Core areas of Clare College and their Objectives

Student will demonstrate the following competencies.

I. THE SKILLS OF THE CORE CURRICULUM

CLAR 110. Composition and Critical Thinking I

1. Rhetorical Knowledge
   - Discuss writing as a means of effecting social change and making things happen in the world.
   - Direct their writing toward different disciplinary, professional, and social purposes, audiences, and rhetorical situations, particularly with regard to concerns of style and genre.

2. Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing
   - Use writing as a means of critically reflecting on and investigating texts, particularly with reference to conventions of writing in the humanities, social sciences, and professions.
   - Develop reading strategies that facilitate identification of purpose, argument, structure, and method, with attention to the ways these are shaped by specific disciplinary or professional concerns and conventions.
   - Effectively summarize, analyze, synthesize, and respond to texts on a similar topic or within a similar conversation from a variety of disciplines and professions.

3. Writing as Process
   - Develop a composing process that focuses on the production of writing across multiple drafts and strategies for research, invention, revision, editing, peer review, and reflection.
   - Understand the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes.

4. Knowledge of Conventions
   - Format papers in MLA and APA style and understand the practical and theoretical differences between the two.
   - Demonstrate regular control over principles of sentence construction.

5. Composing in Electronic Environments
   - Use electronic environments for drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and sharing texts.
   - Locate, evaluate, organize, and use research material collected from electronic sources, including scholarly library databases; other official databases; and informal electronic networks and internet sources.
   - Understand the rhetorical strategies and affordances available for both print and electronic composing processes and texts.

CLAR 111. Composition and Critical Thinking II

- Students will analyze components of inductive arguments (inductive generalizations, causal" arguments, analogies, statistical arguments, etc.);
- Students will construct and evaluate an extended logical argument;
- Students will offer and critique various kinds of approaches to definitions;
- Students will demonstrate the basic concepts of logic: the various kinds of statements or propositions, definitions, validity, soundness, truth, argument, inference, syllogism, belief, knowledge, etc.
II. THE FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

**CLAR 101. The Intellectual Journey**
- Students will examine major issues in the context of the spiritual vision of Bonaventure.
- Students will analyze readings in light of the Bonaventurean themes as developed in “The Mind's Journey into God.”
- Students will enhance writing ability and speaking skills and foster a close student-professor relationship in a seminar environment.

**CLAR 207. Catholic Franciscan Tradition**
- Students will critically analyze the Catholic and Franciscan heritage.
- Students will examine how the Catholic and Franciscan tradition responds to contemporary global issues.
- Students will interpret the relationship between this Heritage and their own beliefs about religion.

**CLAR 304. The Good Life**
- Students will develop the ability to pose and analyze personal and societal issues from a moral perspective.
- Students will foster systematic reflection on the nature of a moral life as addressed through major traditions, including the Catholic-Franciscan traditions.
- Students will analyze critically a set of moral problems.

**CLAR 401. The University Forum**
- Students will analyze a contemporary issue in depth, and also from a multi-disciplinary perspective.
- Students will construct a position that encompasses one’s personal journey, academic training, and framework of the core curriculum at St. Bonaventure.
Students will present one’s position demonstrating analytical, oral, and written skill.

III. THE CORE AREAS OF LIBERAL EDUCATION

**CLAR 103. Foundations of the Western World**
- Students will examine historical, intellectual, and religious roots of Western culture and its basis for developing a global perspective.
- Students will examine examples of mutual influences between Western culture and the wider world.

**CLAR 105. Inquiry in the Social World**
- Students will examine modes of inquiry in the social sciences.
- Students will apply investigatory skills of the social sciences in a problem-solving context.
- Students will analyze examples that illustrate the interconnectedness of the social sciences.

**CLAR 206. Foundational Religious Texts of the Western World**
- Students will examine an overview of the historical, social and religious context, the literary structure, and the religious content of the texts.
- Students will construct a critical methodology for use in reading and interpreting foundational religious texts.

**CLAR 208. World Views**
- Students will examine a diversity of experiences and perspectives within the human story.
- Students will compare their culture or one perspective of their culture with at least one other culture or one other perspective.
- Students will evaluate their culture from other perspectives.
**CLAR 209. Art and Literature**
- Students will analyze a variety of art forms.
- Students will analyze literary works.
- Students will synthesize their experience of art form.

**CLAR 302. Inquiry in the Natural World**
- Students will examine the mode of inquiry of the natural sciences.
- Students will apply investigatory skills of the natural sciences in a problem-solving context.
- Students will analyze a sequence of discoveries that illustrate the ongoing scientific process.