

A GREAT

challenges everything you think you know.

EDUCATION



**Put on
your intellectual
flak jacket.**

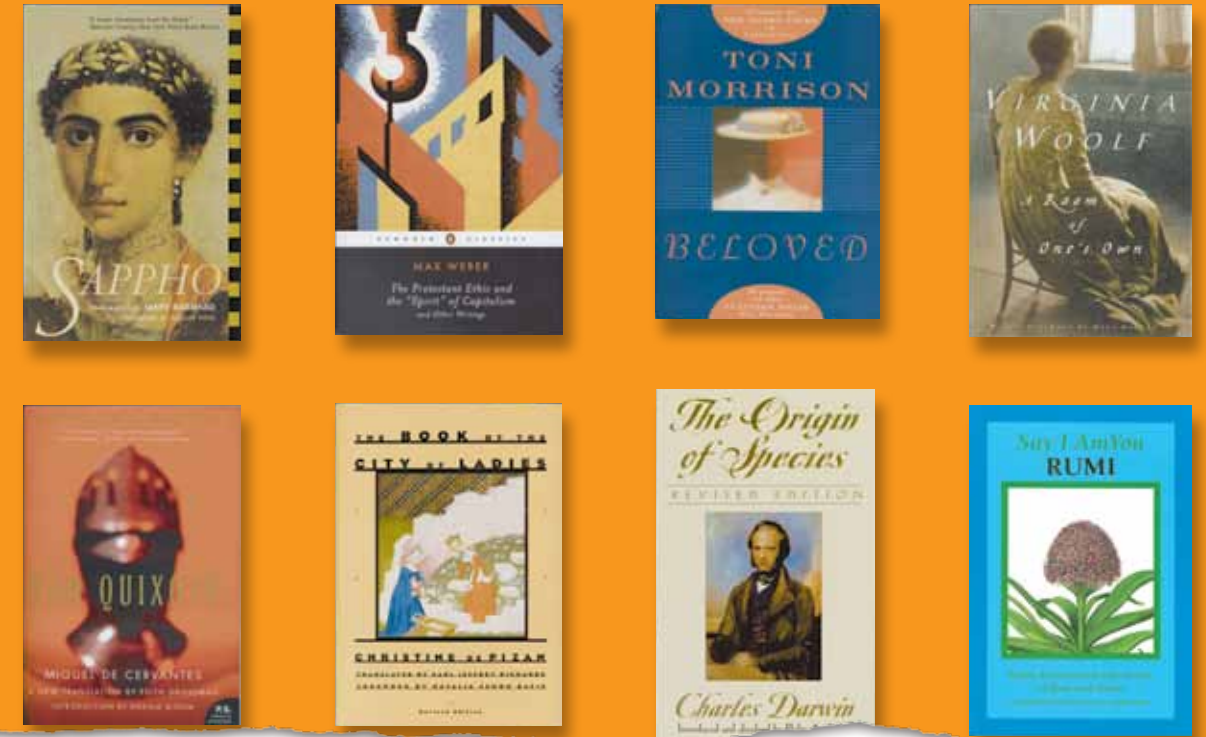


Collegiate Seminar is a series of intense, discussion-based classes that examine all the big ideas of Western civilization – from literature and art to science and philosophy.

The Marines have boot camp. We have Collegiate Seminar.



Where will a Saint Mary's education take you? Anywhere you want to go. Our graduates are working in dozens of fields, from journalism to neuroscience. Recent grad school placements have included Princeton, Cornell, Harvard, Vanderbilt and Berkeley.



It's a simple idea: *Read and discuss the world's greatest thinkers. Then go out and be one.*





Explore socioeconomics in the West Bank. *Or biodiversity in South Africa. Or film at Sundance.*



During January Term, you'll embark on an academic adventure. Whether on campus or off, you're bound to see – and do – some amazing things.

Saint Mary's fields 14 Division I teams, eight club teams and numerous recreational programs. More than 60 percent of our students participate in some kind of organized athletic activity.

THE SMC MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM is one of eight teams nationally to have won at least 25 games in each of the last four years and has been to postseason four-straight seasons.

MICKEY MCCONNELL (MEN'S BASKETBALL) AND ALEX POORTA (WOMEN'S TENNIS) were each named West Coast Conference Players of the Year in their respective sports.



Retire the "dumb jock" theory.

Apparently, a brainiac school can kick butt. Just ask our competitors.

MEN'S SOCCER ATHLETE DYLAN LESLIE was named the West Coast Conference's Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year. He graduated Magna Cum Laude in Kinesiology and is pursuing his master's degree.

Consistently ranked in the top 10 in the country, **MEN'S RUGBY** has advanced to the Sweet 16 for the past seven years in a row.





Service is an essential part of Saint Mary's Catholic and Lasallian traditions. Nearly 10 percent of every graduating class goes on to join a major service organization: the Peace Corps, Lasallian Volunteers and Teach for America, among others.

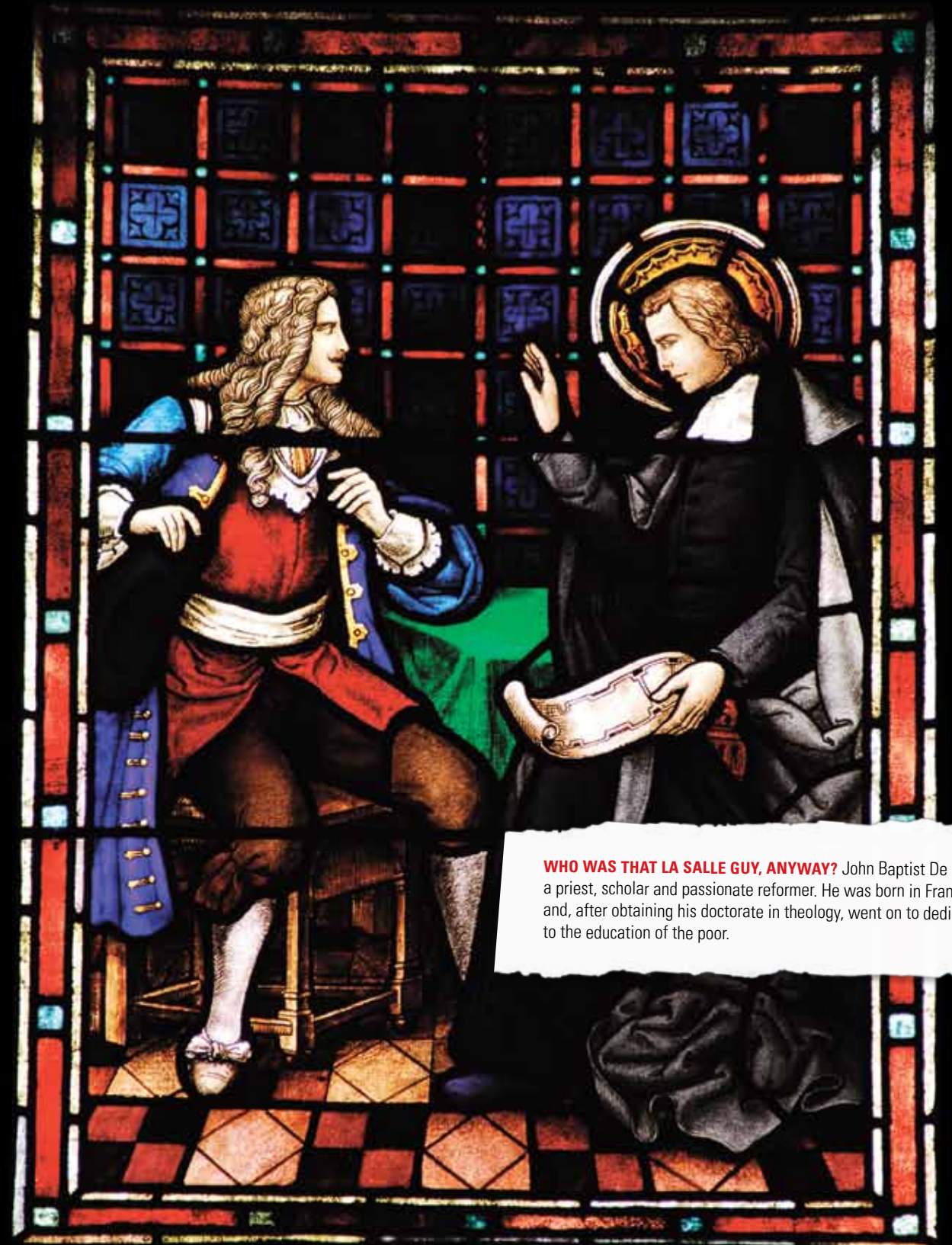
Root for the underdog.

You'll meet an entirely different class of hero.

GET READY FOR AN ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT.

And by attitude, we don't mean the obnoxious kind – the in-your-face, I'm-better-than-you-are sort of attitude. At Saint Mary's, it's more about energy. Idealism. Enthusiasm. It's the kind of thing where you know you're smart (and compassionate, and courageous), and you're done apologizing for it.

So, where did all this great “can do” energy come from? In part, it stems from our Lasallian tradition. Saint Mary's was founded in 1863 (yes, we are one of the OLDEST colleges in the West), and is directed by the Christian Brothers, a Catholic order whose founder – Saint John Baptist De La Salle – is the patron saint of teachers. La Salle was famous for his big heart and genuine passion for educational reform. And as a Lasallian college, Saint Mary's is committed to things like social justice and respect for all persons.



WHO WAS THAT LA SALLE GUY, ANYWAY? John Baptist De La Salle was a priest, scholar and passionate reformer. He was born in France in 1651, and, after obtaining his doctorate in theology, went on to dedicate his life to the education of the poor.



Of course, there's no denying the unabashedly intellectual vibe that permeates the Saint Mary's campus. The Saint Mary's core curriculum helps students achieve total engagement with the world. At the heart of the curriculum is Collegiate Seminar, a sequence of required courses that will challenge you to confront all the big ideas of Western civilization. We also operate on a 4-1-4 calendar schedule, which means that during January Term you could find yourself immersed in something like Social Entrepreneurship (or Hip-Hop Politics or History of the Tango). At Saint Mary's the world is your classroom, where hands-on experiences open your mind and expand your understanding.

And in case you're thinking Saint Mary's students are all work and no play, think again. We recently had 22 students jam into a phone booth in an attempt to beat a 50-year-old national school record. Saint Mary's also offers more than 40 clubs and organizations, and our athletic program puts bigger schools to shame.

Bottom line? If you're a student here, it's because you're adventurous – in every arena. You have big ideas. Big plans. And Saint Mary's can help you make them happen.

**YOUR
WHOLE LIFE
IS ABOUT
TO CHANGE.**

A GREAT COLLEGE SHOULD DO MORE THAN STRETCH YOUR BRAIN. IT SHOULD ALSO WORK YOUR CORE AND FEED YOUR SOUL.



MIND.

Your mind will never be the same again. Not after four years of Saint Mary's core curriculum, one designed to put your intellectual development in overdrive. For starters, the new core is based on what you want to learn – not on what we demand that you take. There are three major components.

Habits of the Mind. It takes time and practice to learn to think critically, communicate clearly, work collaboratively and develop solid research skills. That's why, throughout your Saint Mary's career, you'll take courses that emphasize these specific skills – both within your major and beyond.

Pathways to Knowledge. There's more than one way to understand the world. Our core ensures that you experience five of them: artistic; theological; mathematical; scientific; and social, historical and cultural.

Engaging the World. Get ready for some intense thinking about the common good, American diversity, global perspective and community engagement. Yes, we intend to make your head spin!

BODY.

A strong mind in a weak body? We don't think so. At Saint Mary's, we want to make sure you have every opportunity to exercise your body just as much as your mind. Here's what you'll find in our new \$30 million Athletics and Recreation Corridor (ARC), which will open in 2013:

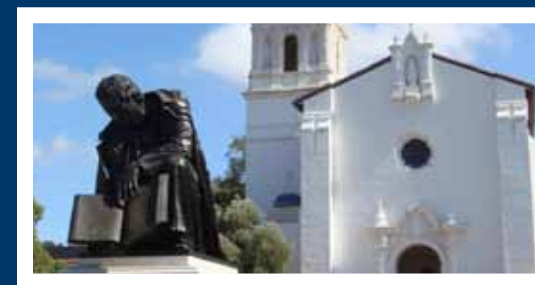
Joseph L. Alioto Recreation Center.

Welcome to a central hub of student life, which will include a climbing wall; three full-size courts for basketball, volleyball and soccer; studios for yoga, dance and spinning – even a juice bar!

Aquatics Center. Swim for fun, take lessons, or join a club. Our Aquatics Center will be built for everything from swimming laps to water polo. Afterward, relax in the whirlpool spa or get some sun on the patio or lawn.

Baseball, Tennis and Softball Facilities Stadium. A big outdoor plaza will connect Saint Mary's baseball stadium, tennis complex and softball field. The stadium seats 1,500 and will feature a training room and locker rooms for all three sports.

No surprise here. Most students play some kind of sport, whether intramural, intercollegiate or club.



SPIRIT.

Call it what you will, it's the very essence of who you are – your spirit, your soul, your "heart." As you might imagine, there's nothing low-spirited or half-hearted about Saint Mary's. Thanks to our LaSallian culture, you'll have the chance to pour your whole self into everything from social action to community service to spiritual formation. On campus, find your place in myriad mission and ministry activities, both Catholic and interfaith. Near campus, there are a multitude of service opportunities. You can tutor middle-school students. Teach English as a second language. Or, go farther afield – New Orleans, Alaska, the Bay Area – and get involved in helping build (or rebuild) communities in need. For many, such experiences are only the beginning. Nearly 10 percent of our graduates join the Peace Corps, Lasallian Volunteers, Teach for America or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.



Our new, \$30 million Athletics and Recreation Corridor provides state-of-the-art facilities for building strong bodies.

THERE'S A REASON MOST COLLEGES DON'T TEACH THE GREAT BOOKS.

(THE GREAT BOOKS ASK YOU TO ACTUALLY THINK.)



No matter what your major, your academic experience at Saint Mary's will be rooted in the four courses that make up Collegiate Seminar. In Seminar, you'll read Plato. Descartes. Darwin. You'll argue and analyze, debate and discuss. And you'll find yourself engaged in the kind of intense intellectual activity that can only result in truly groundbreaking thought.

Saint Mary's is one of only a few colleges in the country with a required Great Books curriculum. It's a more open-ended approach, to be sure, but we see it as a training ground for everything that matters: the ability to think critically, listen to other perspectives, argue effectively and see the complexity in every issue.

THE SAINT MARY'S CREATIVE WRITING READING SERIES hosts some of the country's brightest literary talent. Recent visitors have included Michael Chabon, Michael Cunningham, Jorie Graham, Maxine Hong Kingston, Chang-Rae Lee, Michael Ondaatje, Robert Pinsky and Adrienne Rich.



Special programs.

The **Integral Program** is Seminar ratcheted up a notch. Students in the Integral Program effectively experience a college within the College, one that grounds all coursework in a seminar format. Students meet in groups of 15 for seminars, science labs and tutorials in language and mathematics. Senior faculty members, called tutors, guide the class but make a concerted effort not to "profess." The idea is for every class to be a conversation: a series of questions and answers that takes the dialogue to uncharted territory every single time.

In the **Liberal & Civic Studies Program**, you'll see how your studies relate to important issues in the world. We'll encourage you to turn thought into action and start making a difference now. Several courses include service projects.

If you're interested in adding even more depth to your Saint Mary's experience, consider the **Honors Program**. As an Honors student you'll enjoy an unparalleled level of mentorship, as well as a number of interdisciplinary and co-curricular activities designed to support an advanced level of study. You will also be part of a vibrant living/learning community and will have access to live-in tutors and faculty members.



In 2011 the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival presented distinguished achievement awards to five members of the Saint Mary's community. Liam Callister '12, who played "Joe" in "Angels in America: Millennium Approaches," received the Distinguished Achievement Award in Performance.

The arts.

Students of the arts at Saint Mary's have access to a wealth of resources, both on campus and off. The Hearst Art Gallery is a fully accredited gallery with a permanent collection of more than 2,700 works of art. Our Department of Performing Arts offers concentrations in dance, music and theatre, taught by conservatory-quality faculty. And our Syufy Performing Arts Center is home to a 375-seat theater, small group music practice rooms, a dance studio and a set design and production shop.

Fine art students can showcase their talent in Gallery 160, our student-run exhibition space. The Gallery also provides excellent hands-on training for students who are interested in curatorial work, public relations and museum administration.

At Saint Mary's we view participation in the arts as essential to a full education. It's part of your core curriculum ... and a lot of fun.