A GREAT EDUCATION challenges everything you think you know.
Put on your intellectual flak jacket.

The Marines have boot camp. We have Collegiate Seminar.

Collegiate Seminar is a series of intense, discussion-based classes that examine all the big ideas of the world’s greatest thinkers—from literature and art to science and philosophy.
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 16 Division I teams, eight club sports and numerous recreational programs. More than 60 percent of our students participate in some form of organized athletic activity.

The SMC MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM won both the WCC regular-season and tournament titles in the same season for the first time in program history.

Retire the “dumb jock” theory.

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

MEN’S SOCCER TEAM won more games in the 2012 postseason than any other team in Saint Mary’s history and advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight.

Gaels were out full force for London Summer Olympics. MATTHEW DELA VEDOVA ’13 and alumnus PATTY MILLS played for Australia’s basketball team, while WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH ROB BROWNING managed USA men’s volleyball.

Consistently ranked in the top 10 in the country, Saint Mary’s MEN’S RUGBY advanced all the way to the Division I semifinals in 2012 and has been in the Sweet 16 for the past eight years in a row.

The SMC MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM won both the WCC regular-season and tournament titles in the same season for the first time in program history.
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.
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.
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 the world’s greatest thinkers. 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. Saint Mary’s also offers more than 40 clubs and organizations, and our athletic program puts bigger schools to shame. We’ve even had 22 students jam into a phone booth in an attempt to beat a 50-year-old national school record.

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.
In 2012-2013, Saint Mary’s will celebrate a major milestone – 150 years of college history (since our founding in 1863). Our sesquicentennial will be one for the record books, to be sure, but what’s truly worth celebrating is the fact that at Saint Mary’s, we live our traditions every day.

More than 300 years ago, Saint John Baptist de La Salle founded the Christian Brothers, a religious community dedicated to educational reform. These days, Saint Mary’s blends that Lasallian Catholic tradition with the intellectual imperative of the Liberal Arts. As a result, we’re home to students who have both the desire and the capacity to affect meaningful change (in their immediate communities, and beyond).

De La Salle Week at Saint Mary’s is a great time to see the Lasallian spirit in action. During De La Salle Week, students, faculty, staff, and the Christian Brothers all dive headfirst into a weeklong celebration of service and community. You’ll find Saint Mary’s people helping out at the annual Carnival for Kids, running or walking in the 5K Run/Walk 4 Hunger, and attending campus-wide workshops and forums on everything from meditation to advocacy.

Of course, not all of our traditions are directly tied to the College’s core values; some are just, well, fun. During Welcome Week, new students hike the hill overlooking campus to paint our famous SMC sign and “officially” become a member of the Saint Mary’s community, while enjoying a truly spectacular view.

When Mother Nature cooperates there are weekly barbecues on the quad. And every spring the entire campus lets loose with Gaelapalooza, which signifies the end of the academic year and jubilates all things Saint Mary’s with free food, live music and festival-style fun (from an inflatable rock-climbing wall to henna and caricature artists).

As for athletics—and athletic pride—that’s a tradition unto itself.

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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. It is an integrated program of study focused on important learning outcomes for the 21st century. There are three broad intellectual 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. Afterwards, 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. 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.

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.
No matter what your major, your academic experience at Saint Mary’s will be rooted in four courses of 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.

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.

The arts.

Students of the arts at Saint Mary’s have access to a wealth of resources, both on campus and off. The Saint Mary’s Museum of Art is a fully accredited art museum 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.

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 and Adrienne Rich.

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.
“Our opinion was just as valuable as theirs and every now and then, we taught them something.”

It’s an attitude.
Anne Kimmerlein, student, pre-veterinary major

I think my first words were, “I want a horse!” Instead, my family adopted a wild donkey from the Bureau of Land Management. Then we got rabbits. And sheep. And pigs. And of course, a dog. I don’t think anyone was surprised when I decided to be a vet.

Can you guess the subject of my independent research project? Horses! Dr. Hansell helped me set it up – he’s in the biology department at Saint Mary’s. Basically, I’m trying to isolate a virus that could be making horses sick. That means sticking a giant Q-tip up the horse’s nose to collect viral DNA. It doesn’t exactly make me popular with the horses, but it’s for their own good.

Fifty percent of the horses I tested had the virus, even though they weren’t exhibiting symptoms. We don’t really know what that means yet, but I’d like to keep the research going when I get to vet school.

I expected to love biology, but I didn’t realize how great a class like Seminar could be. It was totally different from my science labs and lectures. It made me see that science, art and the humanities are all related in really important ways. And the best part? The professors treated us like colleagues. They weren’t just handing down information – we were all peers having a discussion. Our opinion was just as valuable as theirs and every now and then, we taught them something.

After Saint Mary’s, I’d really like to do a dual Ph.D. program in vet school. I’m ready – Saint Mary’s prepared me well. One of the schools I’m looking at, UC Davis, gets 1,200 applicants and only gives interviews to 230 students. Now, I’m one of the 230.

Saint Mary’s doesn’t just look good on my resume. It has helped me be competitive.

CHASING DOWN VIRUSES WITH A GIANT Q-TIP. GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH PROFESSORS IN SEMINAR.
202 OF THE MOST INTIMIDATING PEOPLE YOU’LL EVER LOVE.

SMC professors are pushing the envelope (inside the classroom and out).

- Professor Jyoti Bachani (business) received a 2011 Fulbright Award to India to study how the practice of “jugaad” has contributed to the rise of India as a global economic power.

- English Professor Lysley Tenorio’s debut collection of short stories, Monstress, garnered national praise from a multitude of news outlets, including The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Globe and NPR.

- Professor Kathleen Taylor (education) is an internationally quoted expert and researcher on adult learners and won a 2013 Fulbright award to study adult education in Greece.

- Brenda Hillman, Olivia Filippi Professor of Poetry, was awarded the 2009 Los Angeles Times Book Prize for poetry and named one of “50 of the Most Inspiring Authors in the World” by Poets & Writers magazine.

- Professor Carla Bossard (biology and environmental science) received the California Invasive Plant Council Award for exceptional contributions to invasive plant management and protection of California ecosystems.

- Professor Joe Burley (chemistry) recently worked with the National Park Service to measure ozone levels in and around Yosemite Park.

- Professor Barbara A. McGraw (business) is a renowned scholar of social ethics, published Rediscovering America’s Sacred Ground: Public Religion and Pursuit of the Good in a Pluralistic America.

There’s no doubt about it — our professors are impressive. They’ve won major writing awards, published pioneering scientific papers, and worked closely with the U.S. government on policy and environmental issues.

But here’s the thing: At Saint Mary’s, you’ll find that even though our faculty members have an enormous amount of energy and enthusiasm, they don’t have giant egos. They will guide your inquiry and challenge you to fine-tune your opinions, but they’ll never talk “at” you. Their job is to lead you on your own intellectual journey. And you won’t find better guides anywhere.

Let me throw a word out here – empowerment. As faculty members, we are giving our students the power to not only change their own lives but also the lives of others around them.”

— Ed Tywoniak, Communications professor

Our Office of Academic Support and Achievement Programs offers a number of services to help you make the most of your Saint Mary’s experience. Programs include support programs for first- and second-year students, assistance for students with disabilities, peer mentoring, plus study skills workshops and general tutorials.

Every year at least a third of our students conduct research with a professor – and our professors collaborate with the world’s premier research facilities like Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, the National Supercomputer Center and Moscow’s Landau Institute of Theoretical Physics, to name a few.

At Saint Mary’s you’ll travel far outside the classroom to sharpen your global awareness, but the core curriculum maps your journey by connecting and cultural you’ll even more.

Saint Mary’s students from all walks of life benefit from the College’s powerful values, based in Catholic intellectual and cultural traditions and Lasallian core principles — faith in the presence of God, concern for the poor and social justice, quality education, inclusive community and respect for all persons.

Saint Mary’s students learn how to walk the talk, using ethical problem-solving and decision making in their lives and in the contexts of their disciplines and future professions.

The First Year Experience Programs help Saint Mary’s students with the critical transitions from high school to college, and ultimately to successful post-college lives.
It’s an attitude.
Myrna Santiago, history professor, Director of Women’s Studies

When I began looking for teaching positions, I was lucky enough to get a number of offers. What was different, and exciting, about Saint Mary’s was that it had such a diverse student population, way more so than the other places I was considering.

At last count, there were maybe two dozen Chicanas with Ph.D.s in history in the whole country — and I’m one of them. And I think most of us who went into this profession wanted to be role models for Mexican, Latina and Chicana students. But most of my colleagues don’t have many students to work with, because the number of Latinas going to college is small. But here, it’s different. I have a ton of very diverse students and they’re all wonderful.

My own research has been focused primarily in the areas of labor and ecology and the oil industry, but I’m about to start some new projects that look at earthquakes. One very interesting thing about Saint Mary’s is that many classes come about because students want me to teach a particular topic. At some point my students started to say, “Why don’t you teach a class about this or that?” And I’d say, “That’s a good idea — if you promise to bring your friends.” That’s how I started teaching classes about Latin American women’s history.

If you asked my students about me, I think they’d say that I make them work really, really hard and push them to stretch themselves (maybe more than they like), but it’s because I care. I believe they have the capacity to do great things in the world. It’s as simple as that.

“...and that makes for a spectacular experience. It’s part of the whole Catholic tradition that Saint Mary’s lives: a focus on community."

“I believe they [our students] have the capacity to do great things in the world. It’s as simple as that.”
Sure, Seminar will expand your perspective. And your Saint Mary’s professors will no doubt inspire you to go farther and dig deeper in every class. But here’s the real question: What do you want to do? Do you have aspirations of being a medical doctor? An astronomer? An art historian?

Wherever you see yourself, Saint Mary’s can take you there. In small classes, taught by leading experts, you’ll have the chance to live and breathe your subject matter. Through internships, independent study and specialized research opportunities, you’ll gain valuable real-world experience in your future field.

The Liberal Arts program puts a strong emphasis on experiential learning, with many courses incorporating fieldwork, service learning and study abroad. You could find yourself serving in a major metropolitan police department—or working on a national political campaign.

40 MAJORS. COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE YOUR THINKING TO NEW HEIGHTS.

Special programs in the Liberal Arts. Special features include an International Area Studies program, which integrates academic study, language proficiency, cultural literacy and residential experience abroad; performing arts courses that incorporate both student performance and the lively Bay Area professional theater scene; and student participation in the John F. Henning Institute, a national center for the study of Catholic social thought.

In the Sciences. Notable programs are the 3+2 Engineering program (three years of study in the liberal arts and sciences at Saint Mary’s, plus two years at an approved engineering school); the 2+2 Nursing program (two years of study at Saint Mary’s, then two years of clinical-based curriculum at Samuel Merritt University); and the Saint Mary’s Summer Research program. If you’re selected for the summer program, you’ll work closely with a faculty mentor on a self-designed research project. You will also receive a stipend of $3,000, housing on campus and a budget for supplies and expenses.

In Business. Highlights include minors in entrepreneurship, digital media, global business, marketing and finance. Student-run clubs also regularly sponsor visits to local firms, alumni networking events, and meet-and-greets with local professionals.

In Education. Through the Teachers for Tomorrow program, you can integrate education coursework and field experience with your undergraduate course of study. In this program you’ll earn a bachelor’s degree in four years, and at the end of your fifth year, a preliminary Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and masters degree.

Ready to learn from the best in the business? The Visiting Executive Program invites leading Bay Area business people to spend as much as a full semester on campus, joining classes, mentoring students and participating in weekly roundtable discussions and seminars.

The Liberal Arts program puts a strong emphasis on experiential learning, with many courses incorporating fieldwork, service learning and study abroad. You could find yourself serving in a major metropolitan police department—or working on a national political campaign.

For more information on the individual schools, go to stmarys-ca.edu/schools.
Northeastern Brazil is one of the most beautiful regions in the Americas – and one of the poorest. What is day-to-day life along the Amazon really like? Is it possible to grow the economy without endangering the ecology? Those are exactly the kinds of questions you’ll tackle during January Term at Saint Mary’s. And here’s the best part: You’ll tackle them in Santarém, Brazil, working closely with locals on community development projects and ecological studies.

Saint Mary’s operates on a 4-1-4 calendar schedule, which means that during January you’ll dive headfirst into one intensive, highly specialized course of study. Some classes take place on campus, some include service and many incorporate travel. Typically, students choose from more than 120 different course offerings.

On campus, courses run the gamut from social and political issues to food and culture to intensive language immersion. You could find yourself learning Mandarin or charting the rise of the locally grown food movement in the Bay Area in the ‘70s. Then again, you might also be spending your days surveying area wetlands—and creating an environmental education curriculum for local elementary school kids.

And if you’re really ready to explore uncharted territory, consider one of the travel courses. Recently, Saint Mary’s students have traveled to India to study entrepreneurship among the less affluent; gone deep-sea diving in Micronesia to investigate the coral reefs and culture of Yap and the Philippines; and followed in the footsteps of Saint Paul, from Israel to Rome.

We offer semester-long study abroad programs at universities in Australia, China, England, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain and South Africa. Saint Mary’s is also a member of the Council on International Education and Exchange, which offers dozens of programs, including many in non-traditional destinations such as Botswana, Czech Republic, Ghana, Jordan, Nicaragua, Thailand and Vietnam. Some programs offer a particular academic focus or include fieldwork (tropical biology in Costa Rica, for example, or language and culture in Spain). Some programs also offer scholarships, employment or volunteer opportunities.

Recent January Term Courses:

On campus
- Global Vistas
- Elementary Portuguese Through Culture
- Darwin’s Gift to Religion
- Creating Theatre for Young Adults
- Against the Grain: Food Activism and Social Justice
- Elementary Mandarin
- Shakespeare, Bollywood and Kurosawa
- Ancient Mesoamerican Spirituality and Wisdom
- Everything but the Burden: Exploring the Impact of Hip-Hop on the American Middle Class
- Social Entrepreneurship
- The Woman Detective
- China, Courts & Governments in Renaissance Italy
- Mind of Winter: The Poetry of Wallace Stevens
- Resistance in New Orleans
- What is Buddhism?
- Global Public Health, Issues, Perspectives and Analysis
- The Sioux Through Film
- In B Sharp: The Jazz Poem

Community Engagement
- Precious Water & Wetlands
- Poverty, Policy and Preschool in Urban America
- Christian Service Internships

Travel
- Guatemalan Building Businesses, Not Walls! Helping Orphanages Move from Charity to Self-Sustainability
- Coral Reefs and Culture in Yap and the Philippines
- South Africa: The Life and Land
- Traveling with St. Paul (Urbani, Palestine and Italy)
- Sundance Film Festival (Park City, Utah)
- Argentine Tango in Buenos Aires
- Helping Entrepreneurs in India
- Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque: Christian Art in Italy and France
- Poverty and Promise in Northeastern Brazil
It’s an attitude.
Chris Campbell, student, business major

For my Jan Term trip, I was looking at Rome, Morocco or the Sundance Film Festival. I chose Morocco because I knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime thing. You can always go to Italy on your own and Sundance is cool, but Morocco is different. It’s completely exotic.

The whole trip started with a photography class. The goal was to create a portfolio, but we did so much more. We visited 12 cities and really got into the history, the culture, the landscape. We spent a few nights in the desert, sleeping in tents that were straight out of Aladdin. We even rode camels across the sand dunes!

By far, my favorite part was the homestay. We lived with a Moroccan family for a week and shared everything with them—meals, family life, even 5 a.m. prayers, since it’s a Muslim country. I really got to see what it’s like to live in the medina, one of the world’s oldest walled cities.

Back on this side of the planet, I’ve had some pretty cool experiences as a business major. Saint Mary’s introduced me to an organization called Management Leadership of Tomorrow and last month a group of us went to Texas to work on Obama’s energy plan. We worked side-by-side with professionals from McKinsey Consulting, doing analysis and case studies. I met oil representatives from Venezuela and Singapore. And hopefully, our ideas will be presented to Obama’s team. Where else could you do something like that?

Only at Saint Mary’s. It’s hard to describe, but there are three words that sum it up for me: Inclusive. Engaging. Ideal.

You can always go to Italy on your own and Sundance is cool, but Morocco is different. It’s completely exotic."
SERVICE ISN’T REQUIRED.
FOR MOST OF OUR STUDENTS, IT’S JUST SECOND NATURE.

We don’t “require” you to complete a certain number of service hours, because as far as we’re concerned, that defeats the purpose. The call to serve should come from the heart. It should be something you feel compelled to do because you know it’s right and because you want to do your part to make things better (for everyone).

At Saint Mary’s, we’ve always attracted students who have a genuine passion for helping others. Maybe it’s our Lasallian heritage, which promotes social justice and believes in the transformation of self and society. Or maybe the students who choose to come here simply have that little something “extra” – the desire to go out and make a difference in the world.

On average, Saint Mary’s students contribute more than 40,000 hours annually to social service agencies and organizations around the world.

Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA)
Saint Mary’s Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action, which was established more than a decade ago, is now a national model for campus-based service programs. CILSA is kind of like command central: It serves as a clearinghouse for service opportunities; organizes social justice/human rights speakers to come to campus; and serves as an incubator for new projects and programs dedicated to social justice and the common good.

CILSA also sponsors service-learning courses. A recent example was a class on Catholic social teachings, which examined the ways in which doctrinal texts and theological wisdom shape our response to social issues.

Mission and Ministry
Mission and Ministry organizes a number of programs that explore the role of faith and the larger meaning of service in daily life. Some programs, such as those sponsored by the student-led Campus Pastoral team, are dedicated to providing social and spiritual pursuits for the Saint Mary’s community; others are more focused on outreach. Recent projects have included Hunger Awareness Week, holiday parties for disadvantaged children in the area, and work with homeless shelters and needy schools.

SAINT MARY’S STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT
BAY AREA CRISIS NURSERY (CONCORD)
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF OAKLAND
ELIZABETH HOUSE (OAKLAND)
FAMILY STRESS CENTER (CONTRA COSTA)
GLIDE MEMORIAL FREE MEALS PROGRAM (SAN FRANCISCO)
HOMELESS ACTION SHELTER (BERKELEY)
LASALLIAN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER (WEST OAKLAND)
MUSEUM OF CHILDREN’S ART (OAKLAND)
ST. ANTHONY FOUNDATION (SAN FRANCISCO)
SPORTS4KIDS (OAKLAND)
WOMEN’S DAYTIME DROP-IN CENTER (BERKELEY)
It’s an attitude.

Malena Hernandez, student, anthropology & Spanish major

When I came to Saint Mary’s, I knew I wanted to work in the nonprofit world, particularly in Latin American communities. Latino boys tend to get labeled as delinquents, but I always knew there was more to it than that. Is it tied to immigration? To struggling with their identity in the U.S.?

That’s why I chose anthropology as one of my majors. To find out why people do the things they do and not limit myself to the explanations on the surface. Anthropology allows me to go deeper and explore the social impact that pushes certain behaviors.

Through Saint Mary’s, I’ve gotten involved with the Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA), which does a lot of work with underprivileged kids in the Oakland area. We do the things you’d expect, like tutoring, but also calligraphy, chess and sustainable gardening. We’re helping children make their lives better.

This past January, my “faithjustice” class went to Salinas to work with the Dorothy Day homeless shelter. The Catholic doctrine emphasizes service in action, so for four days we lived at the shelter just like the homeless. We slept on the floor and ate in their dining room. By being part of the community, we helped give back their dignity.

Solidarity is the main focus of my service work. To me, it’s the main difference between charity and service. Charity is about handing out and not getting anything in return. With service, it’s back and forth, working with people. You learn from the culture.

I want people to know that we don’t have to live in two different worlds. It’s not “the poor people’s world” that has to be fixed; their world is our world.
WHAT IS A GAEL, ANYWAY?
WHEN ONE’S CHARGING DOWN THE FIELD AT YOU, YOU’LL KNOW.

In the simplest terms, a Gael is an Irish person (the Irish speak Gaelic). Legend has it that in the 1920s famous sportswriter Grantland Rice named Saint Mary’s “the Gaels” because there were so many Irish guys on the squad.

These days, Saint Mary’s fields 16 Division I teams, eight club teams and countless recreational sports clubs. We’re a founding member of the West Coast Conference (WCC), which also includes Gonzaga, Pepperdine, Loyola Marymount, Santa Clara, Portland, San Diego, BYU and San Francisco.

We’re also home to the GaelsForce, the most enthusiastic student cheering squad in the country. (During basketball games, the walls of the McKeon Pavilion practically shake.) Student spirit/cheer groups include the cheerleading team, the dance team and the SMC Sports Band.

2011-2012 Division I highlights.

• Saint Mary’s won its first-ever West Coast Conference Men’s All-Sports Award recognizing it as the best men’s sports program in the league.

• Men’s soccer, men’s basketball, men’s golf won WCC championships, while men’s soccer, men’s basketball, women’s tennis and men’s golf all advanced to NCAA championship play.

• Three coaches earned conference Coach of the Year honors in 2012: Adam Cooper (men’s soccer) and Scott Hardy (men’s golf) and Jessica Hanaseth (softball).

• A total of 38 Saint Mary’s student-athletes earned academic all-conference recognition.

• Men and women’s track and field program completed its first season in program history.

Club & recreational sports.

SMC club sports are making their mark as well. Men’s rugby was ranked number five in the nation at the end of the 2010-2011 season and coach Tim O’Brien was named College Coach of the Year in 2007 by American Rugby News. Men’s crew and men’s lacrosse also regularly have championship showings.

We offer a number of intramural leagues (basketball, dodgeball, flag football, soccer and softball), as well as instructional classes like cardio kickboxing and Pilates. If your tastes run more to the great outdoors, you’ll love our Outdoor Adventures Club. Weekend activities include excursions to places like Yosemite and Lake Tahoe for mountain biking, camping, snowboarding, kayaking, white-water rafting and more.
It’s an attitude.
Kingsley McGowan, student, accounting and economics major

My college search was focused on two equally important things: academics and rugby. I chose Saint Mary’s because it had both, plus the California culture. I’ll admit it – I wanted to get as far away from home as possible! And I thought being close to the water would be a good thing … until my coach made the brilliant connection between rugby and the women’s rowing team.

Suddenly my rugby teammates and I were getting up at 6:45 every morning to row. It’s the hardest workout I’ve ever experienced; there were times when I literally didn’t think I could row for one more second. But, it’s made a huge difference in my overall fitness. My coach tends to come at things from a different perspective, and in this case it really helped me get stronger.

That’s how it is here – they help you think about challenges in new ways. My residential director, who’s become a real friend and mentor, is a great example. If I’m working on a paper, he won’t tell me how to write it; he’ll teach me the kinds of questions I should be asking in order to write it well. I’ll definitely be applying that to my accounting and economics classes.

Rugby and classes take up most of my time, and what’s left I spend hanging out with my friends. Some people might think that’s kind of boring, but it works for me. My teammates are like brothers: We help each other with everything from workout routines to homework.

This year – my first year at Saint Mary’s – we went to the playoffs at Arkansas State. And even though we didn’t win, we had so much fun that it’s still a great memory. It’s like a home away from home to have such a close-knit group of friends.

The rest of Saint Mary’s is like that too. There are a lot of different people who come from different places, but everyone is so sociable and easy to talk to. Instead of having a bunch of separate groups, it feels more like one big crowd. I’ve met so many people and learned so much. I’m really looking forward to next year.
IT’S HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Picture this: Towering pines. Flowering courtyards. Four hundred twenty acres of rolling hills and a historic campus that’s straight out of central casting.

But don’t let the old-school appearance deceive you, because behind that gorgeous façade is a fully wired campus. As a student you’ll have your own e-mail account and access to the Saint Mary’s intranet (message boards, academic tools, etc.). You’ll also have full use of the college’s nine computer labs, equipped with both Macs and PCs, as well as expert assistance from our Office of Computer and Technology Services.

Where you’ll live.
Most students live on campus in one of the 13 residence halls and eight townhouse buildings. Every room comes equipped with the basics (furniture, phone jacks and data ports) and every floor is staffed by a trained student Resident Advisor. The RAs coordinate activities and act as informal mentors. They know the ropes, and they’re great listeners. Brothers, faculty members, coaches, administrators (even the president!) and staff members – they’re always available to lend an ear or offer advice.

Saint Mary’s offers a Science Theme Living program, an Honors Living and Learning Community and Lasallian and Santiago Living and Learning Communities (both of which focus on faith, service and community).

Multicultural student programs.
The Delphine Intercultural Center sponsors a number of programs that support students of color and celebrate all the cultures that make up the Saint Mary’s community. Annual events include things like a welcome reception, diversity dance and discussion series; other outreach programs include lectures, performances and gatherings to honor events such as Black History Month and Latino Heritage Month.

Resources.
If you need any kind of support – physical, spiritual, emotional – you’ll never have to go far. Minor injuries and illnesses can be treated free of charge at the Health and Wellness Center, and the trained professionals at the Counseling Center are always available to provide caring, culturally sensitive counseling services.

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE. Right from the start, your Saint Mary’s experience will be an integrated one. As a freshman, you’ll take part in our First Year Experience program, which combines academic, co-curricular and extracurricular activities, all under the umbrella of one unifying theme. Summer reading assignments will become the fodder for your freshman English Composition class, and then those writings will in turn inspire outings, residential activities and more.

THE COLLEGE’S LASALLIAN VALUES AFFECT EVERY PART OF THE SAINT MARY’S EXPERIENCE, INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL LIFE. Resident Advisors and Resident Directors work together to make sure that life in the residence halls is characterized by a respect for individual rights, as well as the desire to create and sustain a healthy, happy community.
WHO IS THE “TYPICAL” SAINT MARY’S STUDENT?

Thankfully, there isn’t one. Saint Mary’s students come from 32 countries worldwide and more than 44 percent of the student body identifies itself as African American, Asian American, Latino American, Native American or Pacific Islander.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

AWARENESS/ACTIVISM

- Best Buddies
- Habitat for Humanity
- Peer Health Exchange
- Project Green
- Rotaract
- SMC Democrats
- SMC Republicans

ARTS & MEDIA

- African Dancers
- Chamber Musicians
- Gael Vision
- Jazz Ensemble
- KSMC 89.5FM
- NightinGaels (choral)
- Photography Club
- Quixotic Players
- RiverRun (arts publication)
- SMC Dance Company
- The Collegian (newspaper)

STUDENT

- Associated Students of Saint Mary’s (ASSMC)
- Campus Activities Board
- GaelForce
- SMC Sports Band
- Spirit Team
- Student Alumni Association

CULTURAL

- Arab American Community
- Asian Pacific American Student Association
- Black Student Union
- Dante Club
- Gay-Straight Alliance
- German Club
- Hermanas Unidas
- Humans Actively Practicing Aloha (HAPA)
- International Club
- Italian Club
- Latin American Student Association

ACADEMIC

- Accounting Association
- American Marketing Association
- Business and Accounting Latino Association
- Business Club
- Kinesiology Club
- Philosophy Club
- Saint Luke’s Pre-Medical Society
- Science Club
- SMC Law

SPECIAL INTEREST

- Intervarsity Christian Fellowship
- Japanese Pop Culture Club
- Medieval Club
- Pulses Dance Team
- Respect Life Club

Painting the giant SMC on the hillside is a longstanding Saint Mary’s tradition.
CULTURAL RESOURCES IN SAN FRANCISCO
AND THE BAY AREA INCLUDE:
American Conservatory Theater
Berkeley Art Museum
Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Contemporary Jewish Museum
de Young Museum
Intersection for the Arts
Legion of Honor
Museum of the African Diaspora
Oakland Ballet
Oakland Museum
Pacific Film Archive
San Francisco Ballet
San Francisco Cinematheque
San Francisco Contemporary Music Players
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
San Francisco Opera
San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum
San Francisco Symphony
Theatre Rhinoceros
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

If you’re a sports fan, you’ll have plenty to cheer about.
The Bay Area is home to a number of professional teams, including the San Francisco 49ers, the Oakland Raiders, the San Francisco Giants, the Golden State Warriors, the San Jose Sharks and the San Jose Clash.

There aren’t many places that score equally high for commerce and culture, but San Francisco is one of them. It’s arguably one of the most exciting cities in the world, and as a Saint Mary’s student, you’ll have access to everything San Francisco has to offer (from world-class shopping and dining to major museums to counter-culture hotspots).

You’ll also have a relatively peaceful place to call “home.” Saint Mary’s is located in the scenic town of Moraga, which is just 20 miles east of San Francisco and even closer to Berkeley, Oakland and Walnut Creek.

San Francisco
Ever since the days of the Gold Rush, San Francisco has occupied a place in the American imagination. And for good reason: architecturally, culturally and historically, the city is a gem. San Francisco is home to progressive politics and a lively avant-garde art scene, but it’s also a worldwide center of commerce and technology (the “Wall Street of the West”). For landing an impressive internship, you couldn’t be in a better place. And during your down time? The options are endless. Take a tour of Alcatraz. Wander around Chinatown. Picnic in Golden Gate Park. You could spend every minute of your four years exploring this city and never see all there is to see.

Berkeley, Oakland and Walnut Creek.
Saint Mary’s more immediate neighbors are smaller communities, but equally interesting in their own right. Oakland is an up-and-coming mid-sized city with a strong sense of civic pride and a happening downtown; Berkeley is an activist’s mecca, filled with funky cafés, bookstores and boutiques. Walnut Creek is where you’ll find the Lesher Center for the Arts, the Lindsay Wildlife Museum plus plenty of other venues for art, shopping and entertainment.

Outdoor adventures.
And if you’re in the mood for a different kind of excitement, you’ll find yourself perfectly situated to take advantage of some of the most stunning natural scenery in the U.S. From Saint Mary’s it’s an easy drive to the Marin Headlands (hiking and cycling); to Lake Tahoe (skiing, mountain biking and golf); to the Point Reyes National Seashore (whale watching, kayaking and backcountry camping); to Santa Cruz (surfing) and Yosemite National Park (natural wonders galore). The Pacific beaches are also nearby.

Berkeley, Oakland and Walnut Creek.
Welcome to the San Francisco Bay Area.

No Car? No Worries.
The Bay Area has an excellent mass transit rail system (BART) so it’s easy to get around. The College has also partnered with WeCar, which provides an on-campus car share service.
WE KNOW FOR A FACT OUR GRADUATES STACK UP WELL AGAINST THE COMPETITION. HOW? BECAUSE RECRUITERS TELL US SO.

And it’s not just that Saint Mary’s students are intellectually impressive (although they are), it’s that they are engaged. They’ve seen a lot. And done a lot. And they’re prepared to be not only committed, creative employees, but also genuinely enlightened citizens.

No wonder the average starting salary for a Saint Mary’s grad is above the national average. Eight out of 10 of our graduates who apply to medical school are accepted. Three out of four who apply to law school are accepted. And nearly 10 percent of every graduating class joins a major service organization (including the Peace Corps, the Lasallian volunteers, the Jesuit volunteers and Teach for America).

Career development

When it’s time to start your job search or choose a grad school, the staff at our Career Development Center will be there to help. The Center hosts job fairs and workshops throughout the year, and the trained staff can help you build your resume, perfect your business etiquette and line up interviews. On average, more than 100 potential employers come to Saint Mary’s campus every year.

Companies who recruit on campus:

ABA Northern California, Nevada & Idaho
ABF Freight System, Inc.
Academy
Acme TV
Advisers
Altamura
Amidure
Amerigo McKeena LLP
AXA Advisors
Bay Alarm Co.
Bay Area News Group
Bio-Rad
Bloomberg
Burr Pilger Mayer, Inc.
Comcast Spotlight
ConferenceDirect
Consolidated Electrical Distributors
Copart, Inc.
Deloitte LLP
Digital Artist Management, Inc.
Enterprise Holdings
Ernst & Young LLP
Farmers Insurance Group
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Fidelity Investments
First Investors Corporation
Frito-Lay, Inc.
Galilea Sales Company
Grassroots Campaigns, Inc.
Heartwist Adoption, Inc.
Huffman Group
Hood & Strong LLP
Insight Global
Johnston, Orenco & Ross, LLP
Jones Haits Schrock
Kennedy-Jackson Wine Estates
Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.
KPMG LLP
Lab Support
Lincoln Financial Advisors
Macys Inc & O’Connell LLP
MassMutual Financial Group
Matthews Insurance and Financial Solutions
Maze & Associates
Morrison & Foerster
News America Marketing
Northernmost Mutual Financial Network
Novogratz & Company LLP
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Pavaree
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Rabbit Office Automation
Reaction Search International Inc.
Richard Business Solutions
Robert Half International
Royal Wholesale Electric
Sherman Office Solutions
Shia Leikhman Danforth
Southern Wine and Spirits Stapes, Inc.
Sweeney
Target
The Circos Company
The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
The Hertz Corporation
The Mice Group, Inc.
Unum
Vector Marketing
Wells Fargo Bank

Recent graduate school placements:

Boston College
Boston University
Cambridge University
Claremont Graduate School
Cornell University
Duke University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Johns Hopkins University
MIT
Princeton University
Purdue University
Stanford University
UC Berkeley
UC Davis
UCLA
UC Santa Cruz
University of Michigan
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
USC
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Yale University

Internship opportunities:

American Junior Golf Association
Annuity International USA
Association of Catholic Student Councils
Bar of the West
Bar Association of San Francisco
California Shakespeare Theater
California State Assembly
California State Auditor
Children’s Hospital Oakland
Cisco Systems
Cumulus: KFSD, KSAN & KNBR
KTVU Sports
EarthTown Environmental Network
FDIC
First Republic Bank
Golden State Warriors INTRAQ
Kaiser Permanente
KTVU Sports
LucasFilm
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
Muscular Dystrophy Association, Inc.

Saint Mary’s graduates are going on to careers as:

educators
entrepreneurs
attorneys
geneticists
interpreters
journalists
judges
legislators
marketing professionals
neuroscientists

And some notable SMC alumni:

Mario Atie, ’92, senior vice president, San Francisco Giants
Kimberly Braddock, ’93, co-owner and vice president, Cox & Company
K.C. Estensen, ’95, senior vice president and general manager, CNN.com
Laurie Garcia-Cammon, ’79, anchor, NBC-11
Shirley Griggs, ’83, executive vice president, Wells Fargo Bank
James Getty, ’97, president and CEO, Rels Pace of North America, Inc.
Maya Lin, ’92, former vice president, head of global business operations, Novartis
Manuel Lujan, Jr., ’78, Secretary of the Interior, 1989–1993
Ronald McArthur, ’40, founder, St. Thomas Aquinas College
John Mackey, ’82, developer of Llao Llao Craft technology
Tom Meschery, ’61, professional basketball great, retired teacher and poet
Nicholas Moore, ’81, retired chairman, PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Honoréable Tony Napolit, ’60, Sacramento County Superior Court Judge
Don Pena, ’67, president pro tempore, California State Senate
Raymond H. Stupy, ’94, president, Century Theatres, Inc.
Dr. Carl Wu, ’74, cancer researcher, National Institutes of Health
Training to be a cardiothoracic surgeon is probably one of the longest medical training programs you can undertake. In my case it meant four years at Saint Mary’s, then medical school at Johns Hopkins, and now I’m in the middle of my general surgery residency. I’ll also be doing two years of research – heart and lung surgery – and then a three-year fellowship. I’ll be 35 when I finish. Fortunately, I left Saint Mary’s with a great work ethic, so I think I can handle it.

I remember being in high school and getting the Saint Mary’s brochure in the mail, and my dad said, “You need to go take a look at this place.” And I’m glad I did. I graduated fourth in my class at Hopkins, and to a large extent that was because Saint Mary’s had prepared me so well. Plus, Saint Mary’s does a great job of getting people into medical school. Even though they don’t have that many people applying each year, they have a high rate of acceptance. My professors took the time to really help me with my application, writing letters and giving advice, and I know that made a difference.

I was a science double major when I was an undergrad, and I think the School of Science at Saint Mary’s is just… tremendous. I can’t say enough good things about it. At larger universities, a general chemistry class might have 300 or 400 students, and the professor is just this little dot down in front of the podium. In my class, there were 20 of us. You know the professors. You get more exposure to them and you develop real relationships. Also, the fact that Ph.D.s teach the labs instead of teaching assistants is a huge advantage.

I should also say that I met my wife at Saint Mary’s, so that’s another good thing. I ended up inviting a few of my professors to the wedding. It just felt right to have them there, since in college they were such a big part of my life.

Four years in college. Four years in medical school. Then 10 more years of training.

It’s an attitude.
J. Geoff Allen, M.D., Saint Mary’s class of 2001

“IN MY CLASS, THERE WERE 20 OF US. YOU KNOW THE PROFESSORS.”

“YOU GET MORE EXPOSURE TO THEM AND YOU DEVELOP REAL RELATIONSHIPS.”
We are selective about the students we admit. So if you make the cut—if you seem like you would be a great fit for Saint Mary’s—we will do everything we can to make it happen. Members of our financial aid staff will sit down with you, in person, and go through the financial aid process step by step. They will make sure you’re aware of every scholarship, loan and grant you’re qualified for. And they’ll help you navigate the paperwork, from FAFSA to tax returns.

In general, students should apply for financial aid if there is a difference between the expense of tuition (including room and board) and the amount they and their family can afford to pay. Currently over 75 percent of our students receive some sort of aid (grant, loan, scholarship or combination of all three), with the average amount of the package being $27,954.

The process.

The first thing you will need to do is fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), making sure to include the Saint Mary’s College of California code (001302). California residents should also submit the GPA Verification Form to the State Commission by March 2, which will ensure that they are considered for all Cal Grant Forms can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor; from official websites (fafsa.ed.gov); or from college financial aid offices, including ours. The deadline for priority financial aid consideration is February 15. And the earlier you file, the better; it’s not a good idea to wait and see if you have been admitted first.

Scholarships.

Freshmen

Presidential Scholars

Competitive scholarships of $11,000 annually for first-time freshmen. Nominated students typically have grade point averages of at least 3.8 in demanding college preparatory programs that include rigorous senior year schedules, with similarly strong performance on either the ACT or the SAT. They also have noteworthy extracurricular involvement. Recipients are invited to apply to live in the Honors Living and Learning Community.

Gael Scholars Award

$11,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to first-time freshmen at acceptance. Selected students have noteworthy extracurricular involvement and demanding college preparatory programs that include rigorous senior year schedules. Competitive candidates typically have a 4.0 grade point average, or solid B (greater than 3.2) combined with very strong ACT or SAT performance (greater than 1200 on the critical reading and writing sections of the SAT or ACT composite scores of greater than 26).

Transfers

Transfer Honors at Entrance Scholarship

$11,000 annually; renewable for up to three additional years of full-time study. Awarded to transfer students at the time of acceptance who enter with cumulative grade point average greater than 3.5 and with 30 or more transferable semester credits, or the equivalent.

International Students

International students are eligible to be considered for all Saint Mary’s College merit scholarships; ACT or SAT scores are not required of international freshmen for scholarship consideration. Instead, decisions will be based on the results of the appropriate national examinations and/or mark sheets.

Need-based grants and loans.

Saint Mary’s College General Scholarships

$1,000 to $27,000 annually. Amount of award depends on demonstrated financial need.

Federal Pell Grants

$1,776 to $5,550 annually. Provided to high-need families who qualify based on a federally established formula.

Cal Grants

Up to $9,708 annually. Provided to California students who qualify based on financial need and academic achievement. Typical GPA is 3.0 or higher.

Federal Work-Study

Provides part-time employment on campus. Average work load: 10 hours per week.

Institutional Student Employment

Provides part-time employment on campus.

Federal Perkins Loans

Low interest (5 percent) student loans; 10-year repayment period; payment deferred until after graduation.

Federal Subsidized Direct Loan

$3,500 to $5,500 annually. Variable interest rate student loans (3.4 percent); 10-year repayment period; payment deferred until after graduation.

Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans

$5,500 to $7,500. Available to students who have not borrowed up to the annual loan limit on Subsidized Stafford Loan program. Allows students to borrow the remaining amount at an interest rate of 6.8 percent. Freshmen may borrow up to $5,500. Sophomores may borrow up to $6,500. Juniors and seniors may borrow up to $7,500.

Private Educational Loans

Students with creditworthy co-signers may borrow up to the cost of attendance per year less the amount of other financial aid received. For a current list of private companies and their terms, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

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Questions (about anything)? Call the Financial Aid Office at 1-866-306-0390 or e-mail finaid@stmarys-ca.edu.

COST SHOULD NEVER BE A DECIDING FACTOR.
IF YOU’RE GOOD ENOUGH TO GET IN, WE’LL HELP YOU GET HERE.
APPLYING TO SAINT MARY’S

Saint Mary’s College only accepts the Common Application and we recommend that you apply online. If you don’t have reliable internet service, however, and you’d like to apply by mail, a paper copy of the Common Application is available in most high school college counseling offices. It may also be downloaded, printed and filled out manually.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION. To complete an application please submit your Saint Mary’s College supplemental application, essay, letter of recommendation(s), transcripts and test scores. Note: transfer students are not required to submit test scores or letters of recommendation.

TAKE THE SAT OR ACT. Saint Mary’s requires freshman applicants to take the SAT (Saint Mary’s code 4675) or the ACT (Saint Mary’s code 0388). You will need to list the Saint Mary’s code for us to receive your scores. The Admissions Committee will consider the best combined score from the SAT I or the best composite score from the ACT and will also give credit for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams, depending on the scores. Have those results sent directly to us or noted on your transcript.

OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS. Please submit official transcripts that include all work to date. If you’re accepted to Saint Mary’s, you will still need to successfully complete your senior year and submit a final transcript.

LETTER(S) OF RECOMMENDATION. We require one letter of academic recommendation, but you may submit more than one if you wish.

ESSAY. Your original essay is an important part of the application—it gives the Admissions Committee a better understanding of who you are and why you think Saint Mary’s might be a good fit for you. You should write your essay in a word processing program, then copy and paste it into the appropriate space on the online application.

APPLICATION FEE. A non-refundable application fee of $55.00 (payable online, via secure server) must accompany your application.

To schedule a visit, call (800) 800-4SMC or go to stmarys-ca.edu/campusvisit
Apply at stmarys-ca.edu/apply

DEADLINES

Early action deadline: November 15
Regular admissions deadline: February 1
FAFSA priority deadline: February 15
Spring regular deadline: January 1

If you have all your application materials in by the November 15 priority deadline, you will hear from the Admissions Committee by the end of December. If you are accepted early, you will not be required to enroll early or to pay an early deposit.
SAINT MARY’S
BY THE NUMBERS

1863 is the year the College was founded. Saint Mary’s is based in the Catholic, Lasallian and liberal arts traditions. For 150 years the College has been guided by the Christian Brothers, the Catholic Church’s oldest order dedicated exclusively to teaching.

2,823 unusually intelligent undergraduates. Nearly 45 percent identify themselves as African American, Asian American, Native American, Latino American or Pacific Islander. 62 percent live on campus.

196 full-time faculty members, 95 percent of whom hold doctorate degrees. 100 percent could probably be making more money at a larger university.

14:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Average class size is 21.

40 academic majors, four schools (Liberal Arts, Science, Education and Economics and Business Administration).

4-1-4 academic calendar, including two four-month terms and one four-week January Term.

16 Division I teams, eight club teams, one fearsome mascot (The Gael).

420 acres of rolling hills, fragrant pines, some seriously scenic scenery. 20 miles from San Francisco. 190 miles to Lake Tahoe. 368 miles to Los Angeles.

100 percent commitment to reducing our environmental footprint. To see all the ways our community is greening our campus, please visit stmarys-ca.edu/sustain.