

# Seton Hill University

## Catalog

### 2004-2006



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SETON HILL, a Catholic liberal arts university, is chartered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The University is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

It holds membership in the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the American Art Therapy Association, the American Chemical Society, the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Music Therapy Association, the Council of Social Work Education, the Association of American Colleges, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges, the American Council on Education, the College Entrance Examination Board, the College Placement Council, the Western Pennsylvania Higher Education Council, the Pennsylvania Council of Graduate Schools, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities/National Institute of Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Association of Schools of Music, the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities, the Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, the Foundation for Independent Colleges, Inc., of Pennsylvania, and the Consortium for Computing in Undergraduate Education.

The statements in this bulletin are for information only and do not constitute a contract between the student and Seton Hill University. The University reserves the right to change any policy, requirement, course offering, or fee. It reserves as well the right to develop a new Liberal Arts Core Curriculum; to require the completion of that curriculum as a partial basis for graduation; or to waive particular requirements of the Liberal Arts Core Curriculum when it deems such action advisable for the good of the student or of the University. The University also reserves the right to exclude students whose conduct or academic standing is deemed by the University not to be in accord with the requirements set forth in this catalog.

Seton Hill University has been approved for attendance by non-immigrant alien students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, write: Director of Admissions and Adult Student Services, Seton Hill University, Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601; or telephone: 724-838-4255 or 1-800-826-6234; or e-mail: admit @ setonhill.edu.

## **Seton Hill University Mission Statement**

Seton Hill is a Catholic university rooted in Judeo-Christian values. In the tradition of Elizabeth Ann Seton, we educate students to think and act critically, creatively, and ethically as productive members of society committed to transforming the world.

## **Seton Hill University Learning Objectives**

Seton Hill, a Catholic, liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity in the tradition of Elizabeth Ann Seton, recognizes that the skills needed for success must be founded on the wisdom of the liberal arts and integrated with professional preparation. Capable citizens of a global community also need a vision informed by religious and ethical values to guide them in the active transformation of their world.

Therefore, the following objectives are designed for all undergraduate students:

### **Skills for Communication and Interaction**

Skills which are necessary for contemporary life: the ability to gather, perceive, and evaluate knowledge; the means to express one's thoughts and experiences; the capacity to work successfully with others or alone.

#### **Communication skills**

- Reading, writing, speaking, listening
- Library research
- Communicating in a second language

#### **Numerical and technological skills**

- Quantitative reasoning
- Using technology as a resource for learning
- Using media in presentations

#### **Interpersonal skills**

- Collaborative group work
- Peer assessment
- Leadership
- Negotiation and consensus

### **Skills for Critical and Creative Thinking**

Skills which emphasize judgement and decision-making, and which encourage the development of imaginative resources.

### **Critical thinking**

- Observing, hypothesizing, experimenting
- Distinguishing between opinions and facts
- Analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating
- Problem-solving

### **Creativity**

- Aesthetics as a mode of inquiry
- Willingness to experiment with unconventional approaches
- Self-expression in uniqueness and similarity
- Imagining new solutions to current issues

### **Skills for Historical and Global Awareness**

Skills which emphasize tolerance and awareness of other cultures; the development of both a historical and an international perspective; and the ability to critically assess contemporary culture.

#### **Historical perspective**

- Understanding culture, race, gender, and class through time
- Appreciating the human quest for meaning throughout history

#### **Contemporary analysis**

- Experiencing culture, race, gender, and class differences
- Analyzing social privilege and oppression especially with regard to women's experience
- Understanding Catholic social teaching

#### **Global context**

- Understanding the impact of geography on culture
- Learning another culture through a modern language
- Practicing multicultural tolerance and dialogue
- Understanding environmental interdependence

### **Skills for Life Commitment and Flexibility**

Skills which foster the ability to live with creative confidence; to develop a strong belief system; to exercise responsible freedom; and to manage one's personal and professional life effectively.

#### **Reflection**

- Experience and appreciate the Catholic tradition
- Appreciate the spiritual dimension of life
- Maintain a sense of transcendent meaning and value
- Deal creatively with change and complexity
- Have a sense of humor

#### **Commitment**

- Active, generous concern for others
- Autonomy, independence, and relatedness
- Personal and professional ethics
- Citizenship and responsibility for society
- Integrating the practice of charity with the skill of justice

### **Entrepreneurial skills**

- Goal-setting and risk-taking
- Flexibility and team work
- Transferring knowledge into behavior
- Learning how to learn as a life-long professional
- Sound decision-making informed by values

## **Introduction to Seton Hill**

Seton Hill University is a Catholic liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity and chartered in 1918 by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The University focuses on career growth and potential under rigorous academic standards and remains today a place where as one graduate said, “students learn to discipline their minds, appreciate their bodies, rejoice in heart, and soar in spirit.”

Study in the liberal arts enlivens students’ connection to the world of work and provides a meaningful foundation for careers. Liberal arts today means being aware of the many ways theory studied in the classroom can be applied in the field; it means practical lessons learned from Seton Hill internships and perspective changed from study abroad. Above all it means preparation for all of life’s eventualities, both those expected and those unplanned.

The University is highly conscious of its Catholic intellectual heritage. As a Catholic institution, Seton Hill values the cumulative wisdom of the past, reveres human creativity and human intellectual capacity in all of its dimensions, and is mindful of the life of the spirit. Through guidance and example Seton Hill University leads students to experience and assimilate the graces of respect, courtesy, openness, kindness, and compassion. With full-heartedness the University is committed to making our current world a better place than it has been and working with our students to accomplish that end.

## **Seton Hill University History**

Seton Hill University is named for Saint Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton, the first American born saint and the founder of the American Sisters of Charity. A remarkable woman, Elizabeth Seton was also a wife, a mother, and a teacher. Elizabeth was resourceful, entrepreneurial, and prayerful, and a model to students of today.

Before the Civil War, what is now Seton Hill University was the country estate of Major William A. Stokes, solicitor for the Pennsylvania Railroad and an officer in the Union army. The Stokes’ property had fallen into a general state of neglect after the war, and in 1882 it was bought by Mother Aloysia Lowe of the Pennsylvania Sisters of Charity, who named it Seton Hill. Saint Joseph Academy, established in 1883, and Seton Junior University in 1914, were the forerunners of the present-day liberal arts Seton Hill University.

At a time when most of the nation’s preeminent colleges were closed to women at the undergraduate level, the Sisters of Charity persuaded a reluctant College and University Council to grant permission to establish Seton Hill College. The Council gave Seton Hill its approval on April 12, 1918, and the College received its charter on June 3, 1918.

In keeping with the pioneer spirit of its founders, Seton Hill University in recent years has widened and diversified its academic scope. The University now offers undergraduate and graduate programs, admits women and men to all programs, and has broader and stronger programs for international faculty and student exchange, a National Education Center for Women in Business, and the National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education. In a time of rapid advancements in our technology, changing political and geographic patterns worldwide, and serious concerns about our societal values, the work of Seton Hill University has been and remains valuable, timely, and progressive.

Since 1918, Seton Hill has graduated over 10,000 students, from all fifty of the United States and from many other countries. In 2002, Seton Hill College became Seton Hill University and identified itself as a coeducational institution of learning.

## **Student-Centered Learning**

The University strives to give the students an education which best suits their interests, abilities, and aims in life. Within the generally high standards of the Seton Hill, each student is encouraged to find her/his own best level of achievement, and to realize it as fully as possible.

To determine the individual’s abilities and what studies she/he should pursue, the University makes available the services of its deans, academic counselors, division chairs, and the entire faculty. An honors program, with expanded opportunities for independent study and seminar work, is offered to able students beginning in their freshman year. Faculty members offer informal lectures, group discussions, and discipline-based activities for the benefit of all students.

The religious needs of the student are clearly recognized at Seton Hill. The University is conducted under Roman Catholic auspices but admits students of all faiths. Seton Hill’s doctrinal assumptions and religious observances are Catholic. Sunday Mass and other liturgical services are celebrated on a regular basis.

Seton Hill students participate in the governance of the University. They enjoy voting representation on a number of committees, and in the Seton Hill Government Association they have formulated their own Senate. The objective of these activities is to develop in students a sense of social responsibility and a desire to contribute to society.

The University aims to produce self-reliant and responsible people and is proud of its students' ability to adapt to the disciplined independence of university life.

## Students' Rights and Responsibilities

At Seton Hill, students participate in the formulation of policy concerning standards of conduct. The University's aim is to develop responsible and self-reliant adults.

Seton Hill also recognizes its role to assume leadership in forming values, rather than blindly following transient societal trends. The University has therefore set certain universal human values — honesty, integrity, charity, and consideration — as standards toward which each student can strive. The University places its resources of faculty and staff at the disposal of the students as they assume independence in their social and academic roles. Seton Hill's social regulations are based on developmental principles and reflect a philosophy that college students should develop the maturity to freely choose their personal values and social activities. The Seton Hill community of faculty and students continues to maintain its traditional concern for the personal welfare and well-being of its constituents. Seton Hill, then, encourages individual freedom and personal choice, but expects of its students a recognition of their responsibility to the community and concern for the group. All undergraduate students are required to abide by the policies and procedures in the *Student Handbook*.

## Groups and Organizations

At Seton Hill there are many groups and organizations which students may join. Some are centered around certain student interests such as singing, playing a musical instrument, skiing, drama, journalism, cultural/ethnic heritage, and intercollegiate and intramural sports. There are also professional associations and honorary societies for general scholarship or excellence. Other groups form around a special or immediate student interest.

## Reeves Memorial Library

At the center of the Seton Hill Campus is Reeves Memorial Library, housing a spacious two-story library and the university archives as well as the university theater and Harlan Art Gallery. This building serves as the information center of the campus to students and faculty alike. The library, renovated in 1987 and completely automated since 1992, holds a collection of approximately 119,000 items which includes the following: books, periodicals, microforms, both educational and entertainment videos, CDs, and educational software programs. Access to information is made easy through Endeavor's Voyager automated catalog. Voyager (along with certain online databases) is accessible both in the library and through any personal com-

puter connected to the university network or the Internet.

Access is provided to the Internet at the library through the Seton Hill LAN. Products currently offered to the university community on-line are: EBSCOhost and Lexis-Nexis Universe. These databases offer thousands of abstracts and journal articles, many of which are full-text, to further enhance the library's collection. Well-lit areas for study, quiet corners for concentration, and a center for video viewing invite concentrated study and relaxed perusal. Collections in women's studies, art, theology, behavioral sciences, business, and children's books on the Holocaust are among the library's strengths.

With an emphasis on service, the library staff works in conjunction with Seton Hill's faculty in providing a thorough bibliographic instruction program on library usage. Each element of the Liberal Arts Core Curriculum offers an aspect of library research and critical thinking to broaden students' capabilities in accessing and using information. As part of the growing world of information, the library at Seton Hill offers its patrons world-wide interlibrary loan service through the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC). Reciprocal borrowing privileges are available to students, faculty, and staff through the Westmoreland Academic Library Consortium whose members are: St. Vincent College; the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg; Pennsylvania State University campuses at Fayette, McKeesport, and New Kensington; Westmoreland County Community College; and Seton Hill University. Reeves Library belongs to the Share Westmoreland and PALINET Consortia.

## Technology

The academic computing facilities at Seton Hill University are equipped with the most current technologies available today. Students are able to access their grades, course schedules, transcripts, status of financial aid, and current billing status via the Internet from any location.

All PC academic laboratories are equipped with state-of-the-art computers that run Windows Professional Operating System, are equipped with Antivirus Software, and have Microsoft Office Professional installed. The Macintosh academic laboratories run the OSX operating system, the Norton Antivirus software, and Microsoft Office. All academic computers are networked to a cluster of servers over a Gigabit Ethernet fiber backbone. There is a 10 Mb Ethernet drop to the desktop and to each residence hall room.

There are twenty-three academic computing labs at Seton Hill University. The current computer to student ratio is 1:5. There are 22 PC Labs and one Macintosh Lab. The IBM Compatible Labs have Pentium Class machines running the Windows 2000 Professional Operating System. The PCs are all 500 Megahertz or higher with most exceeding 1.0 Giga-hertz in processor speed. These labs include a 3D molecular modeling lab, a graphic design lab, a Macintosh lab, a music lab, a dietetics

lab, an art education lab, a biology (Edison) lab, a technology classroom, and a humanities lab. In addition, the Administration Building contains the Kennametal classroom, a 24-station Comweb learning laboratory for business students; the educational methods room, a 24-station classroom for pre-service teachers with accessibility features; seven smart presentation rooms; and four smart classrooms. All the labs contain hardware and software of the current generation.

Seton Hill University is a node on the Internet and has a World Wide Web address, <http://www.setonhill.edu/>. All students receive an account so they can send and receive e-mail or navigate the web for research. Lowe Hall, Maura Hall, Harvey Hall, and Brownlee Hall each have clusters of computers available for use by students, for their general computing and research needs. Network jacks are located in each residence hall room, allowing students to connect their own PCs to the Seton Hill Network.

The distance education center is equipped to transmit and receive courses from all parts of the world and to make video-conferencing available on campus including foreign language experience with students at distant locations and access to satellite educational programming. International channels for multi-language broadcasting and selective new classroom implementations including the use of ergonomically correct desks and adaptive technology are also provided.

A CampusConnect system coupled with a JWEB learning management system encouraging interactive course communications over the web, big screen projection with dynamic audio systems, and smart boards in classrooms are some of the innovations being utilized by students and faculty to make intelligent use of technology a reality. To keep staff and faculty proficient with current hardware and software, Seton Hill has a computer-learning center to facilitate hardware and software training.

The Seton Hill University Media Center makes audio/visual resources such as Datashow projection computers, VCRs and monitors, camcorders, microphone and speaker systems, projectors, and cassette players available to all students, faculty, and staff.