local community, which includes over two million people, is an American gateway to the Caribbean and Latin America, creating an exhilarating and unique cultural environment. Miami has also become an international center for banking and investment, and one of the largest import/export cities of the United States.

Because of its location and its climate, Miami is quickly becoming one of the most important cities in the United States. Miami is, for the present, what Ellis Island was in the past, a place of refuge and safe harbor for thousands of people starting a new life. This is not a new situation for the Church in the state of Florida, which has long dealt

pastorally with an enormous influx of people. Even before the Cuban refugee migration of the early 1960s and the subsequent influx of refugees from other parts of the Caribbean and Latin America, Florida had become an increasingly popular destination as a retirement and vacation site for countless hundreds thousands of Americans.

The Church has continually attempted to keep pace with the growth and changes in the Catholic population throughout Florida and especially in Miami. St. John Vianney College Seminary and its sister institution, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary located in Boynton Beach, Florida – seventy miles from Miami – are two of the ways in which the Catholic people of South Florida have attempted to respond to the pastoral needs of the faithful in this region of the country.

The enormous investment of personnel and resources to the operation of St. John Vianney College Seminary reflects an energetic, vital and deep-seated commitment on the part of the people of God of South Florida to provide quality education for the priests of the future.

With the approval of the Admissions Committee, religious and lay men and women who are interested in the academic programs of the College Seminary can enroll as part-time or full-time students working towards a B.A. or a M.A, degree in Philosophy. The Master's degree is also offered Online.

The Archdiocese of Miami, which sponsors St. John Vianney College Seminary, consists of over

one million people. St. John Vianney and its students make a conscious effort to make use of the diverse forms of ministry which comprise the Church of South Florida, so that its graduates, who continue on through theology to the priesthood, will be well trained to serve a diversified and vibrant Church.

## Institutional Mission

The fundamental purpose of St. John Vianney College Seminary is to provide undergraduate and

## Institutional Goals

In order to carry out its stated mission, the institution must engage young men in formation so that they can more clearly discern their call, better understand what is expected of the optimal candidate to the priesthood and come closer to achieving it. To this end, St. John Vianney College Seminary sets for itself the following goals:

1. The institution will provide an academic environment and programs in which students can:
  - a) Encounter a wide range of human learning, with a special emphasis in the humanities.
  - b) Deepen their understanding of the mysteries of the faith.
  - c) Appreciate the relationship between faith and reason.
  - d) Become prepared to understand the teaching office (munus docendi) of the priesthood.
2. The institution will provide services of spiritual formation that promote and foster spiritual life for students, as individuals and members of a community, through which they will grow in the life of union with God the Father through his Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.
3. The institution will provide opportunities for service within the Seminary community and within the community at large which will:
  - a) Foster in students an appreciation for the role of “shepherd of souls.”

graduate education and formation for those students whose stated objective is to discern a call to serve the Catholic Church as priests. The institution assumes, as its specific responsibility, the academic, spiritual, pastoral, and human formation of college seminarians within a bilingual (English-Spanish) and multicultural setting. The college seminary is also committed to provide academic opportunities, both on-campus and online, for laity and others who may be enriched by its services.

4. The institution will provide an environment and formation programs in which students can:
  - a) Grow in human and affective maturity.
  - b) Be better prepared to be bridges for others in meeting Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the human race.
5. The institution will provide various administrative and support services to meet the reasonable human and institutional needs of its students.
6. The institution will support the well-being of students through a safe campus with properly working facilities that meet the practical needs of students.
7. The institution will support an Office of Institutional Research to:
  - a) Oversee the institutionally wide process of planning and evaluation.
  - b) Monitor the improvement of its programs.

## Non-discrimination Policy

In administering its affairs, St. John Vianney College Seminary conscientiously seeks to comply with all applicable legislation concerning non-discrimination in employment practices and in development of personnel, respecting the character and mission of this institution as a seminary of the Roman Catholic Church.

## Accreditation and Membership in Professional Associations

St. John Vianney College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate and master's degrees. Contact the:

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

or call 404-679-4501 for questions about the accreditation of

St. John Vianney College Seminary. St. John Vianney College Seminary is incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida and, as a non-profit educational institution, is empowered to confer degrees and to exercise all the other privileges of an institution of higher learning.

The College Seminary is approved for veteran's educational benefits under Section 1775 of Title 38 United States Code and authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students.

St. John Vianney is Licensed (Lic. # 2596) by the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education. Additional information regarding this institution may be obtained by contacting the:

Commission for Independent Education 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414 Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0400 Toll-free telephone number (888) 224-6684.

St. John Vianney College Seminary holds membership in the following professional associations: National Association of Independent Colleges and Schools, Council of Independent Colleges, National Catholic Education Association, Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers, Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, American Library Association, Catholic Library Association, and the Florida Library Association.



# Program of Priestly Formation

## The Tradition of Catholic Education

In a time when education is so often associated with the pragmatic learning of skills for a specific task, Catholic education nobly continues a deeper tradition. The Congregation for Catholic Education reminds us that in Catholic education, there is “no separation between time for learning and time for formation, between acquiring notions and growing in wisdom.” Therefore, Catholic Education, which understands education as formation and as more than simply seeking to address content information, places its educational focus on the growth and identity of each human person in light of Jesus Christ. A Catholic Education imparts a rich cultural heritage that fosters a capacity for wisdom in the midst of the world and the ability to respond more fully to one's baptismal calling.



## Priestly Formation

All the more, in priestly formation the challenge is to minister to young men discerning the ministerial priesthood in ways that will open them to the identity that will become theirs through sacred orders. It is a journey of deep and continued conversion to Christ. Formation must challenge them to be open to receive the wisdom that comes from above – and be transformed by it.

As in the days of the first disciples, priestly formation happens at the feet of the Lord, as young men continue to learn His teachings, seek His wisdom, and are formed according to His heart. The Fifth Edition of the *Program for Priestly Formation*, approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, guides the Formation Program of St. John Vianney College Seminary. Following the teachings

of Pope John Paul II in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, four dimensions of this formation are identified: Human Formation, Spiritual Formation, and Intellectual Formation and Pastoral Formation.

It is understood that certain levels of readiness must be attained before one can be considered ready to freely enter into priestly formation. The principle of gradualism challenges each candidate to continue growing in the four pillars at levels appropriate to his place on the journey.

## The Four Dimensions of Formation

Human formation is the foundation of priestly formation. Jesus Christ was fully human and fully divine. For a man in the ministerial priesthood to be

another Christ, he must first grow in humanity. Human formation seeks to help men become healthy and mature adults in the faith who can serve as bridges to others seeking Christ. This growth includes the issue of affective maturity and the preparation to embrace a life of chaste celibacy.

Our human formation finds its completion in our intimate union with the Holy Trinity. Spiritual formation directs our hearts to God. In the context of the seminary, it is specifically directed toward developing a priestly spirituality open to living the pastoral charity of the heart of Jesus Christ.

This pastoral charity directs us to love the Church with Christ's spousal love. Pastoral formation directs young men to be men for others, through lives dedicated to works of mercy.

Finally, intellectual formation in the seminary tradition seeks to open young minds and hearts to

the wisdom found in the bringing together of faith and reason. Catholic education has always been committed to a strong liberal arts foundation, and seminaries continue that tradition. In a free-standing college seminary, all academics, be they general education, humanities, theology, or philosophy, have as their specific goal the formation of priests.

## Community Life

Pope John Paul II called community life the “matrix of formation.” It is precisely in the mix of ages, cultures and backgrounds that we are required to grow as men of virtue. In the midst of community, one develops the necessary relational skills to be builders of community as priests in pastoral ministry.

## Human Formation

The Human Formation Program of St. John Vianney College Seminary is intended to nurture, in the seminarians of the institution, the basic human qualities necessary for life in the ministerial priesthood of the Church. This program is designed in keeping with the norms established by the *Program of Priestly Formation* of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: “Candidates to the priesthood must give evidence of an overall personal balance, moral character, and proper motivation. This includes the requisite human, moral, spiritual, intellectual, physical, and psychological qualities for priestly ministry.” (PPF #5). The Human Formation Program thus

exists to empower seminarians to become mature, balanced men who can effectively exercise ministerial leadership in the midst of a diversified Church. In order to achieve this purpose, the Human Formation Program sets for itself the objective of forming seminarians in light of the following goals:

1. Seminarians who display emotional and psychological maturity.
2. Seminarians who demonstrate a healthy balance in their lives.
3. Seminarians who evidence openness to diversity.
4. Seminarians who demonstrate leadership.

## Spiritual Formation

Spiritual formation is at the heart of any Seminary program. The College Seminary Director of Spiritual Formation coordinates the Program of Spiritual Formation. This program intends to promote and foster a spiritual life for students, as individuals and members of a community, through which they become better prepared to enter into intimate union with God the Father through His Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.

Growth in the spiritual life is fostered in many different ways. Formed by the Word of God, the seminarian is guided to discern his response to God’s call. The college seminary community gathers daily for the Holy Eucharist, and morning and evening prayer. Since a sustained communion with God is essential for the discernment to the priestly

life, students are expected to set aside time each day for personal prayer and spiritual reading. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered daily before the celebration of the Eucharist. Also, different devotions are an important aspect of the seminary’s spiritual life.

The purpose of the Spiritual Formation Program is to implement the spiritual development aspects of the Program for Priestly Formation by fostering in its seminarians the attitudes, habits, and practices of their spiritual life that will help them discern God’s presence in the world and in their lives. In order to accomplish this, the Spiritual Formation Program sets for itself the objective of forming seminarians in light of the following goals:

1. Seminarians who progressively develop their identity as men with a God-given human vocation.
2. Seminarians who progressively develop their sense of identification with the Church.
3. Seminarians who develop a sense of the value and relevance of the sacramental life to their human and Christian vocation.
4. Seminarians who progressively develop their understanding that love of God and love of fellow human beings is the foundation of a well-formed conscience.
5. Seminarians who progressively grow in love of their immediate community and of the human community at large.
6. Seminarians who progressively develop their understanding that the priestly vocation is a vocation to service.
7. Seminarians who progressively develop their understanding of

the importance of prayer and discernment in the life of service to the Church community.

8. Seminarians who progressively develop an appreciation of the importance and value of celibacy to their priestly vocation.

**RETREATS** - Retreats for spiritual growth are an integral part of seminary life. Days of Recollection are scheduled throughout the year, generally under the guidance of an outside director. In addition, there is a three-day retreat for the new seminarians as part of their New Student Experience and a major retreat is held annually for the whole student body.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION** - At the beginning of each academic year, every seminarian chooses a Spiritual Director from a list of designated priests. He meets with his Spiritual Director at least twice a month. The spiritual director is the key person in every seminarian’s personal and spiritual growth, especially regarding his discernment of a vocation to the priesthood. According to Church law, their relationship is conducted in an atmosphere of confidentiality. All seminarians are required to take advantage of spiritual direction.

**LITURGICAL LIFE** - The college seminary is a house of prayer, and as such, liturgical life is intimately linked to all areas of formation. The center of that liturgical life is the Eucharist. Mass is celebrated daily, and seminarians are required to attend and assist with serving in various functions. Multicultural traditions are respected, with proper deference to the heritage of various Latin responses



and chants.

The Liturgy of the Hours is also a daily ingredient in the prayer life of a man discerning the priesthood of Jesus Christ, and is celebrated in common as part of the liturgical life of the college seminary.

Private devotions are encouraged, and the Rosary and a Holy Hour with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament are celebrated in common on a weekly basis.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged within the context of spiritual direction. The sacrament is also available through penance services and before each daily mass.

## Pastoral Formation

The Pastoral Formation Program of St. John Vianney College Seminary exists to instill and nurture in its seminarians the ministerial sensibilities required for a life of active work in the Roman Catholic priesthood. This program

is designed in fidelity to the norms established by the *Program of Priestly Formation* of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: “The goal of the seminary program is to prepare priests who have a comprehensive pastoral outlook, ready to assume the pastoral duties which their service to the community demands. This service requires special concern for individuals and groups alienated from society and the Church either by accident or by choice.” (PPF #193) The Pastoral Formation Program consequently is intended to assist the seminarians of the institution in becoming educated and self-reflective ministers of the Good News of the gospel, who are also sensitive to the varied needs and vulnerabilities of those to whom they are sent. This task is carried out in the following way: first, by helping the seminarians to become familiar with the basic reality of pastoral ministry and its required skills through coursework; second, by allowing the seminarians to exercise

and grow in those skills in the context of field education placements in the local community; third, in light of their coursework and field placement assignments, to assist the seminarians in assessing their understanding of ministry and their growth in its required skills through the exercise of self-reflection and guidance. In order to achieve this, the Pastoral Formation Program establishes for itself the objective of forming seminarians in light of the following goals:

1. College seminarians who understand the aim of pastoral ministry.
2. College seminarians who can work within the structures of pastoral ministry.
3. College seminarians who can assess pastoral effectiveness.

## Intellectual Formation

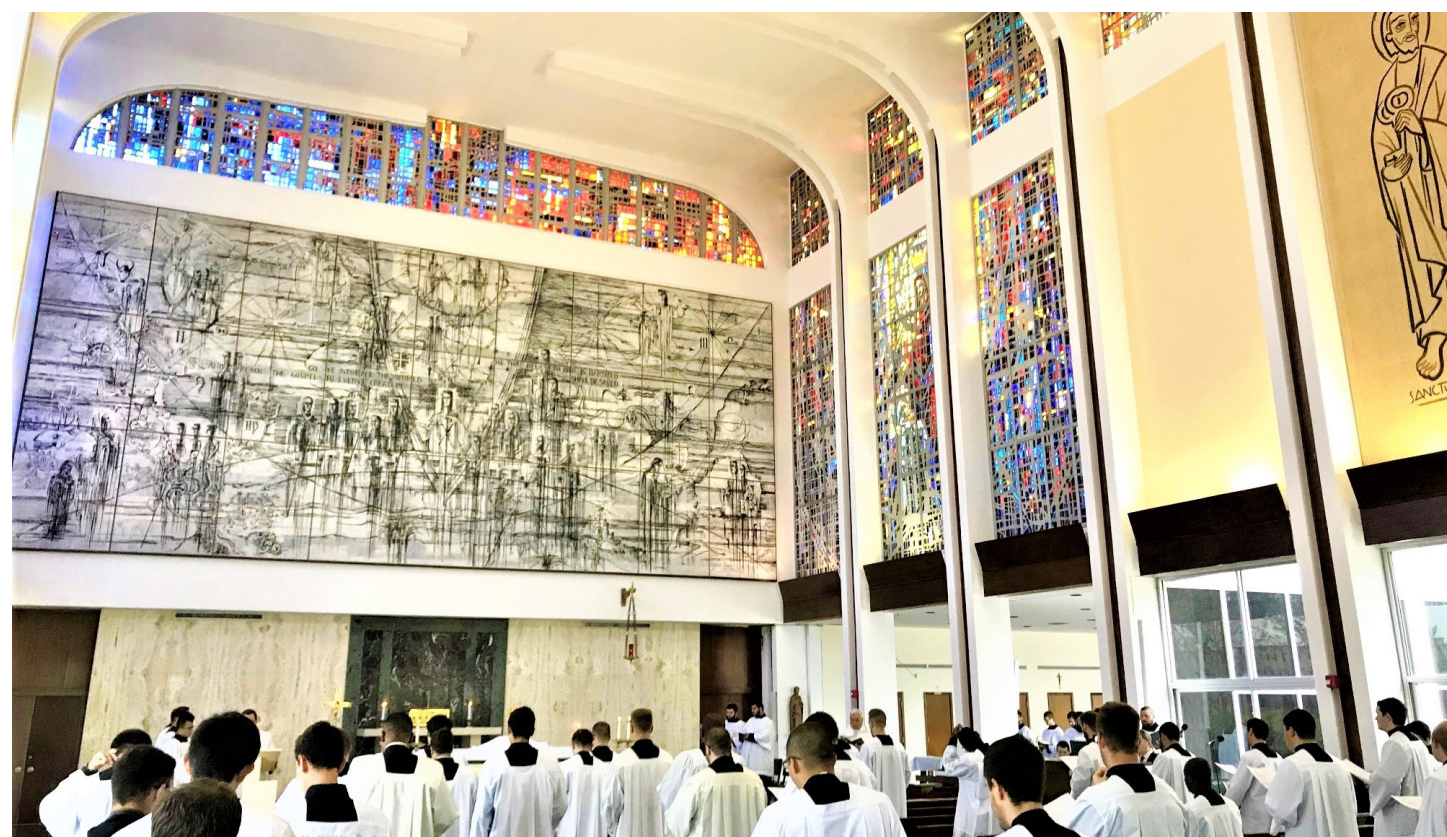
The purpose of the Academic Program is to implement the academic aspects of the *Program of Priestly Formation*, which are necessary for St. John Vianney College Seminary to fulfill its goals and, thereby, its mission.

This means that the Program must offer the necessary elements to allow its graduates to earn a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy; or in the case of its pre-theologians, the necessary foundation in philosophy and theology for graduate studies in theology.

In order to accomplish this, the Academic Program establishes for itself the objective of forming

seminarians in light of the following goals:

1. Students who are well-grounded in the humanities.
2. Students who possess critical thinking skills which will enable them to analyze problems in an everyday context as well as in an academic context.
3. Students who develop an appreciation and respect for the value of learning and truth.
4. Students whose philosophical formation prepares them for theological studies at the graduate level.
5. Students whose undergraduate theological studies prepare them for graduate theological studies.



# Academic Information

## Admission

**General Principles** - A man who senses a call to priesthood and who has the support of his local church to pursue the discernment of that call should apply to a seminary. No other institution or discernment program can give to him the ministry entrusted by the Church to seminary formators. If a sense of a priestly call is present and affirmed by the local church, all should respond by “laying down their nets immediately and following the Lord as the Apostles did” (cf. Mt. 4:20).

The Church has a responsibility to discern wisely and prudently before calling a man to the Priesthood. No one has a right to Holy Orders. Therefore, formational discernment on the part of the Church is necessarily a slow process. In an age in which most educational institutions are trying to push students through, the Church demands that seminaries resist the urge to rush candidates towards ordination and use a “suitably prolonged period of formation” to assist the men to better form them academically, psychologically, and spiritually to meet the demands of ministry (Congregation for Catholic Education, 2008). With regard to transfer students, transfer placement in a class in formation is far from being a simple matter of counting credits. It is a matter of discerning



what is best for the Church and the growth of the individual candidate. Only the seminary has the authority to determine the class placement of its students.

Initial acceptance to a program of priestly formation must affirm that the candidate has the potential to be ordained. This requires certain levels of readiness for formation – even at its most initial stages. “All applicants need to have passed through certain thresholds of human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral development which will serve as foundations for further development” (PPF 36). The person needs to have a basic age-appropriate level of human development, affective health, psycho-sexual maturity, and the genuine empathy needed to enter into community life and the process of formation. The

person should be one who already prays daily, participates in the life of his parish, and participates regularly in the sacraments, particularly the Sunday Eucharist and the Sacrament of Penance. He should possess the intellectual ability to engage in college-level work. He should exhibit a sense of service and a willingness to be a man for others. In all of this, he must be one who can entrust himself to the Church with right intention (see PPF 37).

**A Two-tiered Acceptance Process** - All applicants who wish to enter St. John Vianney College Seminary’s program of priestly formation must first be accepted as a candidate of a diocese or religious community. The diocese or religious community will then coordinate with the individual the petition for acceptance by the Admission’s Committee of St. John



Vianney.

Thus, a two-tiered acceptance process is in place. This is the requirement of the Congregation for Catholic Education. This two-step review allows a more thorough screening of candidates through two different acceptance processes, better guaranteeing the readiness of the candidate and safeguarding the atmosphere of formation.

Sponsoring dioceses and religious communities must send all relevant documentation to the seminary in a timely manner (General Report of the Apostolic Visitation, Congregation for Catholic Education, 2008). Until this is done, the seminary may not make a decision regarding acceptance. The Admission Committee will meet in an ordinary session on the third Monday of April, the third Monday of May, and the third Monday of June. Spring Semester entrance is possible, but discouraged.

## Application Requirements for Seminarians

1. A completed seminary admissions form.
2. Diocesan/Religious Community Sponsorship Information.
3. Autobiography.
4. Proof of completion of High School or Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED).
5. Official transcripts of high school and college credits (when applicable) sent in officially sealed envelope.
6. A high school and college GPA of 2.0 or above.
7. Successful completion of

a psychological evaluation coordinated by the sponsoring diocese or religious community (specific listing of requirements for assessments available upon request).

8. Complete physical examination and record of inoculations.
9. Three letters of recommendation, including one from the applicant's pastor or from another priest in good standing who knows the applicant well.
10. A personal interview for applicants of the Archdiocese of Miami is required. The seminary may also require such an interview for other applicants if deemed necessary in individual cases.
11. A Letter stating that there are no Canonical Impediments.
12. All sacramental records issued within the last six months.
13. Background check through VECBS or country of origin.
14. Immigration status materials when applicable.
15. Those who have been in formation before will be required to obtain the documentation required by the Church in such cases.

**Other Considerations -** After the receipt of all necessary documentation, the Admissions Committee of the College Seminary will consider the application, make a decision, and inform the candidate and the sponsoring diocese or religious community of its decision. The Rector enjoys the canonical prerogative to revoke or change any decisions resulting from the procedural deliberations of all

the institutional committees and councils (Canons 238, 239, 260).

After reviewing all of the necessary documentation, the Admissions Committee may request that the applicant visit the seminary for the purpose of interviews or further testing that may be necessary to come to a decision.

All potential applicants are encouraged to visit the seminary prior to application. Vocation Awareness Weekends are scheduled twice a year to acquaint all prospective candidates with life at the College Seminary.

Again, the seminary encourages all who are considering a priestly vocation to seek the guidance of their local Church. If that Church affirms the potential for a vocation, the candidate should apply. A seminary is the place to discern and be formed.

**Non-Seminarians - (Degree Seeking) -** Non-seminarians applying for admissions to the College simply should address their application to:

Office of Admissions  
St. John Vianney College Seminary  
2900 S.W. 87 Avenue,  
Miami, Florida 33165-3244

An application for admission by a non-seminarian is complete when the College has received the following:

### B.A and B. Phil Candidates

1. A valid government-issued photo identification document (ID); (e.g., Passport, Driver's License).

2. A completed Admissions Form.
3. Proof of completion of high school or Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED).
4. Official transcripts of high school and college credits from any institution of higher education previously attended by the applicant.
5. A high school and college GPA of 2.0 or above.
6. Three letters of recommendation, including one from the applicant's pastor or from a priest who knows the applicant well.
7. Personal interview with the Admissions Committee.
8. Background checks through VCHS or country of origin.

### M.A. Candidates

1. A valid government-issued photo identification document (ID); (e.g., Passport, Driver's License).
2. A completed Application form, fee, and two letters of recommendation testifying to the student's aptitude for graduate studies from professors familiar with the student's undergraduate work.
3. Entering MA students must have a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution. Students, who have no background in Philosophy at the undergraduate level, must first complete the Historical Sequence of courses before proceeding to register for the systematic courses.
4. Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended by the applicant.
5. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0.

The application for the non-seminarian will be processed by

the Academic Division which will subsequently notify the applicant of its decision. All academic rules and requirements listed in this catalog apply to non-seminarians as well.

**Transfer Credit Policy -** The previous college credit of a transfer student from an accredited institution will be accepted, provided that the grade for the course submitted was C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better, and provided that the courses are compatible with the College Seminary's degree requirements. Transfer credit from a non-accredited institution will be considered on an individual basis. Grades and grade point averages (GPA) will not be transferred, nor will they appear on the College Seminary transcript. For transfer policy in the Major, please refer to the Philosophy Department Section in the catalog. Acceptance of academic credit rests with the Academic Dean. Transfer of credit from this institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution.

**Advanced Placement (AP) -** College credit by examination is granted to students through the Advanced Placement Program (AP). At the discretion of the Academic Dean, and on a course-by-course basis, a maximum of 30 AP credits may be awarded for test scores of 3 or better in fulfillment of the General Education requirements. These credits are not considered in calculating the student's GPA. St. John Vianney College Seminary will accept a total of 30 credits from all testing programs.

**International Baccalaureate (IB) -** In fulfillment of the General Education requirements, and on a course-by-course basis, a maximum of 30 IB credits may be awarded for scores of 4 or better in IB examinations. These credits are not considered in calculating the student's GPA. Acceptance of academic credit rests with the Academic Dean.

**College Level Examination Program (CLEP) -** At the discretion of the Academic Dean, credit may be awarded for satisfactory scores on the General Examination or Subject Examination of the College Level Examination Program. The maximum transferable credit under CLEP – general and subject examination scores combined – is 30 semester hours. CLEP credit will be granted in fulfillment of the General Education requirements. These credits are not considered in calculating the student's GPA. CLEP credits in any one discipline may not exceed six.

**Cambridge AICE Diploma** In fulfillment of the General Education requirements, and on a course-by-course basis, a maximum of 30 AICE credits may be awarded. These credits are not considered in calculating the student's GPA. Acceptance of academic credit rests with the Academic Dean.

## Registration

Course registration takes place prior to the official start of the semester for which courses are registered. Course registration will not be accepted after the late registration date. A military veteran should contact the Academic Dean prior to course registration to avoid any loss of eligibility and benefits.

**Special Student (Non-degree seeking) Registration** - A special student is someone who at the time of registration has no intention to pursue a degree at the College Seminary. Specific course registration can be arranged to meet the particular academic needs of such a student. No more than 25 semester hours earned as a Special Student may apply toward a degree program at the College Seminary.

A special student who desires to seek an academic degree, must complete all admission procedures as specified in the catalog.

**International Students** - A non-US citizen or resident whose home residence is outside the United States or its territories may attend the College Seminary under a student visa (F-1). Such a person must meet the regular admission requirements of the College Seminary, all governmental requirements, be full-time and not accept paid employment off-campus.

**International Student Application Procedures** - The applicant must apply for a student visa (F-1) through the American consulate or embassy in his home country.

The applicant must request

and/or forward an Application for Admission at least three months before the first day of classes. The College Seminary will request a letter from the sponsoring Ordinary with the Declaration and Certification of Finances to the applicant upon acceptance of his application. The purpose of this letter is to verify that the total funds available to the student during the period of enrollment will at least equal the total estimates of institutional and personal student costs.

The Declaration and Certification of Finances must be received at least six weeks before the first day of classes.

Upon verification of the student's finances, the College Seminary will forward to the student a Certificate of Eligibility.

## Academic Advising

At the beginning of the academic year, the Academic Dean assigns an academic advisor to each student. The Academic Advisor assists each student in organizing a Plan of Studies pursuant to the College.

The Academic Advisor is also to serve as liaison between the student, the faculty, and the Academic Dean in academic matters.

## Student Responsibility

The student is responsible for knowing and fulfilling all regulations and requirements of the Academic Program as described in the catalog. Any uncertainties should be resolved

by conference with the Academic Dean. All exceptions must be in writing and signed by the Academic Dean.

## Examinations and Reports

All examinations and/or assignments in a given course are administered at the discretion of the individual instructor. The Academic Dean schedules only the final examinations for all courses. At the end of each semester, students are given the opportunity to evaluate the courses taken and their instructors, using a standardized form.

## Independent Study

An independent study course is a tutorial course designed to meet the particular needs of a student. Such course work can be taken for credit, provided that the necessary arrangements have been made with the instructor after consultation with the Academic Advisor. The permission of the Chair of the Department or Coordinator of a Program is required when the proposed independent study course involves either a faculty member of a Department or Program.

The permission of the Academic Dean is always required.

The contents and standards of an Independent Study Course must be equivalent to a regular academic offering. An Independent Study Course cannot normally substitute for required course credit and can be undertaken only under special circumstances.

## Grading System

The goals and the student's learning outcomes required for the successful completion of each course are specified in the course's syllabus as determined by the instructor. A copy of the syllabus for each course is maintained in the Office of the Department and in the Office of the Academic Dean. The following scale is used in assigning grades:

A	93-100%.....	4.0
A-	90-92% .....	3.7
B+	87-89% .....	3.3
B	83-86%.....	3.0
B-	80-82%.....	2.7
C+	77-79% .....	2.3
C	73-76% .....	2.0
C-	70-72% .....	1.7
D+	67-69% .....	1.3
D	63-66%.....	1.0
D-	60-62% .....	0.7
F	Below 60% .....	0.0
FA	Failure because of absences .....	0.0
I	Incomplete .....	0.0
P	Satisfactory with credit .....	0.0
T	Audit.....	0.0
WP	Withdraw Passing.....	0.0
WF	Withdraw Failing .....	0.0
W	Withdrawal-no grade ..	0.0

**Incomplete** - A grade of incomplete (I) is assigned by the instructor of the course on a temporary basis to indicate that the student has been unable to complete the course work required by the syllabus. The decision to assign an incomplete is at the discretion of the instructor. A grade of incomplete must be removed within one month from

the close of the semester. If no grade is sent, the incomplete grade is automatically changed to an "F" grade. The responsibility for carrying out the necessary work to remove the grade of incomplete falls on the student. Exceptions to this rule must be presented in writing to the Academic Dean for his/her approval.

## Unit of Credit

The unit of credit at St. John Vianney College Seminary is the semester hour, which consists of a minimum of fifteen hours of instruction during a semester for each credit hour. Most courses earn three semester hours of credit. The minimum amount of time required for credit hour is calculated using 50 minutes as the recognized length of a classroom "hour."

## Course Additions and Withdrawals

At the beginning of each semester there is a grace period of one week during which a student may amend his semester registration by adding or subtracting a course after obtaining the approval of his/her Academic Advisor. Between the second and the fifth week of classes a student may withdraw from a course without a grade being recorded in his/her transcript. To see the corresponding refund, please see the financial information section.

Withdrawing from a course after the fifth week will be recorded as WP or WF. A grade of WF (withdrawal while failing) will count

as an F in the computation of the student's Grade Point Average.

## Course Numbering System

The numbering of courses at St. John Vianney College Seminary is based on the following criteria: Freshman courses are numbered from 100-199; Sophomore courses are numbered from 200-299; Junior courses are numbered from 300-399; and Senior courses are numbered from 400-499. Graduate Courses are numbered 501-599.

## Classification of Students

**Full-time students:** Students who carry twelve credits or more in any given semester.

**Part-time students:** Students who carry less than twelve credits in any semester.

## Academic Status:

Freshman	0-30 Credits
Sophomore	31-60 Credits
Junior	61-90 Credits
Senior	91+ Credits

A student's academic status is not an indicator of his/her graduation date; it only indicates the number of credits successfully earned.

## Scholastic Year

The scholastic year consists of two (2) semesters, fall and spring.

## Course Load

The Undergraduate Full-time students must register a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours per semester and a maximum of nineteen (19) semester hours. Any student wishing to register for more than nineteen semester hours must secure the signature of both the advisor and the Academic Dean.

## Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes they are registered for. If a student expects to be absent, he/she should request permission in advance from the course instructor. In case of illness or any other justified reason, the Dean of Students will inform the Academic Dean who will proceed to inform the instructor. In all cases, students are responsible for making up any work missed due to an absence.

A total of three absences, excused or unexcused, from any class, may result in a grade of FA. Students in this situation will be referred to the Academic Dean. As with any disciplinary process, there is a process of appeal that is explicitly outlined in the *Principles of Formation Handbook*.

## Probation/Dismissal

A student whose GPA for a semester falls below 2.0 shall be placed on academic probation and must be officially notified by the Academic Dean of his/her status.

A student on academic probation may not register more than 15 credit hours. Under normal circumstances, a student whose GPA falls below 2.0 for two consecutive semesters will be dismissed. However, after consideration of the specific circumstances of a student, the Academic Dean may specify the requirements for continuing enrollment. A student who does not meet the requirements for continuing enrollment will be dismissed.

A student who has been dismissed may not be readmitted to St. John Vianney until he has taken courses at another institution in order to bring his overall GPA back up to 2.0 or higher. Readmission is not automatic. The Admissions Committee, who will make a recommendation to the Rector, must review it.

Transfer students who are on academic probation from their previous college are placed on academic probation at the College Seminary as well. Receiving a GPA lower than 2.0 for their first semester at St. John Vianney College Seminary may result in dismissal from the college seminary.

## Repeated Courses

Required courses with a grade of F or FA must be repeated. If they are not required courses, they may be repeated. Students may also repeat a course to improve the grade earned in it. In any event, all grades received in repeated courses are recorded on the student's permanent record. However, credit hours are counted only once and only the higher

grade earned is applied towards the computation of the student's GPA.

## Re-admission

A dismissed student may be re-admitted provided that the condition(s) that warranted dismissal have been removed and the Ordinary or Religious Superior supports his re-admission.

## Honors

Conferral of degrees with honors will be determined on the basis of the student's cumulative GPA. Graduating seniors who have attained an appropriate GPA level will be awarded the Baccalaureate Degree with academic distinction according to the following standard of academic excellence:

Cum Laude..... 3.50 GPA  
Magna Cum Laude..... 3.65 GPA  
Summa Cum Laude..... 3.80 GPA

## Privacy Act of 1974

The family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 guarantees students the right to inspect and review their educational records. It also provides the rights of privacy protection by limiting the transferability of students' records without their consent. Specific guidelines for the implementation of the Act are administered by the appropriate College Seminary officials.

## Academic Honesty and Integrity

High standards of honesty and integrity must be maintained by all students. In the academic area, this applies to:

1. Cheating on assignments or examinations.
2. Plagiarism.
3. Unauthorized access to college records of any kind.

Violation of these standards could result in a failing grade on the assignment or in the course without the possibility of withdrawal. A student may face suspension or dismissal depending upon the nature of the offense as determined by the Rector-President.

## Copyright and Plagiarism

St. John Vianney College Seminary students are expected to abide responsibly by the "fair use" doctrine for copyrighted materials. All written assignments should be prepared with full integrity according to the protocols of Turabian, *A Manual for Writers* (Sixth edition). Plagiarism is a grave offense which could result in an "F" in the course, and according to the specific circumstances surrounding the offense, the possibility of dismissal from the College Seminary. Students in this situation will be referred to the Academic Dean.

## Grade Appeals Policy

A student may appeal the grade

received on any given course provided that he/she follows the procedures listed below.

1. The student must request a conference with the course instructor to review his/her grade for the course. If this conference results in the resolution of the student's grievance to the satisfaction of the student's appeal, the instructor must submit a grade change to the Registrar.
2. If the meeting with the course instructor is not successful in resolving the student's grievance, the student must write an official request to the Department's Chair or, in the absence thereof, to the Academic Dean officially requesting a review of his course grade.
3. Upon receipt of the student's official request, the Academic Dean or Department Chair will convene a conference with the student and the course instructor in addition to others who may be requested to attend at the discretion of the Department Chair or Dean. After the Department Chair or Dean has reviewed all the pertinent materials submitted, he/she will issue a formal written decision on the matter.
4. If the Department Chair's or Academic Dean's decision is unacceptable to the student or the instructor, a Grade Appeals Committee will be convened by the Academic Dean. The Grade Appeals Committee will be constituted by:
  - a. A member of the faculty selected by the student.
  - b. A member of the faculty

selected by the course instructor.

- c. A member of the faculty agreed upon by the above.
5. The Grade Appeals Committee shall review all materials presented to them and shall render their decision to the Department Chair or the Academic Dean. This decision shall be final and binding.

**Audited Courses** - An audited course may not be changed to a credit course after the add/drop date.

**Grade Point Average (GPA)** - A student's grade point average is determined by dividing the total number of quality points by the number of semester hours attempted (except for grades WP, T, or I). For graduation, a student must achieve a minimum 2.0 GPA in both his/her major program of studies and in his/her overall plan of studies.

When an "F" graded course is repeated, only the repeat grade counts. Though both attempts remain on the student's transcript, the cumulative GPA will reflect only the grade of the repeated course. A student may not repeat a course more than three times.

### Grade Reports and Transcripts -

At mid-term, each student receives a grade report and at the conclusion of the semester a complete grade report is mailed to each student and, in the case of a seminarian and upon his consent, to the Ordinary or Religious Superior. Only the final semester grades appear on the student's permanent record.

An official transcript of academic credits, bearing the seal of the

College Seminary and signed by the Registrar, will be provided to any institution, contingent upon an official written request signed by the student. Official transcripts are not given directly to students. The transcript fee is \$30.00 per copy, payable at the time of the request. The College Seminary reserves the right to withhold the transcripts of those students who have not fulfilled their financial obligations and/or have failed to return all pending College Seminary property (e.g., library materials). Allow two weeks for processing a transcript request.

## Bachelor of Arts Degree

By virtue of the power invested in St. John Vianney College Seminary by the State of Florida, the degree of Bachelor of Arts is conferred on those students who fulfill all of the necessary requirements in the major of philosophy.

## General Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree must complete a minimum of 125 semester credit hours. Candidates for a Degree must complete their last 30 semester credit hours in residence and satisfy all residency requirements for the major. In order to qualify for a degree, a student must earn a cumulative point average of at least 2.0 and a minimum average of 2.0 in philosophy.



Core curriculum requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree include the following:

- Theology.....15 Credit Hours
- English.....\*12 Credit Hours
- Spanish.....\*\*12 Credit Hours
- Humanities .....\*\*\*12 Credit Hours
- Social Studies .....\*\*\*\*6 Credit Hours
- Science.....3 Credit Hours
- Mathematics.....3 Credit Hours
- Psychology .....3 Credit Hours
- Pastoral Ministry .....2 Credit Hours

*\*Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree must take 12 credits in a second language. Students learning English as a Second Language (ESL) must complete the ESL program described in full in this catalog. In addition, they are required to complete a minimum of six (6) credit hours in the regular English language curriculum.*

*\*\*Students who enroll in the ESL Program may be exempt from the Spanish requirement at the discretion of the Academic Dean.*

*\*\*\*All students must take HUM 101 and HUM 102 in residence. Transferring credit for HUM 101 and HUM 102 may be granted at the discretion of the General Education and Humanities Coordinator and the Academic Dean.*

*\*\*\*\*The Social Studies requirement is fulfilled by two courses in the History of Western Civilization. The Academic Dean may accept other transfer courses in fulfillment of this requirement.*

## B.A. IN PHILOSOPHY PLAN OF STUDIES

Freshman				Sophomore			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>		<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
ENG 101	Composition I	ENG 102	Composition II	MAT 101	Mathematics	PSY 102	General Psy.
THE 103	Intro to the OT	THE 104	Intro NT	THE 210	Themes of Catechism	PHI 206	Medieval Philo
SPA 151	Fund. of Spa I	SPA 152	Fund. of Spa II	PHI 203	Ancient Philosophy	SPA 252	Interm. Spa II
HIS 151	W. Civilization I	HIS 152	W. Civilization II	SPA 251	Interm. Spa I	HUM	Elective
HUM 101	Ideas and Cultural Expressions I	HUM 102	Ideas and Cultural Expressions II	HUM	Elective	ENG	Elective
PMN 101	Pastoral Min.	PMN 102	Minist. Practicum	SPC 301	Gen. Speech	SCI 301	Gen. SciencE
		PHI 105	Intro Phil. & Logic				
<b>16 crs.</b>		<b>19 crs.</b>		<b>18 crs</b>		<b>18 crs.</b>	
Junior				Senior			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>		<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
PHI 310	Modern Philo	PHI 320	Contemp. Phil.	PHI 461	Social Ethics	PHI 405	Epistemology
PHI 401	Metaphysics	PHI 404	Phil. Anthropology	PHI 460	Fund. Ethics	PHI 498	Senior Project
THE 312	Church Hist. Survey	PHI 437	Aquinas 20th Cent.	PHI 496	Phil. of God	PHI 407	Phil. of Nature
Elective		THE 306	Fund. Moral Theo.	Elective		Elective	
Elective		Elective					
<b>15 crs.</b>		<b>15 crs</b>		<b>12 crs.</b>		<b>12crs.</b>	

## Computer Skills

At the time of admission, students will be evaluated for their computer skills. Students lacking basic computer skills must take a basic computer skills course.

## English Placement Testing

Students whose first language is other than English will be placed in either the immersion English as a Second Language (ESL) Program or the Academic Program according to the results of the English Placement Testing. If that student has completed one college academic year in a country where English is the official language, he or she is not required to take the test of English as a foreign language (TOEFL) examination for placement but must achieve a satisfactory score on St. John's English Placement Test. Upon graduation, entry to the academic program at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary requires a satisfactory TOEFL score or placement test. This criterion applies to Pre-theology students as well as to undergraduates.

## Entrance and Exit Testing for Assessment

Standardized and faculty developed testing are administered to students for the purpose of institutional effectiveness assessment at relevant points in their courses of

study.

## Academic Major

Philosophy is the major program of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree. The program of studies for the major includes a minimum requirement of 42 semester hours in philosophy (see Philosophy Department section in this catalog). The credit hour requirements (125 credits) for the Bachelor degree (B.A.) in philosophy are outlined in the Plan of Studies on page 19 of the Catalog.

## A Bilingual Program

The 5th edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation* recognizes the growing pluralism in Church and society in the United States and recommends "the study of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures as well as other pastorally appropriate languages and cultures." (PPF 182) St. John Vianney is committed to support and advance this vision of the Church and of the formation of college seminarians. As stated in its Mission Statement, St. John Vianney is committed to the human, spiritual, pastoral, and intellectual formation of college seminarians within a bilingual (English-Spanish) and multicultural setting. Drawing from Miami's multicultural richness, the College Seminary's formation program pays special attention to the cultural realities of our country.

Lower level courses are taught in English and Spanish. Completing a course or program in a language

other than English may reduce employability where English is required.

## Library

The Maytag Memorial Library at St. John Vianney is one of the largest seminary libraries in the South. It first opened in 1981, and its bilingual collection has grown since then to over 56,000 volumes and about 150 periodical subscriptions. New electronic resources and services are available to the faculty and students through automation. The library also provides different types of audio visual materials to serve the academic, spiritual, cultural and recreational needs of its faculty and students. These include compact discs, videos, DVDs, films, slides, etc. Since the fall of 1998, St. John Vianney has joined St. Thomas University in a cooperative electronic link of the two main libraries. This cooperative linkage has provided both institutions with greater access to many resources through the Web, and with interlibrary loan privileges through the SEFLIN network.

## Financial Information

Onsite Seminarian Yearly Costs for the 2020-2021 School Year

Tuition	\$23,100
Room & Board	\$12,000
Books	\$800
New Student Experience*	\$2,000
Total	\$38,000

\*New Students Only



The Archdiocese of Miami, and the Florida Bishops are committed in financially helping their Seminarians, as they discern their call to the priesthood, by giving them a 75% grant towards their tuition, room and board. The remaining 25% is the responsibility of the seminarian and his/her parents. Undergraduate seminarians need to apply for Financial aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

The fees shown above represent the total cost of tuition, room and board for each year. There are no additional fees than the ones described here. The annual per student cost at St. John Vianney is in excess of \$35,100 per seminarian. The greater part of this cost is underwritten as a subsidy by the Archdiocese of Miami out of interest earnings on the seminary burse fund. Benefactors to the seminary throughout the history of the Archdiocese have allowed the Archdiocese to operate the seminary and cover operating costs over and above the income derived from tuition.

Tuition for part-time Undergraduate courses is \$300 per semester hour credit. The tuition for class auditing is \$250 per course. Tuition for Online Graduate courses is \$575.00 per semester credit. Tuition charges are subject to change.

A student who is in debt to the

College Seminary at the end of any given semester is not entitled to take the final examinations for his/her registered courses until his/her indebtedness has been discharged. Arrangements for payment of tuition, room and board must be made prior to or at the time of registration.

**Refund Policy** - Refunds of tuition, and/or room and board for students on campus and refunds of tuition for students online are based on the following schedule: during the first week, 100 percent; during the second week, 80 percent; during the third week, 60 percent; during the fourth week, 40 percent; during the fifth week, 20 percent. There is no tuition and/or room and board refund after the fifth week.

If a student is entitled to a refund of tuition and fees, the refund will first be applied to any sources of financial aid from which the student may have been awarded. Once all balances owed to SJVCS have been satisfied, any excess funds remaining will be refunded to the student.

Refunds will generally be delivered to students in the form of a check unless the student has a valid Direct Deposit Authorization on file or payment has been made by credit card or gift card, in which case the excess credit will be returned to the card.

Students receiving federal and state financial aid should consult a financial aid counselor before dropping or withdrawing from courses to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements for satisfactory academic progress (SAP).

Request for refunds should be submitted via e-mail to the business office at [ekelly@sjvcs.edu](mailto:ekelly@sjvcs.edu).

Refunds of tuition, room and board for students withdrawing from the College Seminary adheres to the following conditions:

a. Refunds shall be made within 30 days of the date that the institution determines that the student has withdrawn.

b. Nonrefundable fees regarding admission and registration of Florida students shall not exceed \$150.

c. All monies will be refunded if the school does not accept the applicant or if the student cancels within three (3) business days after signing the enrollment agreement and making initial payment.

d. Cancellation after the third (3rd) Business Day, but before the first class, results in a refund of all monies paid, with the exception of the nonrefundable fees.

e. If the student withdraws before the end of the drop/add period, the student will be refunded all tuition and fees, as well as any

funds paid for supplies, books, or equipment which can be and are returned to the institution.

f. The refund policy shall provide for cancellation of any obligation, other than a book and supply assessment for supplies, materials and kits which are not returnable because of use, within 3 working days from the student's signing an enrollment agreement or contract.

#### **Personal Property Insurance -**

The College Seminary does not provide insurance coverage for the personal property of students who live in seminary-owned housing. Students are urged to determine whether their property is covered by their own or their parents' homeowner's policy and to make immediate arrangements for coverage if deemed necessary.

## **Financial Aid**

The Financial Aid Office at St. John Vianney College Seminary is dedicated to helping students find ways to finance their education. The financial aid staff is available to all current and prospective students weekdays from Monday through Friday and may be reached by calling the campus, scheduling an appointment, or on walk-in-basis.

Students wishing to receive financial aid must meet all eligibility requirements. The amount of financial assistance the student will be offered depends on the student's financial need.

If a seminarian or their family are unable to meet their financial responsibility, they should speak with their vocation director and/or financial aid officer for further

financial assistance.

Please refer to Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on line at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or call 1-800-4-FED-AID for application forms and specific information and guidelines.

Undergraduate seminarians need to apply for financial aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

For those who qualify, St. John Vianney College Seminary participates in:

- Pell Grants
- Children of Disabled Veterans
- Florida Student Grants
- Bright Futures Scholarships
- Private Grants & Scholarships
- Archdiocesan or Diocesan Grants
- Roughgarden Fund
- Holy Family Fund
- Sister Trinita Fund

**Pell Grants -** This is a need-based grant that is awarded to undergraduate students who do not have a Bachelor degree. Pell Grants can be used for any educational expenses, it is the policy of St. John Vianney College Seminary that the full amount of the Pell Grant will be used towards tuition.

**Roughgarden Fund:** The George Coventry Roughgarden and Nita Schmidt Roughgarden Fund were established by Miss Rita Patton in honor of the late Stephen Wheeler, a St. John Vianney College seminarian. Matched by the Archdiocese of Miami, its yearly income is used for a student grant.

**Holy Family Fund:** The Holy Family Scholarship was donated by a benefactor in memory of the Catholic family. The yearly proceeds

of this fund assist seminarians in their seminary education.

**Sister Trinita Fund:** The Sister Trinita Scholarship Fund was set up to honor Sister Trinita on her Golden Jubilee of Religious Life. This fund's yearly income is used for student grants.

**Veteran's Financial Assistance -** U.S. veterans and others interested in applying for veteran benefits should contact their local Veterans' Administration Office for specific information and forms. Persons receiving such assistance should periodically contact the VA office to learn about changing regulations.

**Veteran's Attendance Policy -** Early departures, class cuts, tardies, etc., for any portion of a class period will be counted as absence.

Students are allowed a maximum of 3 absences a semester which would be 7.5% a semester. Per calendar month any student exceeding 1.87% total absences will be terminated from their VA benefits for unsatisfactory attendance.

In order to show that the cause of unsatisfactory attendance has been removed, students must show good attendance for one calendar month after being terminated for unsatisfactory attendance. After such a time, the student may be recertified for VA education benefits. The student's attendance record will be retained in the veteran's file for USDVA and SAA audit purposes.

#### **Standards of Academic Progress for VA Students -**

Students receiving VA educational benefits must maintain a minimum

cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 2.0 each semester, will be placed on academic probation for a maximum of two consecutive terms of enrollment. If the VA student's CGPA is still below a 2.0 at the end of the second consecutive term of probation. The student's VA educational benefits will be terminated.

A VA student terminated from VA educational benefits due to unsatisfactory progress may petition the school to be recertified after attaining CGPA of 2.0.

#### **Veteran's Credit for Previous Education Training -**

Students must report all education and training. The school must evaluate and grant credit, if appropriate, with the training time shortened, the tuition reduced proportionately, and the VA and student notified.

#### **VA Pending Payment**

**Compliance -** In accordance with Title 38 US Code 3679 subsection (e), this school adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33) or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from the VA. This school will not:

- Prevent the student's enrollment;
- Assess a late penalty fee to the student;
- Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding;
- Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to

the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students may be required to:

- Produce the VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE) by the first day of class;
  - Provide a written request to be certified;
- Provide additional information needed to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies.

**SJVCS Repayment Policy -** If a student withdraws or stops attending classes before completing 60% of the term, a portion of the total federal aid he/she received, excluding Federal Work Study earnings, may need to be repaid immediately.

The amount of federal aid the student must repay is determined by the Federal Formula for Return of Title IV funds (Section 484B of the Higher Education Act). This law also specifies the order in which funds are to be returned to the financial aid program from which they were awarded.

The student may be required to make a repayment when cash has been disbursed from financial aid funds in excess of the amount of aid he/she earned (based on the date of withdrawal) during the term. The amount of Title IV aid earned is determined by multiplying the total Title IV aid (other than FWS) for which the student qualified, by the percentage of time during which he/she was enrolled in the term.

If less aid was disbursed than was earned, the student may receive a late disbursement for the difference.

If more aid was disbursed than was earned, the amount of Title IV

aid the student must return (i.e., not earned) is determined by subtracting the earned amount from the amount actually disbursed.

The responsibility for returning unearned Title IV is shared between the College Seminary and the student.

The College Seminary and the student share the responsibility for returning unearned Title IV funds. This responsibility is allocated according to the portion of disbursed aid that could have been used to cover the College Seminary charges, and the portion that could have been disbursed directly to the student once those charges were covered.

The College Seminary will distribute the unearned aid back to Title IV programs, as specified by law. The student will be billed for the amount that he/she owes to the Title IV programs, as well as any amount due to the College Seminary after the return of unearned Title IV funds.

#### **Standards of Satisfactory**

**Progress -** In order to receive any Title IV assistance, the student must be proceeding in a positive manner toward fulfilling the requirements for the B.A. degree. These requirements may ordinarily be fulfilled in eight semesters but a student may require up to ten semesters for completion.

A student on academic probation is still eligible to receive Title IV funds. However, he/she must meet the requirements for continuing enrollment specified by the Academic Dean. In case of dismissal, re-admission will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Should a dismissed student be re-admitted, he/she would be eligible to receive Title IV funds.

# Undergraduate Academic Programs

All courses at St. John Vianney College Seminary are organized and grouped together under an appropriate department or program. Departments are headed by a Chair, programs are led by a Coordinator.



## Philosophy Department

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Philosophy

### General Statement of Mission.

The program of the Philosophy Department is designed to provide a solid philosophical formation to men called to the ministerial priesthood in the Church and to others interested in studying philosophy within the catholic tradition. This program, designed in accordance with the mandate contained in the Program of Priestly Formation of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*, is a threefold project: the formation of mature, wise human beings, the formation of committed and enlightened Catholics, and the formation of priests who understand and appropriate philosophical reflection for its own formational and sapiential value, and for its value as indispensable preparation for theological study.

The Philosophy Department serves as the specific instrument, within the College Seminary structure, for the development of an academic environment conducive to a reading, learning and doing of philosophy that is meaningful and stimulating to the students who undertake its study, aiming to integrate it into their overall formation. This study of philosophy should help students on their road to wisdom and personal commitment as well as lead them to academic excellence and the development of a solid foundation for the study of theology. Philosophy is the major study concentration of the Bachelor of Arts degree program offered by the College Seminary.

### Learning Outcomes.

The Philosophy Department sets for itself the mission of educating students in terms of the following student outcomes:

1. Students who are proficient in oral communication and

2. Students who are knowledgeable in the General History of Philosophy.
3. Students who are well-grounded in the tradition of Catholic perennial philosophy and who are at home with its terminology, its approach, and its major figures.
4. Students who are competent in Systematic Philosophy, in its current formulation in keeping with the Catholic tradition.
5. Students who are solidly grounded for theological studies at the graduate level.

### Requirements for the Major in Philosophy

The program of studies for the major in Philosophy requires a minimum of 42 semester credit hours. These 42 credits are to be fulfilled by the following required courses:

- PHI 105 Introduction to Philosophy (3cr)

- PHI 203 Ancient Philosophy (3cr)  
 PHI 206 Medieval Philosophy (3cr)  
 PHI 310 Modern Philosophy (3cr)  
 PHI 320 Contemporary Philosophy (3cr)  
 PHI 401 Metaphysics (3cr)  
 PHI 404 Philosophical Anthropology (3cr)  
 PHI 405 Epistemology (3cr)  
 PHI 406 Philosophy of God (3cr)  
 PHI 407 Philosophy of Nature (3cr)  
 PHI 437 Aquinas in the 20th Century (3cr)  
 PHI 460 Fundamental Ethics (3cr)  
 PHI 461 Social Ethics (3cr)  
 PHI Elect. Elective (3cr)  
 PHI 498 Senior Project (3cr)

A minimum of 18 of these credits must be taken in residence. These 18 in-residence credits, even when taken at another institution, must include Phi 401 Metaphysics, Phi 404 Philosophical Anthropology, Phi 405 Epistemology, Phi 460 Fundamental Ethics, Phi 461 Social Ethics, and Philosophy 437 Aquinas in the 20th Century. Other Philosophy credits taken in residence will not satisfy the residency requirement. In addition to the residency requirement, every student must complete a Senior Project which functions as the Capstone Project for the entire program. The Senior Project may be substituted for a Senior Thesis. To be eligible to substitute the Senior Project for a Senior Thesis, the student must have a GPA in philosophy of no less than 3.75, and/or approval of the Philosophy Department at the start of the Fall semester of the student's Senior year.

In order to fulfill the requirements for the major in Philosophy, the student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in Philosophy, and obtain no less than a C+ in the Senior Project.

### Course Description

**PHI 105 - INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (3) (required)** This course is an introduction to the study of philosophy. It aims to introduce the students to the central themes of philosophy and to philosophy's own proper mode of study.

**PHI 203 - ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY (3) (required)** A study of major philosophers and schools of the sixth to the third centuries B.C., with an awareness of contemporary readings of the pre-Socratic philosophers. Special analysis of Plato and Aristotle with an awareness of their special influence on early Christian and Medieval thought. *Phi 105 is a prerequisite, or approval of Chair.*

**PHI 206 - MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY (3) (required)** A study of the major Christian Medieval thinkers from the fourth to the fourteenth centuries and their use of Greek categories to understand themselves, the world and God. Special emphasis on Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas. *Phi 203 is a prerequisite, or approval of Chair.*

**PHI 285 - CATHOLIC THOUGHT AND WORLD RELIGIONS (3) (elective)** A critical study of the differences and similarities among the major world religions with special awareness of

potential areas for dialogue and collaboration.

**PHI 301 - PRE-THEOLOGY SURVEY ON THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I (6) (required)** A survey study of the major philosophers and schools of the Ancient and Medieval periods. Special analysis of Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Anselm and St. Thomas Aquinas.

**PHI 302 - PRE-THEOLOGY SURVEY ON THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY II (6) (required)** A survey study of the major philosophers and schools of the Modern and Contemporary periods. Special analysis of Descartes, Hume, Kant, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Husserl and Heidegger.

**PHI 320 - CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY (3) (required)** A study of the development of philosophical thought in the 19th and 20th Centuries. Beginning with Kierkegaard and Nietzsche, the critique of Modernity is presented and analyzed. The development of Phenomenology in Husserl is outlined, as well as the turn towards Hermeneutics in Heidegger, Gadamer, Ricoeur, and others. The central elements of Critical Theory are traced. Post-Structuralist approaches are surveyed. Given the impossibility of giving adequate attention to every significant thinker of this period in a one-semester undergraduate course, the instructor will select a major figure for more in-depth reading and critical analysis.

*Phi 310 and junior standing are prerequisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 401 - METAPHYSICS (3) (required)

A study of basic metaphysical questions regarding the nature of reality and the relationship of God, the world and man in keeping with the Catholic philosophical tradition and contemporary reflection. It includes discussion of being, essence, existence, the analogy of being, truth, good, beauty, freedom, world, and God.

*Phi 203, Phi 206, Phi 310 and Phi 320 and junior standing are prerequisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 404 - PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY (3) (required)

A study of the question of human self-understanding in light of the Catholic philosophical tradition and of contemporary reflection. Emphasis is made on the questions of human nature or identity; reason, language, will, intentionality, freedom, and responsibility, including a reflection on the role of love, work, play, sexuality, and friendship.

*Phi 203, Phi 206, Phi 310, Phi 320 and Phi 401 are prerequisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 405 - EPISTEMOLOGY (3)

(required) A study of human knowledge centered on a reflection upon the questions of truth, evidence and meaning in keeping with the Catholic philosophical tradition and contemporary reflection. It includes discussion of the notions of objective truth, method, the relationship between history and knowledge, and between language, reason, and knowledge.

### PHI 406- PHILOSOPHY OF GOD (3)

(required) A course in theodicy in keeping with the Catholic

philosophical tradition and contemporary reflection. It expands on the themes developed in Metaphysics, Philosophical Anthropology and Epistemology, and includes reflection on the ways to discover God as ground through philosophical discourse, and on the language about God. The relationship between art and religion is explored.

### PHI 407 - PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE

(3) (required) A study of the philosophical reflection on Nature in keeping with the Catholic philosophical tradition. It includes a detailed study on the various understanding of Nature in the Western tradition as well as contemporary developments in the understanding of Nature in its relation to the human being and God.

### PHI 437 - AQUINAS IN THE 20TH

CENTURY (3) (required) The purpose of this course is twofold, first to increase and help mature the student's understanding of Aquinas's thought which was first introduced in Phi 206 (Medieval); second, to guide the student through the rediscovery of Thomistic thought in the 19th and 20th centuries. The central issues in Thomistic epistemology, metaphysics and anthropology are discussed. The historical thread leading from the German and Italian seminaries of the 19th century to the Second Vatican Council is unfolded and discussed. Readings will be selected from Gilson, Maritain, Blondel, Marechal, Rahner and Lonergan. The course will be held in seminar style, and it

will encourage the students to do intensive reading, reflection, and presentations. General participation in seminar discussions is expected.

*Phi 401, and junior standing are prerequisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 442 - POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

(3) (elective) Critical study of the major themes of political theory as developed from the perspective of different 20th century philosophical positions, the liberal, Conservative and Libertarian positions in the American tradition; the Liberal, Social Democratic and Christian democratic positions in the European tradition. The instructor will select representative figures from these traditions for reading and critical analysis.

*Phi 401, Phi 404 and Phi 405 are co-requisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 451 - 20TH CENTURY CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY (3)

(elective) It is a critical study of major trends in contemporary Continental Philosophy. Phenomenology, Critical Theory, Hermeneutics, and Deconstruction are explored and critically analyzed. This course expands on the themes developed in the required course on Contemporary Philosophy. Selected readings from Husserl, Heidegger, Marcel, Gadamer, Levinas, Foucault, Habermas, Derrida, or others may be chosen by the instructor for reading and critical analysis.

*Phi 401, Phi 404 and Phi 405 are prerequisites or co-requisites, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 456 - FILM AS PHILOSOPHICAL

DISCOURSE (3) (elective) This is not, per se, a course in film appreciation

or film theory, but rather, as the title indicates, a course in film as philosophical discourse. The course will, nevertheless, include a brief introduction to the history of film, and a schematic presentation of the development of film language and theory. Films will be analyzed in terms of their non-thematic philosophical presuppositions as well as their thematic content. The course will include lectures, film viewing and guided critical discussion.

*Junior or Senior status is prerequisite, or approval of Chair.*

### PHI 460 - FUNDAMENTAL ETHICS (3)

(required) A philosophical reflection upon fundamental ethical issues in the tradition of Natural Law. This course depends and draws heavily upon the philosophical synthesis developed earlier in the other systematic courses.

*Phi 401, Phi 404, Phi 405 are prerequisites, or approval of Chair. This course may only be taken during the first semester of the senior year. Approval of Chair is required for exceptions.*

### PHI 461 - SOCIAL ETHICS (3) (required)

A study of the social dimension of ethics with special stress in the philosophical thread inherent in the statements of the magisterium on the social, economic and political problems of our times. An analysis of the philosophical foundations of the major papal documents from *Rerum Novarum* to *Caritas in Veritate* is undertaken, and attention is also paid to relevant statements of Episcopal Conferences, such as *Economic Justice for All*. Contemporary issues are discussed in seminar fashion.

*Phi 401, Phi 403, and Phi 404 are prerequisites, and Phi 460 is a co-requisite. This course may only be taken during the first*

*semester of the Senior Year. Approval of Chair is required for exceptions*

### PHI 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS (var)

The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed of special interest which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

*By arrangement with Chair.*

### PHI 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (var)

The topic is selected to meet the individual requirement of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

*By arrangement with instructor and approval of Chair.*

### PHI 495 - SENIOR SEMINAR (3)

(elective) A reading and research course conducted on a one-on-one basis so that the instructor meets periodically with students to discuss and supervise their research work. The course is limited in participation to seniors who have completed the historical sequence courses and the Systematic Sequence courses. The topics for research are chosen by the students in consultation with the instructor of the course who has final approval. The topic selected for research in this seminar will become the topic for the Senior Project to be written by the student during the following semester.

*Only first semester seniors.*

### PHI 496 - INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY (3) (required)

This is a specially designed undergraduate course in philosophy for graduate students coming from other disciplines who are preparing for

graduate work in theology. This seminar will serve several ends: first, it will serve as a clearing house for philosophical questions and problems arising from other courses being taken by the pre-theologians; second, it will help them become aware of the philosophical presuppositions implicit in their respective major disciplines and guide them in examining those presuppositions in the light of the Catholic philosophical tradition; third: it will help the student come to a first and basic philosophical integration as underpinning of his journey to personal maturation and wisdom; and finally, it should provide basic help in the student's transition to graduate theological work at the theological seminary.

### PHI 498 - SENIOR PROJECT (3)

(required) (Capstone Project for the Major in Philosophy) A philosophy workshop. To be taken in the second semester of their senior year by all students after they have completed all historical and systematic courses. In this workshop they will write a paper on the topic researched the previous semester in PHI 495 Senior Seminar. The paper must be at least 30 pages in length. The student will read a summary of the paper and discuss it in a panel during Senior Project Conference where the entire College Seminary faculty and students will be in attendance. In the meetings of the workshop the instructor will work one-on-one with each student and panel and will supervise the writing of the paper. The object of this course is to help the student synthesize his philosophical studies,



and marshal together his research, critical thinking and writing skills. The student must obtain a grade of C+ or higher in this course to satisfy the requirements of the major in Philosophy. Every student who obtains an A+ in the course and has a cumulative GPA in philosophy of no less than 3.0, will be recognized during the Annual Awards Ceremonies by the granting of the Philosophy Department Certificate of Achievement. A student whose cumulative GPA in Philosophy by the end of the first semester of his junior year is 3.75 or higher may substitute the required Senior Project by a Senior Thesis with the recommendation of the instructor selected by the student to direct the Thesis, approval of the Chair, and of the Academic Dean. In some cases, the recommendation of the Philosophy Department will be sufficient in the absence of the required cumulative GPA in Philosophy. If permission is granted for the Senior Thesis, the Senior Project and the three credit philosophy elective requirements are waived. Petition to the Department for a Senior Thesis must be made no later than the second semester of the junior year.

*Only second semester seniors can take this course. Exceptions only with approval of Chair.*

*Senior Project Specific Requirements:*

- 1) *Written and documented in accordance with the Terubian Manual of Style.*
- 2) *Exhibits knowledge and integration, at the undergraduate level, of metaphysics, philosophical anthropology, epistemology, fundamental ethics and social ethics as pertinent to the topic of the project.*

**PHI 499 - SENIOR THESIS (6) (elective)**

A student whose cumulative GPA in Philosophy by the end of the first

semester of his junior year is 3.5 or higher may substitute the required Senior Project by a Senior Thesis with the recommendation of the instructor selected by the student to direct the Thesis, approval of the Chair, and of the Academic Dean. In some cases, the recommendation of the Philosophy Department will be sufficient in the absence of the required cumulative GPA in Philosophy. If permission is granted for the Senior Thesis, the Senior Project and the three credit philosophy elective requirements are waived. Petition to the Department for a Senior Thesis must be made no later than the second semester of the junior year.

The Senior Thesis will consist of directed readings, discussions, and the writing of a paper no less than 50 pages in length. The topic is to be selected by the student, and agreed upon by the Thesis Director. The topic of the Thesis should be such that it aids the student to synthesize his philosophical studies and helps him prepare for theological study. The Student must do an oral presentation of his Senior Thesis at the annual Philosophy Conference, and be prepared to answer questions from students and faculty.

*Senior Project Specific Requirements:*

*The specific requirements of the Senior Thesis are the same as those of the Senior Project except that its length must be no less than 50 pages.*

**THE AQUINAS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD -**

An award granted by St. John Vianney College Seminary upon the recommendation of the Philosophy Department, the Academic Council, the Rector's Council and approval

of the Rector. This award is designed to recognize outstanding scholarship in philosophy.

A student who, at the time of graduation, has a cumulative GPA in Philosophy of 3.75 or higher, and completes a Senior Thesis with a grade of A, may be recommended by the Director of his Senior Thesis to the Philosophy Department for the Aquinas Scholarship Award. The Department will then consider this recommendation, and by simple majority decide upon it. If the two councils agree with the recommendation and the Rector approves, the Aquinas Scholarship will be awarded.

**PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE** - Every academic year, during the first two weeks of April, there will be a Philosophy Conference attended by the entire student body and faculty of the College Seminary. In this Conference each senior will present an oral summary of his Senior (Capstone) Project or Thesis. At the end of each presentation there will be a question and answer period during which the presenting student will answer any questions about his presentation and/or its subject matter raised by any faculty member and/or student in the audience.

**PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT -**

A student who has a cumulative GPA in philosophy of no less than 3.0 and obtains a grade of A in the Senior Project will be awarded the Philosophy Department Certificate of Achievement.

## General Education Program

The General Education program is not a degree granting program. General Education Program listed below refers to the curriculum for General Education.

**Mission**

The mission of the General Education Program at St. John Vianney College Seminary is to provide a broad-based foundation in the liberal arts as a preamble for the study of philosophy and theology, and as preparation for the priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students who are proficient in the structures of English grammar, mechanics, and composition.
2. Students who are proficient in oral communication.
3. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the most important and significant cultural expressions of Western culture.
4. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the philosophical and theological presuppositions or implications of the major cultural expressions of the history of Western culture.
5. Students who demonstrate understanding of the interrelatedness of the cultural expressions of Western civilization with the philosophical and theological ideas of the era in which they emerged.
6. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the major events in the history of Western civilization.
7. Students who have command of basic mathematical skills.
8. Students who have basic and introductory knowledge of General Science.
9. Students who will gain and develop the skills to read, speak, write and comprehend Spanish at a basic level.
10. Students who have a basic knowledge of the discipline of psychology at a general and introductory level.
11. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the Old and New Testaments.
12. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church.
13. Students who have a basic knowledge of the history of the Catholic Church.



# Theology

The Theology curriculum at the College Seminary level is intended to fulfill the requirements of *The Program of Priestly Formation* which has as its focus the fundamental beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. In particular, it seeks to educate students on those elements of the faith that may have been overlooked or neglected in the students' religious education and, which are fundamental for all forms of graduate theological study.

The theology curriculum includes courses in biblical revelation, doctrine, and church history, allowing students to advance in their theological knowledge as a preamble and foundation to their graduate studies in theology.

## Requirements in Theology

All students must complete fifteen (15) credit hours in theology.

*The following courses are required for all degree-seeking students: THE 101, THE 102; THE 210, THE 306, THE 312.*

## Course Description

**THE 103 - INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT (3) (required)** This course serves as an introduction to Divine Revelation in Sacred Scripture. After presenting the topic of inspiration, the course will introduce various methods of studying scripture, with an emphasis on the historical-critical method. Applying the historical-critical method, the students will conduct a brief overview of the Old Testament: the *Pentateuch*, the *Prophets*, *Wisdom Literature*, and the



*Historical Books.*

**THE 104 - INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT (3) (required)** This course serves as an introduction to Catholic scriptural studies of the New Testament. After presenting various methods of studying scripture, emphasizing the historical-critical method, the class will give a brief overview of the books of the New Testament. This will include the *Synoptic Gospels*, The writings of John, the *Acts of the Apostles*, the *Pauline Writings*, other Epistles and Pastoral Writings.

*The 103 is a prerequisite.*

**THE 210 - CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH I (3) (required)** This course provides an in-depth study of the major themes and underlying principles found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

**THE 207 - THE CREED IN FILM AND LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A reflection on the Christian faith from the perspective of film and literature. It presents the theological foundations that justify a credal interpretation of works of fiction. It also explores the interface of the theology and culture

and offers strategies of interpretation of literary and filmic works.

**THE 213 - TERESA AND JOHN (3) (elective)** An introduction to the spirituality of St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross. The course material provides a schematic presentation of the lives, historical context, and works of the great Carmelite mystics and focuses on a reflective study of the central themes present in the spiritual teaching of St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross.

**THE 221 - INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN PRAYER (3) (elective)** A course that guides the student in coming to understand that the life of Christian prayer begins with two foundational questions, what is prayer and what is specific in Christian prayer? The course introduces the seminarian to the practice of prayer which can help to dispose the soul to encounter the active presence of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**THE 236 - INTRODUCTION TO PATRISTIC LITERATURE (3) (elective)** After a brief introduction to who

are the Fathers of the Church, this course will consider the development of Patristic literature from the Apostolic Fathers (late first century) to the eighth century. Reading selections of patristic texts will be taken from the Apostolic Fathers, the Latin Fathers, the Greek Fathers, and the Syriac Fathers.

**THE 255 - INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURES I (3) (required)** This course serves as an introduction to Divine Revelation in Sacred Scripture for pre-theology students. After presenting the topic of inspiration, the course will introduce various methods of studying scripture, with an emphasis on the historical-critical method. Applying the historical-critical method, the students will conduct a brief overview of the Old Testament: the *Pentateuch*, the *Prophets*, *Wisdom Literature*, and the *Historical books*.

**THE 256 - INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURES II (3) (required)** A continuation of THE 255. After presenting sociopolitical and theo-philosophical overviews of the New Testament times, the course will introduce various methods of studying scripture, with an emphasis on the historical-critical method. Applying the historical-critical method, the students will conduct a brief overview of the New Testament: this will include the *Synoptic Gospels*, The writings of John, the *Acts of the Apostles*, the *Pauline Writings*, other *Epistles* and *Pastoral Writings*.  
*Intro to Scriptures I is a prerequisite.*

**THE 270 - LITURGY AND THE ARTS (3) (elective)** A study of the Liturgy from

the perspective of the humanities, considering the place which art, music, architecture, language, and other symbols have in the Liturgy of the Church.

**THE 283 - WORLD RELIGIONS AND RELIGIOUS LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A survey of different religions of the world, their world views and literature, with special emphasis on sensitivity and understanding.

**THE 285 - Catholic Thought and World Religions (3) (elective)** A critical study of the differences and similarities among the major world religions with special awareness of potential areas for dialogue and collaboration.

**THE 290 - PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY (3) (elective)** Introduction to Christian prayer and spirituality with an emphasis on the nature of prayer as covenant relationship between God and humanity in Christ. A survey of representative schools of Christian spirituality will be offered.

**THE 295 - INTRODUCTION TO LITURGY (3) (elective)** This course is an introductory study of the Liturgy mainly from its theological, spiritual and historical perspective while also considering its pastoral and canonical aspects. It will mainly focus on the Liturgical Year, the Eucharist, the Lectionary, and the Liturgy of the Hours and the corresponding liturgical books.

**THE 306 - FUNDAMENTAL MORAL THEOLOGY (3) (required)** This course in Fundamental Moral Theology covers the foundations of the Christian moral life. The basic themes to be covered include:

human freedom, the formation of conscience, moral reasoning and decision-making, guided by the use of Scriptures, natural law, and the church's magisterial reflections and pronouncements; the development of virtue.

It will involve an examination of a number of contemporary issues that present a challenge to Catholicism's holistic and balanced approach to matters of life and death, human sexuality, biomedical ethics, and the ethics of pastoral ministry; the topics of marriage, love, and family will likewise be covered.

The goal of the course is to provide college seminary students, at this particular stage in their formation, with a general yet adequate understanding and appreciation of the basic principles at the heart of the Church's consistent teachings on the sanctity of life, from conception to natural death, and at every stage in between.

**THE 309 - GREAT CHRISTIAN THINKERS (3) (elective)** A study of some of the major Christian thinkers, men and women, who have contributed to the formation and development of Catholic theological thinking. This course requires that students read some of the actual works of these great thinkers.

**THE 311 - CHRISTOLOGY THROUGH THE VISUAL ARTS (3) (elective)** This course explores the correlation between Christology and the visual arts. The course employs a two dimensional approach. It seeks to establish a theological foundation for the relationship between Christology and the

visual arts. In addition, it employs audiovisual aids to exemplify the interface of Christology and images of Christ through the 2000 years of Christianity.

**THE 312 - CHURCH HISTORY SURVEY (3) (required)** A survey of the Christian Tradition from its Jewish Origins to the Present, with attention to the major persons and events that shaped Christian history.

**THE 321 - SPIRITUALITY OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS (3) (elective)** This course approaches the Liturgy of the Hours as a source of spirituality. It considers some of its different texts, such as psalms, readings and antiphons, as well as the elements of time and how these lead to knowledge, enrichment, and guidance of the spiritual life.

**THE 322 - PSALMS IN THE LITURGY (3) (elective)** A theological reflection on the Psalms and their place in Christian liturgy. The course includes a presentation of commentaries on the theology of the Psalms.

**THE 331 - BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIOLOGY (3) (elective)** A study of biblical foundations in the missionary activity of the Church, appreciating the developing theological movements as presented from the Old Testament and the New Testament.

**THE 350 (3) (elective) THEOLOGY AND THE ARTS** - This course examines the transcendent and theological dimensions of the experience of beauty, both natural and man-made. The Roman Catholic tradition of

theological aesthetics, which has its roots in Greco-Roman culture, and maintains its own identity even in dialogue with non-Catholic, secular thought, is the main focus of attention. Special emphasis is given to the foundational aesthetic theories of Plato and Aristotle, and their influence upon Christian philosophy and theology, particularly the Fathers of the Church and Medieval thinkers.

**THE 408 - Vatican II and the Church Tradition (3) (elective)** This course considers the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The main themes found in these documents are studied in relation to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Council's influence on Catholic doctrine and life.

**THE 417 - PRE-THEOLOGY SEMINAR I (3) (required)** This course serves as a theology seminar for pre-theologians and will cover themes pertaining to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, with particular emphasis on The Profession of Faith and The Celebration of the Christian Mystery. It will utilize a colloquial model that lends itself to reflection and integration.

**THE 418 - PRE-THEOLOGY SEMINAR II (3) (required)** This course serves as a continuation of the theology seminar for pre-theologians and will cover themes pertaining to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, with particular emphasis on Life in Christ and Christian Prayer. It will utilize a colloquial model that lends itself to reflection and integration.

**THE 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS (var)** The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed of special interest which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

**THE 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (var)** The topic is selected to meet the requirements of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

## Pastoral Ministry

**PMN 101 - PASTORAL MINISTRY (1) (required)** This course will serve as an introduction to the theology of ministry. A focus will be placed on scriptural references and Church documents to assist students in understanding the Church's teaching on ministry. Skills that assist in reflection upon such ministry will also be incorporated into the course.

**PMN 102 - MINISTERIAL PRACTICUM (1) (required)** This course will serve as an opportunity for students to begin to reflect upon the skills needed to apply pastoral theology to pastoral practice. It will focus on the basic skills required for visitation to the sick, education, and pastoral reflection, including the writing of a verbatim and a lesson plan. Field observation hours will be required.

## English and General Speech

**ENG 100A - DEVELOPMENTAL WRITING I (3) (elective)** The course involves grammar review, paragraph

development, and reading skills. It is designed to assist students who need some additional review of basic reading and writing skills before taking ENG 101.

**ENG 100B - DEVELOPMENTAL WRITING II (3) (elective)** A continuation of ENG 100A.

**ENG 101 - ENGLISH COMPOSITION I (3) (required)** A general course in college-level writing. The student will learn to compose essays using various methods of development, with emphasis on improvement of expository writing skills. An anthology of essays and other literature will be used in conjunction with writing assignments.

**ENG 102 - ENGLISH COMPOSITION II (3) (required)** A continuation of ENG 101 with emphasis placed on the development and refinement of expository writing skills and the conventions of standard edited American English. An anthology of short fiction, poetry, plays, and essays will be used as the basis for many of the writing assignments.

**ENG 201 - SURVEY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE (3) (elective)** Reading and discussion of selected English works which illustrate the growth of English literature from its Anglo-Saxon roots up to the present.

**ENG 211 - INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE (3) (Elective)** General Introduction to literature and to the practice of critical analysis. Students read representative works from various time periods, cultures and genres: fiction, poetry, and drama.

**ENG 260 - CHRISTIAN THEMES IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE (3) (elective)** Readings of short stories, short novels, and essays from the late 19th and 20th centuries. In each unit, two pieces of short writing will be required by the students. One will be a short piece of tightly focused literary analysis. The other will be "practical writing in the parish office" – short pieces for something like the parish newsletter or similar communication.

**ENG 280 - RELIGIOUS VALUES IN WESTERN LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A survey of literary classics that pay significant attention to religious thought and values. Beginning with Hebrew and Greek roots and proceeding through the early and late Middle Ages, the course focuses for the most part on 20th century literature. Included also are selections that challenge traditional understandings of faith issues.

**ENG 354 - WORLD LITERATURE: PROSE FICTION OF THE 20TH CENTURY (3) (elective)** A survey course on representative works of 20th century fiction. Most selections will, of necessity, be read in translation, but when appropriate and possible, original sources will be utilized.

**ENG 357 - SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A historical survey of American Literature from the Colonial Era to the present. This course examines America's literary heritage through readings and discussions of the works of selected American literary masters.

**ENG 371 - DRAMA (3) (elective)** A survey of master works of drama starting with the ancient Greek tragedies to the present. Students will learn and perform monologues and dialogues.

**ENG 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS (var)** The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed of special interest which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

**ENG 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (var)** The topic is selected to meet the requirements of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

**SPC 301 - GENERAL SPEECH (3) (required)** Experience in various communication skills: public speaking, group discussion, and voice production.

## Spanish

For students whose native language is not Spanish, a Spanish proficiency test is administered during the New Student Experience. The results of this test will determine their placement in the Spanish-language curriculum. Natives of Spanish can CLEP a maximum of six (6) credit hours.

### Course Description:

**SPA 151 - FUNDAMENTALS OF SPANISH I (3) (required)** For students beginning Spanish or for those whose high school background has not fitted them for the intermediate

level. Emphasis is placed upon basic grammatical forms and essential syntax.

#### [SPA 152 - FUNDAMENTALS OF SPANISH II \(3\) \(required\)](#)

A continuation of SPA 151.

#### [SPA 153T \(3\) \(required\) Spanish for Ministry I](#)

This course is designed to provide the student with the linguistic tools necessary for ministry with Spanish speakers. It emphasizes ministry oriented vocabulary and phrases, pronunciation, Scriptural readings in Spanish taken from the Liturgical year, religious songs and basic catechetical lessons. In addition, a brief background of countries from Latin America will be presented, with the intention of providing the students with a basic knowledge of the history, culture and traditions of the diverse countries.

#### [SPA 154T \(3\) \(required\) Spanish for Ministry II](#)

A continuation of SPA 153T.

[SPA 251 - INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I \(3\) \(required\)](#) This course is a continuation of SPA 151-152. It is designed to guide the student to practice and improve the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing the Spanish language, at an intermediate level, expanding the previous study of Spanish morphology and syntax.

*Prerequisite: SPA 152 or equivalent.*

#### [SPA 252 - INTERMEDIATE SPANISH II \(3\) \(required\)](#)

A continuation of SPA 251.

[SPA 211 - INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE \(3\) \(elective\)](#) An overview survey for native speakers of representative works of Hispanic literature, with emphasis on the analysis of different genres: poetry, narrative and theater.

[SPA 285 - INTERMEDIATE SPANISH FOR HERITAGE SPEAKERS I \(3\) \(elective\)](#) This course was created for speakers of Spanish who are orally proficient in the language, but have had little or no formal language training. It is meant to provide linguistic and cultural experiences in oral and written communication, word usage, formal vocabulary, and basic principles of grammar.

#### [SPA 286 - INTERMEDIATE SPANISH FOR HERITAGE SPEAKERS II \(3\) \(elective\)](#)

A continuation of SPA 285.

[SPA 301 - SPANISH CONVERSATION AND COMPOSITION I \(3\) \(elective\)](#) Practical usage of the Spanish language. This course is designed for those whose first language is not Spanish. It will include a review of grammar in conjunction with studies in Spanish culture and literature.

*Prerequisite: SPA 252 or equivalent.*

#### [SPA 302 - SPANISH CONVERSATION AND COMPOSITION II \(3\) \(elective\)](#)

A continuation of SPA 301.

*Prerequisite: SPA 301 or equivalent*

[SPA 320 - ADVANCED GRAMMAR \(3\) \(elective\)](#) Morphology and Syntax of the Spanish language, with practice in composition. This course is designed for students whose first language is Spanish.

[SPA 350 - SPANISH CIVILIZATION \(3\) \(Elective\)](#) A survey of Spanish Civilization from the beginning to the present.

*Prerequisite: SPA 302 or equivalent.*

[SPA 371 - SURVEY OF SPANISH LITERATURE \(3\) \(elective\)](#) A survey of Spanish literary history as reflected in selected masterpieces from its origins to the present.

*Prerequisite: SPA 302 or equivalent.*

#### [SPA 372 - SURVEY OF SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE \(3\) \(elective\)](#)

A survey of the evolution of Spanish-American literature from its origins to the present. Concentrates on notable authors who are considered indispensable to a basic familiarity with the literature of Spanish America.

*Prerequisite: SPA 302 or equivalent.*

#### [SPA 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS \(var\)](#)

The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed of special interest, which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

[SPA 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY \(var\)](#) The topic is selected to meet the requirements of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

## Latin

[LAT 101 - LATIN GRAMMAR AND READING I \(3\) \(Elective\)](#) For students beginning the study of Latin. Right from the start, the student will be introduced to the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of Latin through the reading of texts.

[LAT 102 - LATIN GRAMMAR AND READING II \(3\) \(Elective\)](#) A Continuation of LAT 101.

[LAT 201 - INTERMEDIATE LATIN I \(3\) \(Elective\)](#) A continuation of LAT 101-102. The student will continue to practice and improve his knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax and the skill to read and understand Latin texts with attention to aspects of Roman culture and daily life.

#### [LAT 202 - INTERMEDIATE LATIN II \(3\) \(Elective\)](#)

A Continuation of Latin 201.

[LAT 301 \(3\) \(Elective\) ADVANCED LATIN I](#) - A continuation of the study of the Latin language through constant practicing, reading, translating, speaking and singing. In addition, students will read texts from Medieval Latin literature: the *Gesta Romanorum* and ecclesiastical texts. Also, attention will be paid to the historical and cultural context in which Latin developed and the role it played in the field of education and culture in general.

[LAT 302 \(3\) \(Elective\) ADVANCED LATIN II](#) - This is a course for students who have completed (or almost have completed) Latin grammar study and are able to read Latin texts of moderate difficulty. The focus of this course is the reading and discussing of core texts of the Church Fathers like Cyprian, Tertullian, Ambrose, Hieronymus, Augustine and others. The course requires a lot of self-study from the students in addition to the seminars with the instructor twice a week.

[LAT 401 \(3\) \(Elective\) READINGS OF CLASSICAL AND PATRISTIC LITERATURE](#) - A course for students who have completed (or almost have completed) Latin grammar study and are able to read Latin texts of moderate level. The focus of this course is the reading and discussing of core texts of Classical authors like Cicero, Seneca, Catullus and Virgil; and Church Fathers like Lactantius, Tertullian, and Augustine. From time to time the reading of secondary literature and the translation of texts will be assigned.

## Humanities

The Humanities curriculum at the College Seminary level is intended to fulfill the directives of the Fifth Edition of *The Program of Priestly Formation* that a solid foundation in the liberal arts or humanities is an essential component in the formation of candidates to the priesthood. The goal of the humanities curriculum is to increase student learning in the humanities across the curriculum, in the service of strengthening the institution's intellectual formation of college seminarians, of establishing a foundation for the baccalaureate program in philosophy, and of preparing them for graduate studies in theology.

#### **Intended Student Learning Outcomes.**

1. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the most important and significant cultural expressions of Western culture.
2. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the philosophical

and theological presuppositions or implications of the major cultural expressions of the history of Western Culture.

3. Students who demonstrate understanding of the interrelatedness of the cultural expressions of western civilization with the philosophical and theological ideas of the era in which they emerged.

The requirement for the Humanities curriculum is twelve (12) credits; (6) of these credits are required courses. The remaining six credits are fulfilled from elective courses.

#### **Course Description:**

[HUM 101 - IDEAS AND CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS I \(3\) \(required\)](#) A historical survey tracing the relationship of ideas to cultural expressions in the western tradition. Starting with the Greeks and extending to the end of the Middle Ages, the course follows the development of diverse cultural expressions in their connection to philosophical and theological thought. The emphasis of the course is not on their artistic content and/or merit, but on their religious, philosophical and theological implications.

#### [HUM 102 - IDEAS AND CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS II \(3\) \(required\)](#)

A historical survey tracing the relationship of ideas to cultural expressions in the Western tradition. Starting with the Renaissance and extending into the 20th century, the course follows the development of diverse cultural expressions in

their connection to philosophical and theological thought. The emphasis of the course is not on the artistic content and/or merit of the expressions, but rather on their religious, philosophical and theological implications.

**HUM 203 - DRAMA, POETRY AND WISDOM (3) (elective)** A course designed to guide the student in his/her appreciation and capacity to understand the truth value of drama and poetry and their philosophical significance.

**HUM 205 - DRAMA AND MINISTRY (3) (elective)** A course designed to enhance the dynamics of ministry by exploring its dramatic components. Beginning with an overview of the elements of drama as expressed in theater and film and the relationship of those elements with pastoral and liturgical practice will be explored.

**HUM 207 - THE CREED IN FILM AND LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A reflection on the Christian faith from the perspective of film and literature. It presents the theological foundations that justify a creedal interpretation of works of fiction. It also explores the interface of the theology and culture and offers strategies of interpretation of literary and filmic works.

**HUM 208 - THE GREEK WORLD (3) (elective)** The course intends to be an introduction in the ancient Greek civilization (from the Minoan civilization until the Hellenistic period) with special attention to art, archeology, history, and literature.  
*Requirement for pre-theologians.*

**HUM 209 - THE ROMAN WORLD (3) (elective)** Introduction to the ancient Roman civilization with special attention to history, archeology, architecture, art and literature.  
*Requirement for pre-theologians.*

**HUM 210 - HISTORY OF WESTERN MUSIC (3) (elective)** This course introduces the student to Western music, its genres, its main representatives and epochs.

**HUM 213 - TERESA AND JOHN**  
An introduction to the spirituality of St. Theresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross. The course material provides a schematic presentation of the lives, historical context, and works of the great Carmelite mystics and focuses on a reflective study of the central themes present in the spiritual teaching of St. Theresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross.

**HUM 270 - LITURGY AND THE ARTS (3) (elective)** A study of the liturgy from the perspective of the humanities, considering the place that art, music, architecture, language, and other symbols have in the Liturgy of the Catholic Church.

**HUM 283 - WORLD RELIGIONS AND RELIGIOUS LITERATURE (3) (elective)** A survey of different religions of the world, their world views and literature, with special emphasis on sensitivity and understanding.

**HUM 302 - CHURCH MUSIC APPRECIATION (3) (elective)** A study of the liturgical music expressions that have been part of the Roman Catholic and Christian faith traditions.

**HUM 315 - WESTERN DRAMA FROM THE GREEKS TO SHAKESPEARE (3) (elective)** In this course, the student reads and studies a variety of plays ranging from the ancient Greeks (5th century BC) to Shakespeare (late 16th century, early 17th century AD): Greek tragedies and comedies, medieval miracle and morality plays, and, finally, a “tragedy” and a “comedy” of Shakespeare. Attention will be paid to the cultural-historical context in which the plays came to be. Moreover, the course deals with the question how these plays were “received” in the literature and art of later times; a special focus is on how famous 20th century directors like Cacoyannis, Pasolini, Bergman and Polanski interpreted these plays in their film productions.

**HUM 330 - HUMANITIES PROJECT (1) (required)** A group Project in an area of the humanities produced under the guidance of a mentor. The Project is presented every spring semester.

**HUM 350 - THEOLOGY AND THE ARTS (3) (elective)** This course examines the transcendent and theological dimensions of the experience of beauty, both natural and man-made. The Roman Catholic tradition of theological aesthetics, which has its roots in Greco-Roman culture, and maintains its own identity even in dialogue with non-Catholic, secular thought, is the main focus of attention. Special emphasis is given to the foundational aesthetic theories of Plato and Aristotle, and their influence upon Christian philosophy and theology, particularly the Fathers of the Church and Medieval thinkers.

**HUM 456 - FILM AS PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOURSE (3) (elective)** - This is not, per se, a course in film appreciation or film theory, but rather, as the title indicates, a course in film as philosophical discourse. The course will, nevertheless, include a brief introduction to the history of film, and a schematic presentation of the development of film language and theory. Films will be analyzed in terms of their non-thematic philosophical presuppositions as well as their thematic content. The course will include lectures, film viewing and guided critical discussion.  
*Junior or Senior status is prerequisite, or approval of Chair.*

**HUM 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS (var)**  
The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed of special interest which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

**HUM 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (var)** The topic is selected to meet the requirements of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

### THE STUDENT'S HUMANITIES PROJECT.

In this Project, the knowledge and creativity of the student will be expressed in the form of a group project involving a topic in the humanities, a power point presentation on a specific topic of research or another type of project approved by the Humanities Council. The following procedures and timeline must be followed in the development of the Student's

Humanities Project:

- a. The Humanities Council will meet every year, during the fall semester, to plan for the Humanities Projects to be presented during the spring semester of the academic year. In this meeting the Council will assign each student to a group.
- b. Each group will be assigned to a mentor who will guide the group in the development and implementation of the group's Project.
- c. In the spring semester the groups will present their Projects in an institutional event specifically reserved for that purpose (Student's Humanities Project Presentations).
- d. All entering freshmen and transferring sophomores will be required to complete a Student's Humanities Project.
- e. ESL students are not required to complete a Student's Humanities Project.

## Psychology

**PSY 102 - GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (3) (required)** An introduction to competencies required for analysis of psychological principles underlying basic processes such as perceiving, learning, thinking, motivations and emotions. Students are introduced to theories and major areas of psychology as a science, with the intent of understanding its history, present status, and future perspectives.

**PSY 218 - DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (3) (elective)** An exploration of physical, social, cognitive and personality development within the context of a lifespan developmental approach. Genetic, nutritional, psychological and environmental factors are studied to understand and account for behavior at various levels in the life of human beings. A variety of theoretical and empirical perspectives will be considered.  
*Prerequisite: Psy 102*

**PSY 318 - THEORIES OF PERSONALITY (3) (Elective)** A study of the most significant traditional and contemporary theories concerning the understanding and explanation of personality. Focus is placed on philosophical foundations and psychological interpretations. The course will also explore the application of the knowledge gained to the understanding of others as well as of one's personality.  
*Prerequisite: Psy 102*

**PSY 350 - PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION (3) (elective)** The course will explore, from a psychological point of view, the study of religion, the development of religious thinking and the nature of religious experience. The history of the psychological study of religion, psychological interpretations and schools of thought about religion, and the psychosocial factors in religious beliefs are among the topics of study found in this course.  
*Prerequisite: Psy 102*

**PSY 480 - SPECIAL TOPICS (var)**  
The topic is selected to meet the academic needs of a group of students, or to cover topics deemed

of special interest which are not contemplated in the regular course offerings.

**PSY 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (var)**

The topic is selected to meet the requirements of an individual student, but must meet the normal academic requirements and standards.

## History

**HIS 151 - SURVEY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I (3) (required)**

A survey of the significant historical events and movements of Western Civilization. The course will examine the social, cultural, political, economic, diplomatic, and military events that shaped the world's history since the beginning of recorded history up to 1715.

**HIS 152 - HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION II (3) (required)**

A continuation of HIS 151. A survey of the significant historical events and movements of Western Civilization from 1715 to the present.

**HIS 251 - UNITED STATES**

**GOVERNMENT (3) (elective)** A study of the history of the founding and development of the United States and its system of government.

## Mathematics

**MAT 101 - MATHEMATICS (3)**

**(required)** A basic college level course in mathematics. Emphasis is put on the study of the applied aspects of modern mathematics in the social and natural sciences.

## General Science

**SCI 301 - GENERAL SCIENCE (3)**

**(required)** A survey of the major areas of natural science and how they relate to each other.

## Computers

**CIS 101 - COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS (3) (elective)**

An introduction to personal computers, hardware and software concepts, and options. The student will have the opportunity to obtain practical experience in word processing, spreadsheet and Power Point presentations. The student will be exposed to the impact computers could have in the work environment.

## ESL Program

The English Language Program for non-native speakers of English consists of 3 levels from Beginning to Advanced. The program is designed to engage students in

various productive activities that enhance and promote overall English usage in a comfortable learner-centered environment.

Graduates of St. John Vianney College Seminary must be competent in their command of the English language. For students whose native language is not English, St. John Vianney College Seminary offers an ESL Program structured according to their English language proficiency. At the time of a student's admission, the level of instruction in which he/ she should matriculate is determined by the results of a college administered placement test.

**Mission and Learning Outcomes.**

The mission of the ESL Program is to help students who are not native speakers develop the English language skills necessary to undertake their studies in English. The ultimate goal of the Program is to ensure that students achieve a competent level of language proficiency. Upon completion of the Program, the student should be able to:

1. Read and discuss college level materials
2. Write his/her class assignments in English.
3. Communicate fluently.
4. Comprehend spoken English.
5. Reach a level of proficiency that would enable him/her to attain a minimum score of 60 in the TOEFL.

**Instruction Levels**

In order to carry out those goals, students receive instruction in the core language skills in three levels: beginning, intermediate and advanced. A TOEFL preparation course is also offered at the conclusion of the Program and a remedial course for those who have not been able to achieve the passing TOEFL score. Courses in English pronunciation are also taught as part of the program. As students progress in the ESL Program, they gradually begin to make the transition to the regular undergraduate curriculum. The three-level academic program designed for non-native speakers is as follows:

- Level 1 is comprised of 15 hours of ESL non-credit instruction per week.
- Level 2 is comprised of 12 hours of ESL non-credit instruction per week.
- Level 3 is comprised of 9 hours of ESL credit instruction per week.

Level 1 students can also register for one for-credit course according to the requirements of their major. This course is offered in both English and Spanish.

Level 2 students can also register for two for-credit courses according to the requirements of their major. These courses are offered in both English and Spanish.

Level 3 ESL courses are offered for credit and students are concurrently enrolled in two or three additional for-credit courses according to the requirements of their major. These courses may be offered in both English and Spanish.

**Elementary and Intermediate ESL.**

Students who score in the beginner or low intermediate range will enter the non-credit ESL propaedeutic year program as ESL seminarians or as non-resident

students. Seminarians live with the College Seminary community and during their ESL studies, are fully integrated into the College Seminary's human, spiritual, and pastoral formation program. Upon completion of their propaedeutic year, ESL students who have maintained a B average in their course work will be allowed to continue in the Program. If, after the propaedeutic year, a seminarian or non resident student is unable to show the necessary progress for full admission into the seminary academic program and into the Advanced ESL curriculum, it is recommended that the student take additional course work in a separate institution.

Advanced ESL. All students whose native language is not English but who have earned a placement score in the high intermediate or advanced range will register for the Advanced, credit-earning ESL program.

After successfully completing the ESL Program, students will register for ESL 318 to prepare for the TOEFL, which they will take at the conclusion of the course. If they achieve a score of 60 or above, they are officially out of the ESL Program and can proceed to meet their regular English curriculum requirements. If, however, they score below 60, they will be placed in a remedial English language foundation course in which the ESL coordinator will continue working with them according to their individual needs to help them achieve the passing TOEFL score. Failure to achieve the minimum TOEFL score of 51 at such time may result in dismissal from the college seminary.

Completion of the ESL Program. Once students have successfully completed the ESL program, and

passed the TOEFL, they will be assessed in their writing. Depending on the scores of the standardized test and essay, they will be placed in Developmental Writing or proceed to ENG 101.

The ESL Program is not under purview of the Florida Commission of Education.

Advanced ESL. All students whose native language is not English but who have earned a placement score in the high intermediate or advanced range will register for the advanced, credit-earning ESL program.

After successfully completing the ESL Program, students will register for ESL 318 to prepare for the TOEFL, which they will take at the conclusion of the course. If they achieve a score of 60 or above, they are officially out of the ESL Program and can proceed to meet their regular English curriculum requirements. If, however, they score between 51 and 59, they will be placed in a remedial English language foundation course in which the ESL coordinator will continue working with them according to their individual needs to help them achieve the passing TOEFL score. Students who, after completing the ESL program, fail to achieve a minimum TOEFL score of 51 cannot proceed with their studies in the regular curriculum. Failure to achieve the minimum TOEFL score of 51 at such time may result in dismissal from the college seminary.

Completion of the ESL Program. Once students have successfully completed the ESL program, and passed the TOEFL, they will be assessed in their writing. Depending on the scores of the standardized test and essay, they will be placed in Developmental Writing or proceed to ENG 101.

**THE REQUIRED SEQUENCE OF COURSES IN THE ESL PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS:**

FIRST SEMESTER: (non-credit)	SECOND SEMESTER (non-credit)	THIRD SEMESTER (for credit)	FOURTH SEMESTER or Thereafter
ESL 010 Grammar 1	ESL 020 Grammar 2	ESL 310 Grammar 3	ESL 318 TOEFL-Preparation
ESL 012 Reading 1	ESL 022 Reading 2	ESL 312 Reading 3	
ESL 016 Writing 1	ESL 026 Writing 2	ESL 316 Writing 3	
ESL 017 Speaking 1	ESL 027 Speech 2		
ESL 019 Listening 1			

## Course Description

### Elementary Level

#### ESL 010 - GRAMMAR LEVEL 1 (0)

This course is meant to develop students' English language abilities by working on basic grammar and syntax. Grammar is practiced in a variety of contexts to help students to use them correctly.

#### ESL 012 - READING LEVEL 1 (0)

Students learn basic reading skills and strategies in order to develop reading comprehension. As part of the course work, short readings appropriate to the beginning level are assigned.

#### ESL 016 - WRITING LEVEL 1 (0)

Students learn and practice basic writing skills (sentence structure, paragraph organization, topic sentence) to become familiar with the writing process in English. Students begin to compose simple sentences.

#### ESL 017 - LISTENING LEVEL 1 (0)

An introduction to essential listening skills and strategies. Students learn to listen for the main idea and specific information. The student learns to use simple patterns and limited spoken English in routine and familiar situations.

#### ESL 019 - SPEAKING LEVEL 1 (0)

An introduction to essential speaking skills and strategies. The focus is on oral communication activities and oral presentations with vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriate to the beginning level. Included is a basic pronunciation component.

### Intermediate Level

#### ESL 020 - GRAMMAR LEVEL 2 (0)

In this intermediate course, students continue to build a solid foundation of grammatical knowledge. Students

learn more complex grammatical structures and skills beyond the sentence level.

#### ESL 022 - READING LEVEL 2 (0)

Students continue to develop comprehension skills, vocabulary, and fluency through a variety of exercises and selections. Readings appropriate to the intermediate level are assigned.

#### ESL 026 - WRITING LEVEL 2 (0)

The paragraph structure is reviewed and students prepare to write three- to four-paragraph essays in a variety of rhetorical modes.

#### ESL 027 - SPEECH LEVEL 2 (0)

Students continue to develop essential listening, communication, and pronunciation skills through a variety of activities. The listening selections range from lectures and interviews to news reports that are appropriate for general and academic objectives.

### Advanced Level

#### ESL 310 - GRAMMAR LEVEL 3 (3)

An advanced grammar course in which students develop the ability to use increasingly complex grammatical structures. Learners begin gaining control of more complex structures, such as phrasal verbs, gerunds and infinitives, and the passive voice.

#### ESL 312 - READING LEVEL 3 (3)

In this course students continue to work on academic reading skills such as understanding the main idea and making inferences. Readings appropriate to the advanced level are assigned.

**ESL 316 - WRITING LEVEL 3 (3)** This course prepares students for academic multi-paragraph compositions. Students focus on writing longer and more sophisticated essays. In addition, students write a short research paper.

#### ESL 318 - TOEFL-PREPARATION (3)

This course is for advanced learners who are preparing to take the iBT version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). It is designed to help learners raise their scores sufficiently to achieve the Program's passing score requirement.

#### ESL 352 - ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION (VOWELS) (3) (elective)

A course designed to help ESL students to improve their pronunciation of American English including stress, rhythm and intonation. The course is designed to help the student discriminate all English vowels, both separately and within larger linguistic constructs.

#### ESL 353 - ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION (CONSONANTS) (3) (elective)

A course designed to help ESL students to improve their pronunciation of American English including stress, rhythm and intonation. The course is designed to help the student discriminate all English consonants, both separately and within larger linguistic constructs.

#### ESL 354 - Accent Reduction (3) (elective)

Students improve their pronunciation of American English including stress, rhythm and intonation. Consonant and vowel phonemes in English are reviewed from a phonetic/phonological perspective, particularly using the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet). Students practice the Standard American English pronunciation of these sounds extensively in connected speech, concentrating on linking, aspiration, and vowel reduction. Contrast and comparison of English consonant sounds and the students' native language(s) is encouraged as didactic methodology, as are self-correction and peer input.

## Pre-theology Program

St. John Vianney College Seminary offers a special two-year Pre-theology program for candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood who have completed their baccalaureate degrees, in a discipline other than philosophy, and are preparing to enter graduate studies in theology. The Pre-theology program provides the requirements for the philosophy and theology courses laid down by the Program of Priestly Formation and the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*

Before entering this program, students whose first language is other

than English must attain a minimum score of 60 on the test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). If the student is unable to meet this requirement, he will first matriculate in the Propaedeutic ESL program described in the ESL Section of this catalog.

The Pre-theology program is designed as a two-year experience in philosophy, theology, Spanish for Ministry and priestly formation. Those students who are proficient in Spanish, will be excused from the Spanish for Ministry requirement. However, they are still subject to the total credit requirement for their degree, which they can fulfill by completing two elective courses (6 credits) of their choice. At the completion of the Pre-theology

program the student will be awarded a Bachelor of Philosophy degree (B.Phil.) or a Master of Arts (M.A.), depending on the program they follow. The credit hour requirements (60 credits) for the Bachelor of Philosophy (B. Phil) is outlined in the Plan of Studies on page ... of the Catalog. The credit hour requirements (48 credits) for the pre-theologians pursuing the M.A. in Philosophy is outlined in the Plan of Studies on page 44 of the Catalog.

St. John Vianney's Pre-Theology program also aims to allow the seminarian to deepen and expand his understanding of the Catholic Faith by introducing him to the uniqueness, breadth and all-encompassing character of the heart and mind of Catholicism.



## Admission Requirements

In addition to the Admission requirements stated on pages 16-17, candidates to the Pre-theology program must fulfill the following requirements:

1. A valid government-issued photo identification document (ID); (e.g., Passport, Driver's License).
2. Official transcripts of high school, undergraduate and graduate credits sent directly by the school(s) attended.
3. Non-English speaking students will be tested for English language proficiency. Their test scores will determine whether they enter the Pre-Theology Program directly or whether they must first complete the Propaedeutic ESL Program as described in the ESL Curriculum.
4. Biography describing the genesis of commitment to the priesthood and to theological studies.

## General Education Requirements

All candidates to the B.Phil must have completed a minimum of 30 credits in general education to be admitted to the program, which include at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/ fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural science/mathematics.

## Transfer Policy

The previous college credit from an accredited institution will be accepted, provided that the grade for the course submitted was C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better, and provided that the courses are compatible with the College Seminary's degree requirements. Transfer credit from a non-accredited institution will be considered on an individual basis. Grades and grade point averages (GPA) will not be transferred, nor will they appear on the College

Seminary transcript.

For transfer policy in the Major, please refer to the Philosophy Department Section in the catalog. Evaluation and acceptance of academic credit rests with the Academic Dean. Transfer of credit from this institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution.

The course requirements for the fulfillment of the B. Phil degree are restricted to three disciplines, philosophy (42 hours), theology (12 hours) and Spanish for ministry (six hours). In those instances when a student admitted to the program has already earned college credit in any of the courses required for the degree, the requirement to complete the required course(s) in the seminary is waived. A maximum of twelve (12) credits will be accepted as transfer credits.

## Mission

The Pre-theology program is designed to serve the needs of students who come to the College Seminary with the same goals as the rest of the students, but who have already earned a Bachelors of Arts degree at another institution and have majored in a discipline other than philosophy. It is the mission of the Pre-theology program to guide those students so that they may reach the academic student outcomes set out by the Mission Statement of the institution.

## Student Learning Outcomes of B.Phil Program

The Pre-theology program, in order to carry out that responsibility, has adopted for itself a set of expanded student outcomes that combines the institutional student learning outcomes as refined and operationally defined by the Philosophy Department and by the General Education program. Those refined and operationally defined

student learning outcomes are as follows:

1. Students who are knowledgeable in the general history of Western philosophy.
2. Students who are grounded in the tradition of Catholic perennial philosophy and who are familiar with its terminology, its approach, and its major figures.
3. Students who demonstrate knowledge of systematic philosophy, in keeping with the Catholic tradition.
4. Students who are grounded in philosophy for theological studies at the graduate level.
5. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the Old and New Testaments.
6. Students who demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

## Studies in Philosophy

The Pre-Theology Program at St. John Vianney sees intellectual formation at this stage in a young college graduate's life as a venue meant to prepare him to better understand and appreciate the intellectual, most especially the philosophical, foundations of Catholic Theology.

As such, the academic component of St. John Vianney's Pre-Theology Program represents a "Study of Philosophy for Understanding Catholic Theology" – this is in keeping with the seminary's orientation (as envisioned by PDV and the present PPF) to form future pastors of the Church. Since even at this stage in his formation, everything a seminarian does is meant to prepare him to become a shepherd and minister of the Gospel, St. John Vianney's Pre-Theology Program envisions a closer relationship between Intellectual and

Pastoral Formation.

Students in the Pre-theology program will take a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours in philosophy. Additional hours may be necessary depending on the student is enrolled the B. Phil or the M.A. program. The individual needs of the theologate for which they are ultimately bound may also impact the number of hours required. Students in the B. Phil must maintain a GPA of 2.0. Students in the M.A. must maintain a GPA of 3.0 in their philosophy courses to stay in the program.

## Studies in Theology

Pre-theologians, whether enrolled in the B. Phil or in the M.A. program are required to take a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours in theology. Given the greatly varied background of those entering as pre-theologians, this program uses an adult learning model which is an integrated process of basic theological learning with personal, spiritual, communal and apostolic development. The program's theology curriculum consists of courses which are introductory in nature and of courses specifically offered to address the needs of pre-theologians. In both cases, the curriculum serves the worthwhile purpose of giving students a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the rich tradition and teaching of Roman Catholicism.

## Formation

Formation in all its dimensions (Human, Spiritual, Intellectual, and Pastoral) is an essential component of pre-theology. Students of this program participate in the common formation program offered to all seminarians, but they have their own residence and their own director. This director works closely with the

College Seminary's Academic Dean and the directors of formation in overseeing the different components of the program.

## What is unique about the Pre-Theology program at St. John Vianney

Incorporating the most important elements of both the propaedeutic and discipleship stages into an intense two-year program of prayer, study, growth in personal understanding, fraternity and community, the Pre-Theology Program at Saint John Vianney seeks to guide a young professional who has chosen to seriously consider a call to the diocesan priesthood through the initial stages of his journey in seminary formation.

The goal is to enable the seminarian, within that two-year period, to "sit at the Master's feet" thereby establishing a deep friendship and intimate bond with Christ who has called him. By doing so, the program intends to lay strong and lasting foundations on which subsequent stages of formation are built.

Besides participating in the common formation program offered to all the seminarians, the pre-theology students are offered additional opportunities in various spiritual activities which will assist them in their spiritual development.

Pre-theologians have two formal evaluations during the school year: one in the fall and one in the spring. These evaluations follow the format of the St. John Vianney College Seminary evaluation for its degree-seeking seminarians.

## 1. An Integral Human Formation

"God loves and cares for each

one of us as if we were the only one in his care. (St. Augustine)

This is perhaps the single most significant area where a Pre-Theology Program in a College Seminary setting like St. John Vianney can truly contribute to the building of a strong foundation for a young man who has already obtained a college degree and who may already have a lot of life experience.

Most of those who enter a Pre-Theology Program are solid and mature men who prove to be excellent candidates for eventual theological studies and ordination. Pre Theology formation at St. John Vianney provides them with a setting that allows them to be truly affirmed as the older and more mature young men that they are, who have already accomplished important things in their lives, and who have made the decision to re-orient their life's discernment towards the service of God and people.

The young men who are in the Pre-Theology Program at St. John Vianney become important witnesses to their undergraduate brothers who look up to them for inspiration and support- something which, in return, aids these Pre-Theologians in receiving that affirmation they need.

In a College Seminary setting thus, a kind of "symbiotic relationship" arises between older seminarians in the Pre-Theology Program and younger undergraduates. This bears tremendous promise in terms of the Human Formation, not only for the



Pre Theologians themselves, but the undergraduate students as well.

## 2. An Authentic Spiritual Formation

“To fall in love with God is the greatest romance, to seek Him the greatest adventure, to find Him the greatest achievement.” (Anonymous, often attributed to St. Augustine)

Most young men who begin formation at this stage in their life have an established prayer life, an adequate understanding of what it means to have a relationship with Jesus Christ, and a very basic knowledge of the life and teachings of the Church.

The Pre-Theology Program at St. John Vianney seeks to build on these simple and most basic foundations by allowing a college graduate who now begins his journey in formation to deepen his spirituality even further and to grow in his relationship with Christ. It also aims to allow the seminarian to deepen and expand his understanding of the Catholic Faith by introducing him to the uniqueness, breadth and all-encompassing character of the heart and mind of Catholicism.

## 3. A Truly ‘Catholic’ Intellectual Formation

“All that is true, by whomsoever it has been said has its origin in the

Holy Spirit”. (St. Thomas Aquinas)

The Pre-Theology Program at St. John Vianney sees intellectual formation at this stage in a young college graduate’s life as a venue meant to prepare him to better understand and appreciate the intellectual, most especially the philosophical, foundations of Catholic Theology. As such, the academic component of St. John Vianney’s Pre-Theology Program represents a “Study of Philosophy for Understanding Catholic Theology” - this is in keeping with the seminary’s orientation (as envisioned by PDV and the present PPF) to form future pastors of the Church. Since even at this stage in his formation,

everything a seminarian does is meant to prepare him to become a shepherd and minister of the Gospel, St. John Vianney’s Pre-Theology Program envisions a closer relationship between Intellectual and Pastoral Formation.

## I. Basic Spiritual and Human Formation

1. Understanding and appreciating the requirements of healthy psychological growth and development.
2. Understanding and appreciating the demands of celibate chastity.
3. Understanding and appreciating the relationship of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
4. Growth in understanding and development of the virtues.
5. Becoming men of communion.
6. Development of a personal prayer life.
7. Development of a spirituality

centered on Christ’s presence in the Eucharist.

8. Understanding the challenges and demands of the Promises of Ordination.

## II. Learning and Appreciating the Fundamentals of Catholic Life and Faith.

1. Prayer and the Spiritual Life
2. Old and New Testament Scriptures
3. The Catechism
4. The Sacraments and the Liturgy
5. Church Practice
6. The Laws of the Church
7. Learning to “think with” the Church.

## III. Understanding and Appreciating the Role of Philosophy in Doing Theology

1. The Interplay of Faith and Reason.
2. The Evolution of Philosophical

Thought.

3. The Role of Philosophy in the Life and 2000-Year History of the Church.
4. Augustinian and Thomistic Thought.
5. The Challenges of Modernity and Opportunities for Evangelization
6. Contemporary Philosophical Schools and their Contribution to Catholic Theology

## IV. Appreciating Language as an Important Tool for Ministry (ESL / SSL)

1. English and Spanish – Language Courses
2. Conversational Spanish and English
3. Accent Modification/Reduction Classes for Non-native English Speakers
4. Accent Modification/Reduction Classes for Non-native Spanish Speakers



# Bachelor of Philosophy (B.Phil.) Plan of Studies

## FIRST YEAR

### FALL SEMESTER

- PHI 105 Intro to Philosophy & Logic (3)
- PHI 301 Pre-theology Survey on the History of Philosophy I (6)
- SPA 153 Spanish for Ministry I (3)
- THE 255 Intro to Scriptures I (3)

(15)

### SPRING SEMESTER

- PHI 302 Pre-Theo Survey on the History of Phil. II (6)
- PHI 437 Aquinas in 20th Century (3)
- SPA 154 Spanish for Ministry II (3)
- THE 256 Intro to Scriptures II (3)

(15)

## SECOND YEAR

### FALL SEMESTER

- PHI 401 Metaphysics (3)
- PHI 406 Philosophy of God (3)
- PHI 460 Fundamental Ethics (3)
- PHI 461 Social Ethics (3)
- THE 417 Pre-Theology Seminar in Theology (3)

(15)

### SPRING SEMESTER

- PHI 404 Phil. Anthropology (3)
- PHI 405 Epistemology (3)
- THE 407 Phil. of Nature (3)
- THE 496 Integ. Sem. in Phil. (3)
- THE 408 Vatican II and Church Tradition (3)

(15)

**All these credits must be taken in residence.** In those individual cases that in the judgment of the Academic Dean, may warrant it, the number of credits to be required in the Humanities, as well as the specific courses selected to fulfill that requirement, will be determined by the Academic Dean in consideration of the student’s previous academic record and his/her academic experience in the humanities. The Academic Dean will make this determination in consultation with the student’s Academic Advisor and the Coordinator of the Humanities Program.

# Graduate Academic Programs

All courses at St. John Vianney College Seminary are organized and grouped together under an appropriate department or program. Departments are headed by a Chair, programs are led by a Coordinator.



## Master of Arts (M.A.) in Philosophy

### Note to Prospective Students

St. John Vianney's College Seminary's M.A. in Philosophy is offered 100% On-line and on Campus.

### Mission Statement

The two-year M.A. program at St. John Vianney College Seminary is aimed to give students a solid, graduate level knowledge of Philosophy. The program emphasizes the narrative character of philosophy, i.e., the idea that philosophy has a 'story' that continuously evolves and mirrors the human person's ongoing search for meaning. This narrative character of this approach to philosophy is particularly "catholic" in the true meaning of the word,

i.e., capable of being open to truth in all its manifestations, embracing it in a way that synthesizes all that is true, good, and noble in what the tradition has passed on to us while also pushing this legacy forward to bring about something that is genuinely "novel."

### Admission Requirements

1. A valid government-issued photo identification document (ID); (e.g., Passport, Driver's License).
2. A completed Application form, fee, and two letters of recommendation testifying to the student's aptitude for graduate studies from professors familiar with the student's undergraduate work.
3. Entering MA students must have a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution. Students, who have no background in Philosophy at the undergraduate level, must first complete the Historical Sequence of courses before

- proceeding to register for the systematic courses.
4. Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended by the applicant.
5. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0.

### Length of Program

A limit of five calendar years is the maximum time allotted for the completion of all the requirements for the master's degree. Graduate students who have not registered for a course in five years will be dropped from the program.

### Interrupted Program of Study

If a student engaged in graduate study leaves the College for a significant period before completing the degree, courses will be counted toward the program of study only if the time period of interrupted study is less than 5 years. That is, the

period between the last and present (or new) enrollment does not exceed 5 years.

In special circumstances, courses completed more than 5 years previously may, at the discretion of the Academic Dean, be counted toward a degree, if, in the judgment of the dean, the College's curricular requirements and the content of those courses have not undergone significant change during the period of interrupted study.

Courses completed 5 or more years previous to any current enrollment will not be counted in the student's grade point average, unless the Academic Dean has made specific course exemptions from this policy. The transcript will indicate separate sets of courses, those completed 5 or more years previous to a new or continued enrollment and those registered after the student's return to the College.

### Degree Requirements and Required Coursework

Thirty (30) hours of graduate coursework (10 courses) are required for all MA programs in the Philosophy Department. Students who choose to write a Thesis must complete 27 credit hours of course work and 3 credits for the Thesis. Students who do not choose to write a thesis must complete 30 credit hours of course work and successful completion of a Comprehensive Examination. In either case, coursework for all students must include the 12 credits of the Historical Sequence (PHI 501, PHI 502, PHI 503, PHI 504) as well as the following

courses: Metaphysics (PHI 511), Philosophical Anthropology (PHI 512), Epistemology (PHI 513), and 20th Century Thomism (PHI 515). Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to remain in good standing and must complete all requirements for the degree within five years of admission to the program.

### Transfer Policy

A maximum of six graduate credits from an accredited institution will be accepted for transfer, provided that the grade for the course submitted was B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better, and provided that the courses are compatible with the program's degree requirements. Evaluation and acceptance of academic record rests with the Academic Dean, who conducts the evaluation using transcripts and catalog descriptions of the courses to be accepted as transfer credit.

### Language Requirement

There is no language requirement or other research tool requirement for an M.A. degree in the Philosophy Department.

### Comprehensive Examination

Toward the end of the MA course of studies, the student who has decided not to write a Thesis must pass a Comprehensive Examination.

The Comprehensive Examination is a written exam generated by the Philosophy Department aimed to evaluate the student's competence and knowledge of the

History of Philosophy as well as of the systematic areas required in the curriculum: Metaphysics, Philosophical Anthropology, Epistemology, and 20th Century Thomism. During the last semester of studies, at least six weeks before the actual date of the exam, students following the Comprehensive Examination track will be given a Study-guide of topics out of which the department will generate the Comprehensive Examination. The students will be given three hours to complete the proctored exam. The philosophy faculty will evaluate the exams and will grade it either as Pass or Fail. Students will have three opportunities to pass the comprehensive examination. No student can graduate without earning a passing grade in the Comprehensive examination.

### Thesis

Students may choose to write a Thesis if they secure the recommendation of the faculty. If approved, they are not required to take the Comprehensive Examination. Students writing a Thesis must have a minimum GPA of 3.5.

Students writing a thesis will need to decide on a topic and an advisor early in the first semester of their second year of studies (after completing the Historical Sequence courses). The thesis must be at least 60 pages long. The department will provide the student with instructions on how to submit the thesis. Two readers will evaluate the thesis and grade it as Pass or Fail. No student can graduate without earning a

passing grade in the thesis.

### Learning Outcomes.

Upon successful completion of the M.A. Program in Philosophy, the student:

1. Students will demonstrate their capacity for philosophical research and writing.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major figures, movements, positions and issues in the Western philosophical tradition from the Ancient to the Contemporary period.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the main issues, debates, and traditions in Western Metaphysics.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the main issues, debates, and traditions in Western Philosophical Anthropology.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the main issues, debates, and traditions in Western Epistemology.
6. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the main issues, debates, and traditions in 20th Century Thomism.

Evaluation of student achievement will be via assessment of student's written projects and examinations. Rubrics to assess student achievement of Comprehensive Examination and Thesis will be developed by program faculty and will demonstrate an increased level of rigor compared to the rubric used for the Bachelor's Degree Senior Project. A student satisfaction survey, based on the

instrument used current for the Bachelor's Degree program, will be administered to determine student satisfaction.

### Courses Listed by the Learning Outcomes:

#### Outcome 1:

All courses in the Program.  
PHI 599 Thesis (3)

#### Outcome 2:

PHI 501: Readings in Ancient Philosophy (3)  
PHI 502: Readings in Medieval Philosophy (3)  
PHI 503: Readings in Modern Philosophy (3)  
PHI 504: Readings in Contemporary Philosophy (3)

#### Outcome 3:

PHI 501: Metaphysics (3)

#### Outcome 4:

PHI 512: Philosophical Anthropology (3)

#### Outcome 5:

PHI 513: Epistemology (3)

#### Outcome 6:

PHI 515: 20th Century Thomism (3).

### Assessment

The Learning Outcomes of the program will be assessed via a rubric developed by the department. The evaluators of the Comprehensive Examination and the Thesis will use the rubric to assess them. In addition, the Alumni Survey already

in existence (with appropriate modifications) to evaluate the undergraduate program will also be used to determine student satisfaction with the graduate program for pre-theologians. In the case of the online students, an Online Program Student Survey will be administered to assess student satisfaction.

### Required Courses (24 Credit Hours)

The program of studies for the Masters in Philosophy requires a minimum of 30 semester credit hours. These 30 credits are to be fulfilled by the following required courses:

PHI 501 Readings in Ancient Philosophy (3cr)  
PHI 502 Readings in Medieval Philosophy (3cr)  
PHI 503 Readings in Modern Philosophy (3cr)  
PHI 504 Readings in Contemporary Philosophy (3cr)  
PHI 511 Metaphysics (3cr)  
PHI 512 Philosophical Anthropology (3cr)  
PHI 513 Epistemology (3cr)  
PHI 515 20th Century Thomism (3cr)

### Thesis Track (6 credit hours)

PHI Elective (3cr)  
PHI 599 Thesis (3cr)

### Non-Thesis Track (6 credit hours plus Comprehensive Examination)

PHI Elective (3cr)  
PHI Elective (3cr)

### Electives

PHI 514 Ethics (3cr)  
PHI 516 Studies in Political Philosophy (3cr)  
PHI 517 Philosophy of Religion and Natural Theology (3cr)  
PHI 518 Aesthetics (3cr)  
PHI 550 Major Thinkers (3cr)

### Course Description

#### PHI 501 - Readings in Ancient Philosophy.

A graduate level study of the main themes and concerns of ancient philosophy. Selected representative readings from Plato and Aristotle will frame the investigation.

#### PHI 502 - Readings in Medieval Philosophy.

A graduate level study of the main themes and concerns of medieval philosophy. Selected representative readings from Augustine and Aquinas will frame the investigation.

#### PHI 504 - Readings in Contemporary Philosophy.

A graduate level study of the main themes and concerns of contemporary philosophy. Selected representative readings from thinkers from Kierkegaard to Gadamer and Derrida will frame the investigation.

#### Phi 511 -Metaphysics.

A graduate level study of metaphysical questions regarding the nature of reality and the relationship of God, the world, and human being in keeping with the Catholic philosophical tradition and contemporary reflection.- Being and

beings; ontological and ontic; the analogy of Being; the ontological difference; being and time; Absence and Presence. Being and Language.

#### Phi 512 - Philosophical Anthropology.

A graduate level study of human nature and self-understanding in the light of the Catholic philosophical tradition and of contemporary reflection. Emphasis on the questions of personhood; reason, will, intentionality, freedom and the natural law. A reflection on the role of love, work, play, sexuality and friendship in human life.

#### PHI 513 - Epistemology.

A graduate level study of questions regarding the nature and sources of knowledge and related questions of Truth, Meaning, Evidence, Reason, and Method. Selected readings from representative figures of the Western tradition from Plato to Gadamer will frame the investigation.

#### PHI 514 - Ethics.

A graduate level study in ethics and related concerns in keeping with the Catholic tradition and contemporary reflection, special attention will be paid to discussions of value, virtue ethics, deontology, eudaemonism and the relation of faith to morality.

#### PHI 515 - 20th Century Thomism.

Graduate level studies in the dialogue between Thomism and modernity in the twentieth century by a careful reading of major thinkers in the Transcendental Thomist tradition, e.g., Roussetot, Marechal, Rahner and Lonnergan, leading to and serving as a foundation for the theology of

Vatican II.

#### PHI 516 - Studies in Political Philosophy.

A graduate level study of questions regarding the nature of social and political governance and related questions of Justice, Liberty, Equality, Authority, the Common Good and Human Rights. Selected readings from representative figures of the Western tradition from Plato to Rawls and Habermas will frame the investigation.

#### PHI 517 - Philosophy of Religion and Natural Theology.

A graduate level study to the philosophical approach to the question of God in line with the Catholic tradition and contemporary discussions.

#### PHI 518 - Aesthetics.

Graduate level studies in aesthetics in keeping with the Catholic tradition and contemporary reflection – special attention will be given to the relation of Beauty to Truth and Meaning. Also, the relation of Beauty to God.

#### PHI 550 - Major Thinkers.

A graduate in-depth study of a single, major philosopher from the Western tradition.

#### PHI 590 - Thesis.

Investigation on a philosophical theme or philosopher. The thesis must be 60 pages minimum in length. The topic is selected by the student, and agreed upon by the Thesis Director. The student must follow the "Procedures for Writing of a Thesis" of the Philosophy Department.

# Master of Arts in Philosophy Plan of Studies (for Pre-Theologians)

FIRST YEAR		SECOND YEAR	
SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
PHI 501 Readings in Ancient Philosophy (3)	PHI 503 Readings in Modern Philosophy (3)	PHI 511 Metaphysics (3)	PHI 513 Epistemology (3)
PHI 502 Readings in Medieval Philosophy (3)	PHI 504 Readings in Contemporary Philosophy (3)	PHI 512 Philosophical Anthropology (3)	PHI 515 20th Century Thomism (3)
THE 255 Intro to Scriptures I (3)	THE 256 Intro to Scriptures II (3)	PHI Elective (3)	THE 408 Vatican II and the Church Tradition (3)
SPA 153 Spanish for Ministry I (3)	SPA 154 Spanish for Ministry II (3)	THE 417 Pre-Theology Seminar in Theology (3)	Thesis or Elective (3)
(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)

**All these credits must be taken in residence.** In those individual cases that in the judgment of the Academic Dean, may warrant it, the number of credits to be required in the Humanities, as well as the specific courses selected to fulfill that requirement, will be determined by the Academic Dean in consideration of the student's previous academic record and his/her academic experience in the humanities. The Academic Dean will make this determination in consultation with the student's Academic Advisor and the Coordinator of the Humanities Program.



# Master of Arts in Philosophy Online Plan of Studies (Non-Seminarians)

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
PHI 501 Readings in Ancient Philosophy (3)	PHI 503 Readings in Modern Philosophy (3)	PHI 511 Metaphysics (3)	PHI 513 Epistemology (3)
PHI 502 Readings in Medieval Philosophy (3)	PHI 504 Readings in Contemporary Philosophy (3)	PHI 512 Philosophical Anthropology (3)	PHI 515 20th Century Thomism (3)
		Elective (3)	Thesis or Elective (3)
(6)	(6)	(9)	(9)

# Student Services Division



**Mission** - The Student Services Division of St. John Vianney College Seminary exists to provide students with support services to reasonably meet their human and institutional needs. These services include an orientation program for new resident students, adequate housing to suit resident students' practical needs, a safe campus environment, health and medical services and the structure of a student government. The Dean of Students is immediately responsible for this Division. The faculty and staff of the College Seminary collaborate with the Dean of Students in implementing the various services rendered by this Division. For further understanding of the college seminary life, seminarians are referred to St. John Vianney Seminary's Principles of Formation.

## The New Student Experience

The New Student Experience is a required orientation program for new resident students of St. John Vianney College Seminary. The New Student Experience is designed to help new resident students attain familiarity with the basic areas of priestly formation, the dynamics

of community life, the location and rules of operation of campus facilities and general knowledge of the community at large. The New Student Experience takes place immediately prior to the official beginning of the academic year. During the New Student Experience students live on campus. The New Student Experience Team, which consists of a select number

of returning seminarians, assists the Rector, the Dean of Students and other qualified personnel in the coordination of the orientation program's activities. Such activities include a series of conferences, orientation sessions, workshops, on-campus social functions, outings to places of interest in the local South Florida community, and an off-campus retreat.

## Student Housing

All resident college seminarians of St. John Vianney College Seminary are provided housing that features adequate dormitory, meal, laundry, and recreational facilities to suit their practical needs. Dormitory facilities feature rooms equipped with a bed, closet area, desk and sink. Rooms may be private or shared with one roommate. Common bathrooms with individual showers are available to resident students on every floor.

Meals, including breakfast, lunch and dinner, are prepared for resident students by a professional staff in the St. John Vianney Seminary Refectory every day except during academic breaks. A laundry room equipped with washers, dryers and other practical amenities is also available to seminarians in their building of residence. The building of residence also features the following recreational facilities: a large community room (equipped with kitchen and dining space, a sitting area, and a recreational games section), multiple television rooms, a workout room, and a pool hall. Other on-campus recreational facilities include tennis courts, an indoor gymnasium equipped with a basketball court and a weight room, a swimming pool and multiple fields for outdoor sports such as baseball, softball and soccer.



## Campus Safety

St. John Vianney College Seminary provides a safe campus environment through the implementation of its various disciplinary policies and the supervision of a security crew.

## Health and Medical Services

St. John Vianney College Seminary is committed to fostering the overall well-being and wholeness of its seminarians. As a result, health and medical services are made available to the resident seminarians of the institution. Basic medical supplies and standard over-the-counter medications are provided free of charge for resident students in the case of minor medical emergencies. In the case of major medical emergencies and the need for major medical attention for its resident seminarians, the institution provides a medical referral program and transportation services. An on-campus infirmary equipped with private dormitory and bathroom facilities is available for resident

seminarians in need of extraordinary and prescribed convalescence.

## Student Government

The Student Council of St. John Vianney College Seminary exists to ensure that the resident student body has a constitutional student government through which its needs and concerns can be represented before the administration of the institution. The Student Council is governed by its constitution and encompasses all resident students of the institution as its members. Annual elections are held within the governmental body for the offices of President, Vice-President and Secretary as well as for the offices of individual Class Deans. The Student Council meets periodically throughout the academic year to address issues, concerns and proposals to be presented in a spirit of dialogue before the administration of the institution. It also organizes a series of on-campus social functions for resident seminarians.

## Alumni Association

The purpose of this Association is to foster fraternity among the alumni, to coordinate an Annual Reunion of the Alumni at the Seminary, to provide support for the Seminary from the membership, and to seek such support from the benefactors and friends of the Seminary. Membership in the Association is open to all alumni of the College Seminary, lay, and clerical.

## Policy Against Harassment

The College Seminary is committed to providing an environment free of any kind of harassment. In keeping with this commitment, the college will not tolerate harassment of its students or employees by anyone, including any supervisor, co-worker, student or vendor of the College Seminary. The College Seminary Policy Against Harassment is contained in the Faculty Manual.

## Drug-Free Environment

The unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises or property, or as part of any of its activities by employees, instructors and students of this institution is against the policy of the College Seminary. For more information on College Seminary Policy, refer to the Principles of Formation Handbook.

## Policy on Hazing

Hazing is defined as any act, whether physical, mental, emotional or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, or intimidate him or her, or which may in any fashion compromise his/her inherent dignity as a person.

Hazing is inherently in conflict with the mission of St. John Vianney College Seminary and, therefore, will not be tolerated. Every effort will be made to ensure that students will not encounter the humiliation and danger of hazing.

## Placement Assistance

While St. John Vianney offers

placement assistance to all its students, employment is not guaranteed.

## Complaints and Appeals Procedures

The student may initiate a complaint or appeal any decision related to a requested accommodation or auxiliary aid to the Academic Dean. Such an appeal must be made in writing to the Dean no later than 10 days following the decision as to a requested accommodation or aid. Any position paper, brief, medical documentation or other written material, which the student desires to be reviewed by the Dean, shall be submitted together with the notice of appeal. The Academic Dean shall investigate and respond to the notice of appeal in writing, stating his or her decision, together with the reasons for either affirming or reversing the previous decision as to accommodation, or, auxiliary aid. A student may, within 10 days of the Dean's written decision on a student's appeal, file a second appeal with the Rector/President.

The decision of the Rector/President shall be in writing and shall be final and binding upon the student and the college seminary. All records of

students' complaints and appeals are stored in the office of the Rector/President. Unresolved conflict should be referred to:

SACSCOC  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097  
www.sacscoc.org

or the Commission for Independent Education at:

Florida Department of Education  
Commission for Independent Education  
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1414  
Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0400

## Intellectual Property Policy

The published work of a faculty, staff member or student that is a result of his/her research and writing is the sole property of the author. Any copyrights and/or compensation that might arise from his/her efforts remain the property of the author. When significant time or facilities of the college seminary have been used, it is reasonable that the author would consider the needs of the college when receiving revenue from his/her efforts.



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Academic Dean

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Campus Map

