

Dear Transfer Student,

Welcome to St. Mary's College of Maryland!

All new students entering St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2008 will follow the 2008 college catalog and will be under the new Core Curriculum which replaces the General Education program. However, as a transfer student who has been continuously enrolled in a State of Maryland institution of higher education, you have the option of satisfying St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) graduation requirements that were in effect at the time you first enrolled at the original institution. Continuous enrollment is defined as registration for and completion of at least one course per term in each academic year.

Therefore, you have two options for choosing the catalog year to follow for all graduation requirements, including your major requirements:

Option 1: The catalog of the year you began at the Maryland community college.

Option 2: The SMCM 2008 catalog year.

Please read the following information as well as the attachments so you can decide which would be the best option for you to choose.

For those who have earned an A.A., A.S., or an A.A.T. from a Maryland Community College:

Option 1: If you opt to use the catalog of the year you began at the Maryland community college, you have met all of the General Education requirements for SMCM even though your individual community college courses may differ. You will follow all graduation requirements under this catalog, including your major requirements.

Option 2: If you opt to use the catalog of the year you begin at SMCM (2008), you will have fulfilled the Core Curriculum requirements in International Languages and Liberal Arts Approaches to Understanding the World. However, you will still need to fulfill the Liberal Arts Seminar requirement (CORE 301) and the Experiencing the Liberal Arts in the World requirement. You will follow all graduation requirements under the 2008 catalog, including your major requirements.

As we evaluate your transcripts for SMCM equivalency, we will be doing so under the assumption that you are choosing Option 1 (i.e. using the catalog of the year you began at the Maryland community college). If you want to choose Option 2, please email registrar@smcm.edu as soon as possible.

For those who have taken courses as a continuously enrolled student at a State of Maryland institution of higher education but have not earned an A.A., A.S. or A.A.T. degree from a Maryland Community College

Option 1: If you opt to use the catalog of the year you began at a State of Maryland institution of higher education, you will be required to fulfill all of the General Education requirements for SMCM. You will follow all graduation requirements under this catalog, including your major requirements.

Option 2: If you opt to use the catalog of the year you begin at SMCM (2008), you will be required to fulfill the Core Curriculum requirements. You will follow all graduation requirements under the 2008 catalog, including your major requirements.

Before we can thoroughly evaluate your transcripts for SMCM equivalency, we will need to know which catalog year you choose because it will make a difference in how we transfer your credits.

In order to help you make this decision, please review the following attachments and information.

1. General Education and Core Curriculum comparison chart.
This chart gives you a side-by-side comparison of the General Education and the Core Curriculum requirements. Please refer to the General Education worksheet and the Core Curriculum Condensed for the specific course requirements for both.
2. Core Curriculum Condensed
This document gives you the specific course requirements of the Core Curriculum. Please refer to the First Year Experience web page <http://www.smcm.edu/firstyear/> for the complete Core Curriculum document
(<http://www.smcm.edu/firstyear/PDFs/Liberal%20Arts%20Curriculum%20-%20Course%20Catalogue.pdf>)
3. Review all major degree requirements for the catalog year you began your continuous enrollment at the State of Maryland institution of higher education. You can find the link to the catalog years 2004 through 2007 online:
<http://www.smcm.edu/academics/catalog.html> If you need information on an earlier year, please contact the Office of the Registrar 240-895-4336 or email: registrar@smcm.edu
4. The 2008 catalog won't be available until just before New Student Days. The only major with significant changes from the 2007 catalog is History. If you are interested in majoring in History, please email registrar@smcm.edu and we will send you further information.
5. If you have any questions, please call the Office of Academic Services 240-895-4388.