The Core as Your Academic Foundation

Dr. Greg Derry, Physics

Dr. W. Ethan Duckworth, Mathematics and Statistics

KH B03, 2:20–3:10, June 18 2018
What are we doing today?

1. Students’ Main concerns
What are we doing today?

1. Students' Main concerns
2. General Academics
What are we doing today?

1. Students’ Main concerns
2. General Academics
3. The Core
What are we doing today?

1. Students’ Main concerns
2. General Academics
3. The Core
4. Why do we take the Core?
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>General Academics</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>The Core</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Why do we take the Core?</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Messina</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
What are we doing today?

1. Students’ Main concerns
2. General Academics
3. The Core
4. Why do we take the Core?
5. Messina
6. Example schedules
Main Concerns

What concerns do you have about being a college student?
Main Concerns

What concerns do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
Main Concerns

What *concerns* do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
- you just want to keep an eye on
Main Concerns

What concerns do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
- you just want to keep an eye on
- make you a little anxious
What **concerns** do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
- you just want to keep an eye on
- make you a little anxious
- **worry you**
What concerns do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
- you just want to keep an eye on
- make you a little anxious
- worry you

Be creative!
What **concerns** do you have about being a college student?

“Concerns”: Things that . . .

- are really important to you and you want to go right
- you just want to keep an eye on
- make you a little anxious
- worry you

**Be creative!** (no repeats)
Main Concerns

- Making new friends
Main Concerns

- Making new friends
- Classes too hard
Main Concerns

- Making new friends
- Classes too hard
- Missing family and friends
Main Concerns

- Making new friends
- Classes too hard
- Missing family and friends
- Choosing the right major
Main Concerns

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- Choosing the right major
- Knowing what class to take
Main Concerns

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Main Concerns

- Making new friends
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Main Concerns

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- Making new friends
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- Too much stress
Main Concerns

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- My Health
Main Concerns

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- Too little sleep
- My Health
- Dating
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- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol
Main Concerns

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  - Paying for college
Main Concerns

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Main Concerns

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- **Being a victim of crime**
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- Too little religion, spirituality
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- My mental health issue
- Family member who needs my help
- Dying family member
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Everything!
### Why did you choose a Jesuit school?

#### Importance of Jesuit Mission in choosing Loyola:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
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<td>18%</td>
<td>66%</td>
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<td>56%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Cura Personalis

Care for whole person
Care for whole person

- Jesuit mission
Cura Personalis

Care for whole person

- Jesuit mission
- Recognition of unique gifts and difficulties
Cura Personalis

Care for whole person

- Jesuit mission
- Recognition of unique gifts and difficulties
- Integrating students’ concerns with curriculum and programs
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol ➔ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol \(\rightarrow\) Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\Rightarrow$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\Rightarrow$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
**Loyola Resources**

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\implies$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\implies$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management
### Loyola Resources

- **Prevalence of drugs and alcohol →** Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- **Knowing what class to take →** Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- **Time management →** Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\rightarrow$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\rightarrow$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\rightarrow$ Time management workshops, Moodle, ...
- Finding a job
Loyola Resources

• Prevalence of drugs and alcohol  $\implies$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
• Knowing what class to take  $\implies$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
• Time management  $\implies$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
• Finding a job  $\implies$ career center, faculty advice
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\Rightarrow$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\Rightarrow$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\Rightarrow$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\Rightarrow$ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\implies$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\implies$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\implies$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\implies$ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend $\implies$ R.A.
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\implies$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\implies$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\implies$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\implies$ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend $\implies$ R.A.
- Learning (or other) disability
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\Rightarrow$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\Rightarrow$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\Rightarrow$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\Rightarrow$ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend $\Rightarrow$ R.A.
- Learning (or other) disability $\Rightarrow$ DSS
# Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol ➞ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take ➞ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management ➞ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job ➞ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend ➞ R.A.
- Learning (or other) disability ➞ DSS
- Mental health, family crisis
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\rightarrow$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\rightarrow$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC
- Time management $\rightarrow$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\rightarrow$ career center, faculty advice
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend $\rightarrow$ R.A.
- Learning (or other) disability $\rightarrow$ DSS
- Mental health, family crisis $\rightarrow$ Pastoral counseling, Counseling center
Loyola Resources

- Prevalence of drugs and alcohol $\implies$ Options program, ADESS, Best of Baltimore, Mystery Bus
- Knowing what class to take $\implies$ Core Advisor, Major Advisor, AASC (and the Core!)
- Time management $\implies$ Time management workshops, Moodle, . . .
- Finding a job $\implies$ career center, faculty advice (and the Core!)
- Living with a roommate, a crazy friend $\implies$ R.A.
- Learning (or other) disability $\implies$ DSS
- Mental health, family crisis $\implies$ Pastoral counseling, Counseling center
What does it take to graduate?
General Academics

What does it take to graduate?

- A major
General Academics

What does it take to graduate?

- A major
- The core classes
General Academics

What does it take to graduate?

- A major
- The core classes
- About $200,000
General Academics

What does it take to graduate?

• A major
• The core classes
• About $200,000
• Hard work
General Academics

What does it take to graduate?

- A major
- The core classes
- About $200,000
- Hard work
- 40 classes (only counting 3 or 4 credit classes)
What do you think a major is? How does it matter?
What do you think a major is? How does it matter?

- A specialty
What do you think a major is? How does it matter?

- A specialty
- *Maybe* what you get your job in.
What do you think a major is? How does it matter?

- A specialty
- *Maybe* what you get your job in.
- About 10–20 classes
What is your major?

- Communications: 14 classes
What is your major?

- Communications: 14 classes
- Biology: 15 classes
- Chemistry: 14 classes
- Computer science: 16–19 classes
- Mathematics: 15 classes
- Physics: 16 classes
- Statistics: 14 classes
- Computer Engineering: 25
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

Major classes
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

Major classes  +  Core classes
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

Major classes + Core classes + Electives =
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

Major classes + Core classes + Electives = 40!
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

Major classes + Core classes + Electives = 40!
Major classes and what else?

There are three kinds of classes:

\[
\text{Major classes} + \text{Core classes} + \text{Electives} = 40!
\]

\[
\text{Electives} := 40 - \text{Major classes} - \text{Core classes}
\]
Some “wh” questions about the core:
Some “wh” questions about the core:

- Who (takes it)?
Some “wh” questions about the core:

- Who (takes it)?
- What (is the core)?
Some “wh” questions about the core:

- Who (takes it)?
- What (is the core)?
- When (do we take it)?
Some “wh” questions about the core:

• Who (takes it)?
• What (is the core)?
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• Why (do we take it)?
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- Who (takes it)?
- What (is the core)?
- When (do we take it)?
- Why (do we take it)?
- Where (do we take it)?
The Core

Some “wh” questions about the core:

- Who (takes it)?
- What (is the core)?
- When (do we take it)?
- Why (do we take it)?
- Where (do we take it)?
- How (do we take it)?
The Core

Some “wh” questions about the core:

● Who (takes it)?
● What (is the core)?
● When (do we take it)?
● Why (do we take it)?
● Where (do we take it)?
● How (do we take it)?
Who takes it?
Who takes it?

Everyone
## What is the core?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number of classes</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Natural science</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>1–4*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Social science</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td></td>
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Total: 17–20*
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<th>General Academics</th>
<th>The Core</th>
<th>Why do we take the Core?</th>
<th>Messina</th>
<th>Example schedules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>When do we take it?</td>
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*Every semester.*

*Twice.*
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**When do we take it?**

Every semester.
When do we take it?

Every semester. Twice.
Why do we take the Core?

This is (always) the hardest question.

We'll look at:

- How the core addresses student's concerns
- How the core gives you broad benefits
- How the core prepares you for change
- How the core prepares you for life after college: Jobs, Graduate School
Why do we take the core?

This is (always) the hardest question.
Why do we take the core?

This is (always) the hardest question. We’ll look at:
Why do we take the core?

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• How the core addresses student’s concerns
Why do we take the core?

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This is (always) the hardest question.
We’ll look at:

- How the core addresses student’s concerns
- How the core gives you broad benefits
- How the core prepares you for change
- How the core prepares you for life after college: Jobs, Graduate School
Remember that big list of concerns?

Some of them are addressed by the core:

- Choosing major (more below)
- Finding a job (more below)
- Knowing what class to take
- Exploring religion and spirituality
- Figuring out what to do with your life
Addresses students’ concerns

Remember that big list of concerns?
Addresses students’ concerns

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The core is at the heart of what a “liberal arts education” means.
The core is at the heart of what a “liberal arts education” means.

- Being well rounded
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- Being well rounded
- Written and oral communication skills
Broad benefits

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- Being well rounded
- Written and oral communication skills
- Encouraging lifelong learning
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- Being well rounded
- Written and oral communication skills
- Encouraging lifelong learning
- Developing ethical values
The core is at the heart of what a “liberal arts education” means.

- Being well rounded
- Written and oral communication skills
- Encouraging lifelong learning
- Developing ethical values
- Studying abroad
Major change of plans
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major?
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major? 75%?
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major? 75%? No real idea?
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major? 75%? No real idea?

Nationwide: 50% change majors.
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major?  75%?  No real idea?

Nationwide: 50% change majors. About 10% totally different.
Major change of plans

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Core introduces wide variety of subjects:
Major change of plans

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Core introduces wide variety of subjects: some you’ve never heard of;
Major change of plans

100% sure of your major?  75%?  No real idea?

Nationwide: 50% change majors. About 10% totally different.

Core introduces wide variety of subjects: some you’ve never heard of; one of them may be just right.
Job plan B
Job plan B

100% sure what kind of job you’ll get?
Job plan B

100% sure what kind of job you’ll get?  75%?
Job plan B

100% sure what kind of job you’ll get?  75%?
Will your job come straight out of your major?
100% sure what kind of job you’ll get? 75%?

Will your job come straight out of your major?

Loyola:
Job plan B

100% sure what kind of job you’ll get?  75%?

Will your job come straight out of your major?

Loyola:
23% will rely *entirely* on skills from outside of major!
Job plan B

100% sure what kind of job you’ll get?  75%?
Will your job come straight out of your major?

Loyola:
23% will rely *entirely* on skills from outside of major!

100% will rely *in part* on skills from outside of major.
“Liberal arts colleges as a group produce about twice as many eventual science PhD’s per graduate as do baccalaureate institutions in general.”

Thomas R. Cech
Nobel Prize in Chemistry
National Medal of Science
Graduate School

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Association of American Colleges and Universities surveyed 318 employers:

- 93%: "a capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is more important than undergraduate major"
- 90%: "it is important that those they hire demonstrate ethical judgment and integrity; intercultural skills; and the capacity for continued new learning."
- 75%: "more emphasis on 5 key areas including: critical thinking, complex problem-solving, written and oral communication, and applied knowledge in real-world settings."
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Technology

It’s in Apple’s DNA that technology alone is not enough. It’s technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields the results that make our hearts sing.
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DuPont Central Research & Development
What is Messina?

A program for first year students (Freshman) that consists of:
• 16-students taking two courses together over year
• Faculty member = core advisor = instructor for one course
• Mentor = Loyola administrator
• Evergreen = student leader
• Enrichment hour
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\[ \times 2 \]
Example: What courses do I take? When?

- Google “loyola.edu Academic Worksheets”
Example: What courses do I take? When?

- Google “loyola.edu Academic Worksheets”
- Google “Catalogue”