

# QuEST

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

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### Area 1: Abilities of the Liberal Arts

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#### **First Year Seminar**

- a. Read critically: recall, analyze, synthesize and integrate.
- b. Discuss ideas critically: express thoughtful insight, based on close reading and active listening.
- c. Write essays critically, using effective prose for particular audiences.
- d. Apply basic methods and skills of information literacy: accessing, evaluating, and using information effectively and ethically.

#### **Created and Called for Community**

- a. Describe biblical and theological implications of the Old Testament emphasis on being created in the image of God and the New Testament emphasis on becoming a new creation.
- b. Articulate defining characteristics of different kinds of communities, including those that are faith-based, academic, national, international, ethnic, inter-ethnic, and professional.
- c. Develop a working definition of Christian Vocation as it relates to reconciliation, service, and leadership.
- d. Write critically, using effective prose for particular audiences.

#### **Oral Communication**

- a. Identify key elements of communication within a variety of contexts.
- b. Analyze their own communication and recognize its effects on others.
- c. Articulate ethical responsibilities of oral communicators and, in their own communication, demonstrate adherence to those responsibilities.
- d. Convey information and reasoned argument in spoken and visual presentation.

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## Area 2: Liberal Arts

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### **Mathematical Sciences**

- a. Solve quantitative problems using mathematical techniques, statistical methods, or information technology.
- b. Use systematic reasoning appropriate to the respective discipline.
- c. Apply course content to diverse fields of study.

### **Laboratory Sciences**

- a. Demonstrate substantive knowledge of the content and investigative methodologies of a scientific topic.
- b. Demonstrate an understanding of the scientific method and how the scientific community validates new knowledge.
- c. Demonstrate the ability to conduct and analyze simple investigations in the natural sciences.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to present scientific arguments orally and in writing using tables, graphs and charts.

### **Science, Technology, and the World**

- a. Examine relevant scientific or technological concepts.
- b. Characterize ethical, social, historical, philosophical, aesthetic, or political aspects of science or technology.
- c. Analyze relationships between Christian Faith and science or technology within the context of a particular issue/topic.

### **Social Sciences**

- a. Identify social scientific research methodologies and how they may be utilized to study various aspects of human experience.
- b. Identify socio-cultural contexts that shape human experience.
- c. Analyze important variables contributing to one or more social problems/issues.
- d. Evaluate the portrayal and use of social scientific research in popular media and social discourse.
- e. Critically reflect on interactions between self and others, using social science frameworks.

### **European History**

- a. Explain traditions and methods of historical scholarship.
- b. Comprehend selected ideas, peoples, institutions, and events central to the formation of Western traditions.
- c. Comprehend the patterns and institutions of Western history and culture.
- d. Recognize ways in which the past has shaped the contemporary world.
- e. Conduct basic historical analysis of primary and secondary sources pertaining to European society.

- f. Communicate basic historical analysis in effective prose.

### **United States History**

- a. Explain traditions and methods of historical scholarship.
- b. Comprehend selected ideas, peoples, institutions, and events central to American history.
- c. Comprehend the patterns and institutions of American history and culture.
- d. Recognize ways in which the past has shaped contemporary American society.
- e. Conduct basic historical analysis of primary and secondary sources pertaining to American society.
- f. Communicate basic historical analysis in effective prose.

### **Literature**

- a. Identify terminology, traditions, and methods of literary study.
- b. Recognize literature's capacity to provoke thought, grow the imagination and deepen their understanding of what it means to be human.
- c. Analyze significant works of literature.
- d. Articulate the relationship of literary texts to their personal world.

### **Philosophy**

- a. Evidence a basic understanding of some of the traditions and methods of philosophical inquiry.
- b. Analyze historical philosophical problems and their relation to contemporary thought.
- c. Engage the work of significant thinkers.
- d. Think logically and critically.

### **Religion**

- a. Articulate the traditions and methods of the study of religion as a humanities discipline.
- b. Discuss the role religions play in shaping individual identity and self- understanding of adherents.
- c. Identify relationships between religion and culture at the local, national, and transnational levels.
- d. Describe ways that religions can be explored historically and sociologically.
- e. Discuss ways that Christianity relates to other faiths.

### **Arts**

- a. Reflect on the nature and principles of art.
- b. Describe artistic processes and their history.
- c. Make or perform art, usually at an introductory level.
- d. "See" and "hear" through personal interaction with art media.

### **Language and Culture**

#### *Modern Language:*

- a. Communicate orally and read fluently.

- b. Communicate in written form.
- c. Articulate knowledge of culture in that language.
- d. Articulate cultural and linguistic differences between American English and the language being studied.

*Literary Languages:*

- a. Read fluently, carefully and critically.
- b. Explain patterns and institutions of history and culture of the Near East, the Mediterranean and/or Europe
- c. Analyze significant works of literature.

*Cross Cultural Studies: (General Education Committee)*

- a. Identify relevant information about the host culture's history, traditions, politics, geography, including regional differences, if applicable.
- b. Discuss facets in which the host culture differs from their own.
- c. Discuss facets in which the host culture is similar to their own.
- d. Explain insights that they learned about themselves and their own relationships by directly interacting with individuals and groups from the host culture.

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## Area 3: Christian Faith

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### **Knowledge of the Bible** (Department of Biblical and Religious Studies)

- a. Reflect on how the Bible functions as an ancient text with authority for Christian belief and practice.
- b. Describe important aspects of the Bible's complex formation.
- c. Recognize the Bible's variety of literary genres and discuss principles necessary for their interpretation.

### **Christian Beliefs** (Department of Biblical and Religious Studies)

- a. Practice theological ways of thinking and writing.
- b. Articulate central beliefs of historic Christian faith about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, and the church.
- c. Recognize Anabaptist, Pietist, and Wesleyan theological emphases, such as compassion, peace, justice, reconciliation, and the importance of personal piety.
- d. Recognize that the Christian faith can be articulated in many ways.
- e. Examine their theological convictions and spiritual practices.

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## Area 4: Social Responsibility

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### **Wellness**

- a. Describe the relationship between habitual exercise and disease risk.
- b. Practice exercise and physical activity that improves health.
- c. Identify the importance of behavior choices in overall health.

### **Ethics in the Modern World**

- a. Describe various approaches to philosophical ethics (e.g. virtue, natural law, utilitarianism, duty, ethical relativism) and methodological issues associated with each.
- b. Articulate implications of selected ethical issues of significance in the contemporary world.
- c. Apply Christian ethical approaches to selected ethical problems or issues.
- d. Develop and defend a perspective on contemporary ethical issues.

### **World Views**

- a. Describe the basic issues surrounding the concept of world view.
- b. Compare and contrast a Christian world view with other world views.
- c. Articulate different approaches to justifying one's world view.
- d. Outline a variety of contemporary issues relevant to the development of a personal world view from a Christian perspective.

### **Pluralism in Contemporary Society**

- a. Outline contemporary issues arising out of the pluralism of race, ethnicity, social class, gender, disability, and religion.
- b. Examine contemporary society from diverse viewpoints and through these increase self-knowledge.
- c. Explain some effects of inequality, prejudice, and discrimination.
- d. Articulate and practice an informed and faithful Christian response to diversity.

### **Non-Western Studies (General Education Committee)**

- a. Articulate a basic understanding of a culture or people whose heritage and/or present life has been significantly shaped by customs, practices, and systems of thought outside the Western tradition.
- b. Engage with multiple aspects of the culture under study; these may include social customs and practices, systems of thought, and artistic expression.
- c. Understand the effects of contact between Western and non-Western people.