

## BACCALAUREATE GOALS (Approved December 2011, Revised April 2017, September 2017, and January 2022)

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The Baccalaureate Goals are a guiding document for the crafting of Samford's general education curriculum. They should guide curriculum development.

Samford University will accomplish its stated purpose for undergraduate education when students demonstrate growth in:

**Commitment.** Preparing to fulfill their responsibilities to God's creation, to their faith-based and civic communities, and to themselves, students will strengthen their commitment to:

- **Critical Reflection.** Graduates will think systematically and creatively about the world and their place in it, developing innovative ideas while carefully identifying and evaluating evidence and argument.
- **Ethical Reasoning:** Graduates will examine the values that shape their choices in conversation with the Christian ethical tradition and exercise integrity as they act with an understanding of the moral, ethical and practical consequences of those choices.
- **Social Engagement:** Graduates will offer their communities service and leadership informed by the Christian message to "love your neighbor as yourself."
- **Holistic Well-Being:** Graduates will take personal responsibility for their own physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and environmental well-being.
- **Aesthetic Engagement:** Graduates will engage with works of art and design, music, theatre and, or dance in order to experience thinking, reacting, and working in imaginative ways.

**Capacity for Complexity.** Aware that they live in a wonderful and terrible world where an easy answer to a difficult question is probably wrong, students will integrate knowledge and methods from a variety of disciplinary perspectives in order to address the complicated reality of:

- **The Natural World:** Graduates will develop the curiosity and skills to explore questions about the natural world using careful data collection, rigorous analysis, and openness to reinterpretation.
- **The Human Experience:** Graduates will gain a foundation in the cultures, histories, literatures, religions, and philosophies of civilizations past and present.
- **Human Relationships:** Graduates will better understand how individuals, groups, institutions, and societies behave and influence one another.
- **Intercultural Connections:** Graduates will understand and respect the values and customs important to members of other cultures and learn to interrogate their own beliefs, values, locations, and stories based on multiple cultural perspectives.
- **Christian Faith:** Graduates will be able to describe the testimonies of the Bible and the Christian intellectual, ethical, and aesthetic tradition about important ideas, values, and practices, and will be able to evaluate them and discuss their implications for the challenges of life.

**Competence.** Possessing the skills needed to uphold their commitments and to engage the world's complexity, students will develop their competence in:

- **Written Communication:** Graduates will write with depth of thought and strength of purpose in order to communicate precisely and responsively with their audiences.
- **Oral Communication:** Graduates will speak and listen effectively by

- communicating meaningful messages for specific audiences.
- **Quantitative Literacy:** Graduates will comprehend and utilize quantitative information for the purposes of analysis, discovery, and problem-solving.
  - **Information Literacy:** Graduates will locate and assess information from a variety of sources, and will use that information as the basis of thoughtful judgments and intelligent decisions.

Baccalaureate Goals for Samford Undergraduate Education: Curriculum Map

OBJECTIVES	GENERAL ED.		MAJOR	CO-CURRICULAR		
	CORE	AREAS		RES LIFE	UNIV MIN	CAMPUS LIFE
<b>COMMITMENT</b>						
Critical Reflection						
Ethical Reasoning						
Social Engagement						
Wholistic Well-Being						
Aesthetic Engagement						
<b>CAPACITY FOR COMPLEXITY</b>						
Natural World						
Human Experience						
Human Relationships						
Intercultural Connections						
Christian Faith						
<b>COMPETENCE</b>						
Written Communication						
Oral Communication						
Quantitative Literacy						
Information Literacy						