Course Catalog

School for New Learning Undergraduate Studies

Summer/Autumn 2010-2011
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Founded in 1972, the School for New Learning (SNL) is DePaul’s college for adults.

SNL offers competence-based programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts with an individualized Focus Area; a Bachelor of Arts in Computing jointly with the College of Computing and Digital Media; a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education jointly with the School of Education; and, a Bachelor of Arts in General Business, jointly with the College of Commerce. SNL also offers two course-based programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Behavioral Sciences and a Bachelor of Arts in Leadership Studies.

The competence-based degree programs are designed to help adults attain and demonstrate competence in specific areas that are characteristic of educated persons. SNL students take initiative to set their own educational goals and design their programs of learning. In general, the SNL student demonstrates 50 degree requirements, known as competences, in the social sciences, humanities, physical sciences, humanities, studentship skills (such as communication, research, critical thinking, decision-making) and in an individualized or pre-set focus area. In certain programs, competence statements are satisfied by Business, Computer Science or Education courses.

A consistent theme through all competence programs is the development of skills in independent inquiry, research, and reflection. Each student works with a faculty mentor and a professional advisor to determine competences already mastered and to plan a program for satisfying the remaining competences. Students may fulfill competences in a variety of ways, including demonstrating college-level learning from previous experience, doing coursework at SNL or other accredited colleges, and undertaking independent learning projects.

The SNL course-based programs are designed for adults who are at least 24 years old and have associate degrees. Students can earn these degrees in 2 years, attending classes one night a week.

SNL courses are open to all SNL students. SNL Courses are offered in the evening, on weekends, and online. These courses, designed with the adult learner in mind, are offered by a talented and diverse group of experienced teachers, scholars, practitioners and performers. Students are expected to participate actively in courses and to discover applications for the knowledge and skill gained.

Information sessions describing the programs in greater detail are held regularly at DePaul’s Loop, OHare, Naperville, and Oak Forest campuses, as well as online. To sign up and access additional information, go to http://snl.depaul.edu

BA with an Individualized Focus Area

This degree is for adults who want to accelerate their progress through applied experience and individual attention, with a focus of study based on professional goals.

Degree requirements can be met by documenting experience and ongoing work, as well
Degree requirements can be met by documenting experience and ongoing work, as well through transfer and SNL courses.

Each student has an advising committee with an SNL faculty member and an expert in the focus area who help develop a plan to meet goals, and assess prior learning.

The degree is earned after satisfying 50 requirements, written as statements describing competence. Certain competences are met by specific courses or projects; others can be satisfied by relevant transfer courses or experience.

SNL courses are in the Chicago Loop, Naperville, Oak Forest and near O'Hare areas, as well as Online.

Program Requirements:
There are three areas:

1. The Lifelong Learning Area consists of 12 competences satisfied by 9 required SNL courses, approved transfer courses or proficiency exams. They are:

- L-1: Learning Assessment Seminar
- L-2: Foundations of Adult Learning
- L-3: Foundations of Adult Learning
- L-4: Academic Writing for Adults
- L-5: Critical Thinking
- L-6: Quantitative Reasoning
- L-7: Collaborative Learning
- L-8: Research Seminar
- L-9: Research Seminar
- L-10: Externship
- L-11: Externship
- L-12: Summit Seminar

2. The Liberal Learning Area consists of 26 competences in 4 categories. Competences can be satisfied by SNL courses, relevant transfer courses of C- or better, and documented college-level learning from experience. They are:

   **Arts & Ideas Category**
   - A&I Elective (3 competencies)
   - A-1-_: Interpreting the Arts
   - A-2-_: Creative Expression
   - A-3-_: Reflection and Meaning
   - A-4: Ethics in the Contemporary World
   - A-5: Creativity

   **Human Community Category**
   - HC Elective (3 competencies)
   - H-1-_: Communities and Societies
   - H-2-_: Institutions and Organizations
   - H-3-_: Individual Development
   - H-4: Power and Justice
   - H-5: Globalization

   **The Scientific World Category**
   - SW Elective (3 competencies)
   - S-1-_: Experiencing Science
   - S-2-_: Patterns and Processes
   - S-3-_: Science, Tech
   - S-5: MIS 140- Management Information Systems

3. **Electives**
   - E-1: SNL Advanced Elective
   - E-2: SNL Advanced Elective

3. Focus Area consists of 12 competences satisfied by SNL courses, relevant transfer courses of C- or better, and documented college-level learning from experience.
School for New Learning - Undergraduate Studies  Programs  BA in Computing

BA in Computing

The Bachelor of Arts in Computing (BAC) is a degree offered jointly by the School for New Learning (SNL) and the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM) at DePaul University.

This degree has been designed to prepare adults for computer related careers and/or graduate programs in Computer Science or Digital Media.

Instituted in 1996, the BAC program has remained on the cutting edge of preparing students to work and study in a variety of technology fields. The program is open to adult students aged 24 or older.

For those who have a great deal of knowledge and background in computing, the BAC program offers the opportunity to fulfill requirements through documentation of that experience and through ongoing projects completed in the workplace. For those who have little experience with computing, all requirements can be completed as coursework. In either case, the BAC offers the flexibility and individualized learning approach of SNL while focusing on the latest technology, theory and content provided by CDM.

BAC students also work with the CDM Professional Advisors to define and plan their Focus Area requirements within the program. Students may elect to design an individualized computing related Focus Area that reflects their unique backgrounds and career interests or they may select from 10 different BAC Specialized Focus Area Tracks offered by CDM. These tracks relate to dynamic and diverse aspects of computer technology and its applications. Students may need to demonstrate or complete certain pre-requisite requirements for some of the Focus Area Tracks depending on the students entry level of competence in that area.

The degree is earned after satisfying 50 requirements, written as statements describing competence. Certain competences are met by specific courses or projects, others can be satisfied by relevant transfer courses or experience..

SNL courses are in the Chicago Loop, Naperville, Oak Forest and near O'Hare areas, as well as Online. CDM courses are at the Loop campus and Online.

Program Requirements: There are three areas:

1. The Lifelong Learning Area consists of 12 competences satisfied by 9 required SNL courses, approved transfer courses or proficiency exams. They are:

   L-1: Learning Assessment Seminar
   L-2: Foundations of Adult Learning
L-2: Foundations of Adult Learning
L-4: Academic Writing for Adults
L-5: Critical Thinking
L-6: Quantitative Reasoning
L-7: Collaborative Learning
L-8: Research Seminar
L-9: Research Seminar
L-10: Externship
L-11: Externship
L-12: Summit Seminar

2. The Liberal Learning Area consists of 26 competences in 4 categories. Competences can be satisfied by SNL and CDM courses, relevant transfer courses of C- or better, and documented college-level learning from experience. The competencies are:

**Arts & Ideas Category**
A&I Elective (4 competencies)
A-4: Ethics in the Contemporary World
A-5: Creativity

**Human Community Category**
HC Elective (4 competencies)
H-4: Power and Justice
H-5: Globalization

**The Scientific World Category**
SW Elective (2 competencies)
S2H: Data Analysis I (IT 223)
S1F: Applied Networks & Security (IT 263)
S4: Interconnections in the Natural World
S-5: Information Technology

**Open Electives**
E-1: SNL Advanced Elective (2 competencies)
EX-1: Open Elective (6 competencies)

3. Focus Area consists of 12 competences satisfied through CDM courses, approved transfer courses and Advanced Project from SNL. They are:

F-1: Focused Planning
F-2: Computing Elective
F-3: Computing Elective
F-4: Computing Elective
F-5: Computing Elective
F-6: Computing Elective
F-7: Computing Elective
F-8: Computing Elective
F-9: Computing Elective
F-10: Computing Elective
F-11: Advanced Project
F-12: Advanced Project

To view the BA in Computing program chart, download Program Requirements - Microsoft Word required.

For more information on the BA in Computing, download our Resource Guide
BA in Early Childhood Education

The Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education (BAECE) is a degree offered jointly by the School for New Learning (SNL) and the School of Education (SOE) at DePaul University. The program has been designed to prepare adults to work in early childhood education by obtaining certification to teach in Illinois. The program is open to students age 24 or older. Students in the BAECE program take courses in both SNL and SOE.

In SNL, students have the opportunity to fulfill requirements through experiences and ongoing projects relating to liberal arts objectives or early childhood education experience gained in the workplace. In SOE, students take courses covering theories and practices of teaching young children as well as the knowledge and skills necessary to obtain certification. The program offers the flexibility and individualized learning approach of SNL while focusing on the latest theory and content provided by SOE.

BAECE students work with SOE faculty advisors to complete all requirements for certification and student teaching experiences in preparation for careers in early childhood education. Students are placed in practicum learning environments to enhance their understanding of children's development in language, literacy, mathematics, science, and social and physical development in early childhood.

Program Requirements: There are four areas:

1. The Lifelong Learning Area consists of 12 competences satisfied by 9 required courses or proficiency exams. The competencies (with required courses, where applicable) are:

   L-1: Learning Assessment Seminar
   L-2: Foundations of Adult Learning
   L-3: Foundations of Adult Learning
   L-4: Academic Writing for Adults
   L-5: Critical Thinking
   L-6: Quantitative Reasoning
   L-7: Collaborative Learning
   ECE 091, 092, 093, 094
   L-8: Research Seminar
   L-9: Research Seminar
   L-10: Externship
   ECE 385- Student Teaching
   L-11: Externship
   ECE 385- Student Teaching
   L-12: Summit Seminar

2. The Liberal Learning Area consists of 24 competences in 3 categories: Arts and Ideas, Human Community, and Scientific World. Competences can be satisfied by SNL courses, Education courses, relevant transfer courses of C- or better, and documented college-level learning from experience. The competencies (with required courses, where applicable) are:

   **Arts & Ideas Category**
   Interpreting the Arts
   ECE 286- Art, Music and Movement for the Young Child
   Creative Expression
   Reflection and Meaning
   LSE 380- Philosophical Issues in Education
   Arts and Ideas Elective (3 competencies)
   EE 347- Children's Literature
   A-4: Ethics in the Contemporary World
   A-5: Creativity

   **Human Community Category**
   Communities and Societies
   ECE 303- History and Philosophy of Early Childhood Education
   Institutions & Organizations
   SCU 207- Social and Historical Issues in Education
   Individual Development
SCU 336- Adolescent and Adult Growth and Development
Human Community Elective (3 competencies)
H-4: Power and Justice
H-5: Globalization

**Scientific World Category**
- Experiencing Science
- Patterns and Processes
- ECE 331- Beginning Math and Science Instruction
- Science, Technology, Society
- Scientific World Elective (3 competencies)
- PE 273- Health and Nutrition
- S-4: Interconnections in the Natural World
- S-5: Information Technology (fulfills EDU 025 requirement)

- E-1: SNL Advanced Elective
- E-2: SNL Advanced Elective

4. Focus Area consists of 12 competences satisfied through 10 Education courses that comprise requirements for certification. They are:

- F-1: Focused Planning
- F-2: ECE 290- Child Growth and Development
- F-3: ECE 302- Child and Family in Urban Environment
- F-4: ECE 307- Speech and Language Development of the Young Child
- F-5: ECE 309- Preschool Exceptional Childhood Growth and Development
- F-6: ECE 310- Teaching Strategies for Pre-school Children
- F-7: ECE 311- Curriculum and Instruction in Primary Grades
- F-8: ECE 324- Beginning Reading Instruction
- F-9: ECE 375- Early Childhood Assessment
- F-10: ECE 306- Understanding Young Children's Behavior
- F-11: ECE 384- Capstone
- F-12: ECE 384- Capstone

To view the BA in Early Childhood Education program chart, download program requirements - Microsoft Word required.

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**BA in General Business**

The Bachelor of Arts in General Business (BAGB) is a degree program jointly offered by the School for New Learning (SNL) and College of Commerce (COC) at DePaul University. The program is designed to help adults further their careers in business. The program is open to students age 24 and older. Students in the BAGB program take courses in both SNL and COC.

The program offers the flexibility and Individualized learning approach of SNL while providing the business theory and content provided by COC. In SNL, students fulfill liberal learning requirements through coursework and, in some cases, documentation of knowledge gained through life experiences.

In COC, students take courses in the business disciplines of marketing, finance, accounting, management and economics. Students also develop skills in writing, calculus, information technology, planning and research and are able to earn a minor in a business topic area. The focus of the degree is general business and it is accredit by the Association to Advance
Program Requirements:
There are three areas:

1. The Lifelong Learning Area consists of 12 competences satisfied by 9 required SNL courses, approved transfer courses or proficiency exams. They are:

   L-1: Learning Assessment Seminar
   L-2: Foundations of Adult Learning
   L-3: Foundations of Adult Learning
   L-4: Academic Writing for Adults
   L-5: Critical Thinking
   L-6: Quantitative Reasoning
   L-7: Collaborative Learning
   L-8: Research Seminar
   L-9: Research Seminar
   L-10: Externship
   L-11: Externship
   L-12: Summit Seminar

2. The Liberal Learning and Elective Area consists of 26 competences in 4 categories. Competences can be satisfied by SNL and Commerce courses, relevant transfer courses of C- or better, and documented college-level learning from experience. The competencies are:

   Arts & Ideas Category
   A&I Elective (2 competencies)
   A2X: Communications Course
   A2X: WRD 202- Professional Writing for Business
   A4: Business Ethics
   SNL Business Ethics Course
   or MGT/REL 228-
   or MGT/PHL 248-
   A-5: Creativity

   Human Community Category
   HC Elective
   H1D: BLW 201- Business Law
   H1X: ECO 105- Microeconomics
   H1C: ECO 106- Macroeconomics
   H4: Power and Justice
   H-5: Globalization

   The Scientific World Category
   SW Elective (2 competencies)
   MAT 135- Business Calculus
   IT 223- Data Analysis
   S4: Interconnections in the Natural World
   S-5: MIS 140- Management Information Systems

   Electives
   S2X: MKT 202- Quantitative Methods in Marketing or
   MGT 202- Managerial Data
   BEX-1: Business Elective
   BEX-2: Business Elective
   BEX-3: Business Elective
   E-1: SNL Advanced Elective
   E-2: SNL Advanced Elective
   EX-1: Open Elective
   EX-2: Open Elective
   EX-3: Open Elective

3. Focus Area consists of 12 competences satisfied through 9 Commerce courses as well as 1 course and Advanced Project from SNL. They are:
School for New Learning - Undergraduate Studies ▸ Programs ▸ BA in Applied Behavioral Sciences

**BA in Applied Behavioral Sciences**

An accelerated, inter-disciplinary, 2-year degree completion program for adult students, the ABS major is offered at the Naperville campus.

This course-based major is for graduates of community colleges with an Associate's degree who seek broad interdisciplinary preparation for a career in human services, social work, nonprofit management and other related fields.

The ABS degree combines courses from the Department of Psychology, the College of Communication, and the School for New Learning, which offers the majority of courses, including a unique series of Adult Learning Seminars. The courses in the major provide students with multiple perspectives on human behavior, interaction and communications. Students attend class only 1 night a week, taking the rest of their coursework online.

There are 93 credits required for this degree. They are as follows:

**Understanding Human Behavior** (4 courses equaling 16 credits)
- CMNS 329- Persuasion
- PSY 347- Social Psychology
- PSY 363- Alcoholism, Drug Addiction and Recovery
- DCM 307- Analyzing Human Behavior

**Life Cycle in Context** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
- DCM 323- Psychology of Aging & the Aged
- PSY 302- Personal Adjustment & Mental Health

**Community and Social Justice** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
- PSY 354- Community Psychology
- DCM 325- Work & Society

**Methods** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
- DCM 308- Applied Statistics
- DCM 309- Applied Research

**Effective Group Dynamics** (2 of 3 courses below equaling 8 credits)
- CMNS 353- Communication & Organizational Change
- CMNS 316- Communication & Group Decision Making
- DCM 324- Effective Group & Personal Dynamics

**Advanced Leadership Skills** (2 of 3 courses below equaling 8 credits)
- DCM 310- Thinking Critically
DCM 311- Conflict Management & Negotiation
DCM 303- Leadership Models

**Adult Learning Seminars** (10 courses equaling 21 credits)
DCM 313- Learning from Experience & Self-Assessment
DCM 314- Learning & Transformation
DCM 315- Exploring the Field
DCM 316- Work in a Global Environment
DCM 317- Ethics in the Professions
DCM 318- Social Justice in the Professions
DCM 319- Creativity and Innovative Thinking
DCM 320- Professional Portfolio/Career Planning
DCM 321- Capstone Planning
DCM 322- Capstone Project & Portfolio Review

**Electives** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
Electives may be chosen from any courses in the Applied Behavioral Sciences, Leadership Studies and/or Professional Communication Studies majors. Other electives must be approved by the program director.

For more information on the BA in Applied Behavioral Sciences, please view our program features. (Adobe Reader required)

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**BA in Leadership Studies**

An accelerated, inter-disciplinary, 2-year degree completion program for adult students, the Leadership Studies major is offered at the Naperville campus.

This course-based major is for graduates of community colleges with an Associates degree who seek broad interdisciplinary study that includes project management, leadership models, communication, organizational change, ethics, human interaction, conflict management and negotiation, among others.

The major combines courses from the Department of Psychology, the College of Communication, and the School for New Learning, which will offer the majority of courses, including a unique series of Adult Learning Seminars. Students attend class only 1 night each week, taking the rest of their coursework online.

There are 93 credits required for this degree. They are as follows:

**Workplace Dynamics** (5 courses equaling 20 credits)
DCM 301- Effective Leadership in a Changing Environment
DCM 302- Project Management Design & Assessment
CMNS 352- Communication & Corporate Culture
CMNS 353- Communication & Organizational Change
CMNS 316- Communication & Group Decision Making

**Building Organizations** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
DCM 305- Entrepreneurship Basics
DCM 306- Productive Applications of Work-Based Technology

**Advanced Leadership Skills** (2 of 3 courses below equaling 8 credits)
CMNS 329- Persuasion
DCM 311- Conflict Management & Negotiation
DCM 303- Leadership Models

**Methods** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
DCM 309- Applied Research
DCM 308- Applied Statistics

**Workplace Ethics** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
DCM 304- Evolving Professional Ethics
DCM 325- Work & Society

**Analyzing Human Motivation** (3 of 4 courses below equaling 12 credits)
PSY 347- Social Psychology
CMNS 313- Nonverbal Communication
DCM 307- Analyzing Human Behavior
DCM 310- Thinking Critically

**Adult Learning Seminars** (10 courses equaling 21 credits)
DCM 313- Learning from Experience & Self-Assessment
DCM 314- Learning & Transformation
DCM 315- Exploring the Field
DCM 316- Work in a Global Environment
DCM 317- Ethics in the Professions
DCM 318- Social Justice in the Professions
DCM 319- Creativity and Innovative Thinking
DCM 320- Professional Portfolio/Career Planning
DCM 321- Capstone Planning
DCM 322- Capstone Project & Portfolio Review

**Electives** (2 courses equaling 8 credits)
Electives may be chosen from any courses in the Applied Behavioral Sciences, Leadership Studies and/or Professional Communication Studies majors. Other electives must be approved by the program director.

For more information on the BA in Leadership Studies, please view our program features.
(Adobe Reader required)
Admission

Applicants for admission to SNL's undergraduate programs must be at least 24 years of age by the beginning of the intended start term. Complete and submit the Adult/Adult Transfer Application for DePaul University. Submit official transcripts from any accredited college or university to which you have been admitted to: DePaul University Office of Admissions 1 East Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604 Attn: Transcripts
Bachelor of Arts Degree Steps

Ten sequential degree steps are the core of the SNL learning experience in, providing the tools necessary for self-directed learning. While several requirements can be satisfied by proficiency exams or transfer learning, most can only be satisfied by SNL coursework. Completion of these degree steps is mandatory; however, each student proceeds through the sequence at her or his own pace.

**LL 102 Learning Assessment Seminar**

The Learning Assessment Seminar is the first of the required courses in the Lifelong Learning Area and designed to help students make educational decisions in the context of their educational and personal goals, become well-versed in SNL’s philosophy and competence framework, and make concrete plans for completion of their degree. 2 tuition credit hours. Competence: L-1.

**LL 250 Foundations of Adult Learning**

In this course, students explore the foundations of liberal education, examine ways of learning from experience, articulate educational goals and objectives, develop evidence of prior learning, and plan ways to fulfill remaining program requirements. This requirement is satisfied by LL 250 Foundations of Adult Learning. At completion of the course, the student has written a learning plan, identified an area of inquiry, and acquired an academic committee (faculty mentor and a professional advisor) who will advise the student through the rest of his or her program. 6 tuition credit hours. Competences: L-2, L-3, F-1.

**Academic Writing for Adults**

This requirement focuses on writing skills associated with effective performance in a variety of settings. In LL 102 Learning Assessment Seminar, student writing is assessed. Students are then recommended to satisfy this requirement in one of three ways: by completing LL150 Academic Writing for Adults; by completing LL 150 and LL 140 Writing Workshop; or, by passing the Academic Writing proficiency exam. In the Academic Writing for Adults course, students review and practice good writing essentials by building on strengths and improving areas of difficulty. English Composition courses are not accepted against this requirement. 4 tuition credit hours. 2 additional hours for LL 140 if required. The Academic Writing proficiency exam requires a non-refundable fee and carries no credit hours. Competence: L-4.

**Critical Thinking**

This requirement introduces students to the concepts of critical thinking, careful listening, effective speaking and sound reasoning and provides an opportunity to practice these skills within an active and experiential context. It is satisfied by the course LL 155 Critical Thinking or the Critical Thinking proficiency exam. 4 tuition credit hours. The proficiency exam requires a non-refundable fee and carries no credit hours. Competence: L-5.

**Quantitative Reasoning**

This requirement calls for students to apply mathematical symbols, concepts, and methods in solving problems encountered in contemporary life. It is satisfied in one of three ways: by successful completion of the course LL 205 Quantitative Reasoning; by passing the Quantitative Reasoning proficiency exam; or by an appropriate transfer course (must be at college algebra level or higher). The proficiency exam requires a non-refundable fee and carries no credit hours. Competence: L-6.

**Collaborative Learning**
This requirement calls for students to learn collaboratively and examine the skills, knowledge, and values that contribute to such learning. It can be satisfied by either SNL courses with the L-7 competence or appropriate transfer coursework. Competence: L-7.

**LL 300 RESEARCH SEMINAR**

This requirement advances the development of critical thinking and explores methods of formal inquiry as preparation for LL 302 Externship and FA 303 Advanced Project. It is satisfied by the course LL 300 Research Seminar. 6 tuition credit hours. Competences: L-8, L-9.

**LL 302 EXTERNSHIP**

For this requirement, the student plans and executes an independent learning project or completes coursework which engages her or him in learning under new conditions and in reflecting on the methods of independent learning. This is satisfied by LL 302 Externship taken either as an independent study course with a student's faculty mentor or as a course offering service learning. 4 tuition credit hours. Competences: L-10, L-11.

**FA 303 ADVANCED PROJECT**

This requirement is a problem-solving experience which represents the culmination of a students learning in a specific area. The student designs and executes an independent project which demonstrates the integration of theory and practice, and the ability to pursue an avenue of inquiry with excellence. It is satisfied by FA 303 Advanced Project. 4 tuition credit hours. Competences: F-11, F-12.

**LL 390 SUMMIT SEMINAR**

This requirement is satisfied by LL 390 Summit Seminar. In this course, after completing their learning programs to the satisfaction of their academic committee, students gather to evaluate their total learning experiences in the program, to examine their skills and attitudes as lifelong learners, and to set new goals for learning. 2 tuition credit hours. Competence: L-12.
Competence Areas

The SNL curriculum is organized around the knowledge, skills and abilities that describe an educated adult in contemporary society. The undergraduate program is defined by a framework of 50 competencies grouped in three areas, the Lifelong Learning Area, the Individual Focus Area, and the Liberal Learning Area. The various statements of competence are designed to describe the outcomes of a liberal education; all student work, including prior learning, degree steps and courses, is directed toward accomplishing one or more of the required competencies. SNL courses are specifically designed to teach competencies. For most students, they are an efficient way to achieve competence within the SNL program.

The Lifelong Learning Area encompasses twelve requirements that develop fundamental skills in reading, writing, goal setting, decision-making, teamwork, and research. Students may demonstrate some of these requirements by using independent learning projects or transfer coursework, in addition to specific SNL courses.

The Liberal Learning Area contains three categories that focus on liberal arts skills, knowledge, and attitudes: the Arts & Ideas, the Human Community, and the Scientific World. Students must complete eight competencies in each of the categories and two additional Advanced Elective competencies. Six of these competencies in each of the Arts & Ideas, Human Community, and Scientific World categories are selected from an extensive menu of possibilities that are found within the subcategories in the category.

The individual Focus Area reflects the students individualized focus of study that comes out from their personal and professional goals. These twelve competencies are defined by the student with the advice and approval of his/her Academic Committee.
The Individual Focus Area is the part of a student's degree program where an area of particular interest is identified and designed. It may reflect a field of study, a goal to prepare for graduate school, a specific career goal, work or employment, or an avocation.

The Focus Area is intended to incorporate 12 competences that fit individual and/or professional goals. Students work closely with a faculty mentor and a professional advisor who has expertise in this area of interest. Together they discuss and agree on competences and learning experiences that are appropriate to these goals.

Students write their own competence statements that reflect the kind of preparation required to meet career or personal aspirations. This work is begun in LL 250 Foundations of Adult Learning, and continued with the guidance of the Professional Advisor. These competences can be satisfied by SNL courses, transfer courses and relevant college-level learning from experience.

The Bachelor of Arts in Computing, Bachelor of Arts in General Business, Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing, each have a series of prescribed competence statements in their Focus Areas that correspond to particular course requirements. See http://snl.depaul.edu for a list of these specific requirements.
Liberal Learning Area

The Liberal Learning Area encompasses those fields of study that are generally referred to as the Liberal Arts. Students must satisfy 26 competences in this area.

These materials are divided into three categories: the Arts and Ideas (AI), the Human Community (HC), and the Scientific World (SW). Each of categories is further divided into three subcategories, representing different aspects of knowledge and understanding within the area. Each of these subcategories also includes an option to create an individualized or X competence.

In the Bachelor of Arts in Computing, Bachelor of Arts in General Business, Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education and Bachelor of Science in Nursing, some of these requirements are satisfied by particular coursework in Computer Science, Business, Education, and Nursing, respectively.
Arts and Ideas Category

This category includes 8 competences in the arts, philosophy, theology, literature, and other fields that focus on expression of values and aesthetics. The three subcategories in the AI area are: Interpreting the Arts, Creative Expression, and Reflection and Meaning. Students must satisfy at least one competence from each subcategory, and three more from any subcategory. The 4th and 5th competences are required. Competences are satisfied by SNL courses, transfer courses or relevant college-level learning from experiences.
Human Community Category

This category includes 8 competences in human relations, history, political science, and other fields closely aligned with the development and maintenance of human society. The three subcategories in the HC area are: Communities and Society, Institutions and Organizations, and Individual Development. Students must satisfy one competence in each subcategory and three more from any subcategory. The 4th and 5th competences are required. Competences in this category are satisfied by SNL courses, transfer courses or relevant college-level learning from experiences.
The Scientific World Category

This category includes 8 competences that grow out of fields related to scientific inquiry, technology, and relevant skills. The three subcategories in this area are: Experiencing Science, Patterns and Processes, and Science, Technology and Society. Students must choose at least one competence from each subcategory, and three additional competences from any subcategory. The 4th and 5th competences in each category are required. These competences are satisfied by SNL courses, transfer courses or relevant college-level learning from experiences.
See Course Descriptions.
SNL Courses

Please visit Campus Connection at https://campusconnect.depaul.edu for current course information or click on the Course Descriptions link in the upper right. If you do not have a password for Campus Connection you may log on as a guest. Once you are on Campus Connection please select 'Course Descriptions' and the appropriate Subject Area: Arts and Ideas (AI), Focus Area (FA), Human Community (HC), Independent Study (IN), Lifelong Learning (LL), and Scientific Word (SW) or DCM for SNL courses in Applied Behavioral Sciences or Leadership Studies.

Courses in the School for New Learning are designed for adult learners, 24 years of age and older. SNL courses are multi-disciplinary, and designed around problems, issuers or themes. The curriculum evolves from year-to-year to reflect the interests and needs of students.

Approximately 400 courses are offered through SNL each year and can be taken to satisfy either one or two competences (2 or 4 tuition credit hours). For registration instructions, see http://snl.depaul.edu.