**2025-2026 Advising Updates**

* **New Majors**
	+ Environmental Science (BS)
	+ Environmental Studies (BA)
		- Environmental, Society, and Policy Concentration
		- Environmental Humanities Concentration
	+ Nursing (BSN)
		- Direct-entry, cohort program
		- Students cannot transfer into this program or declare it after being admitted to Loyola; they must be admitted into the BSN in Nursing upon admittance to Loyola
	+ Forensic Science (new BS option in addition to BA)
	+ UPDATE: BBA in Leadership & Management Consulting will be renamed

BBA in Management beginning with the 2025-2026 catalogue.

* **New Minors**
	+ Early Childhood Education
		- Available to all majors
	+ English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
		- Available to all majors
* **New Core Courses**
	+ Newly approved courses for **social science core** (*dependent on major*):
		- ENV116: Intro to Environment, Society, and Policy
		- ED100: Intro to Education – School & Society
		- SC210: Introducing Gender & Sexuality Studies
		- SC221: Sociology of Race, Class and Gender
	+ Newly approved courses for **natural science core** (*dependent on major*):
		- ENV114: Global Environment (same as CH114)
		- AH188/BL188: Medical Humanities

**General Policy Updates**

* **Course Forgiveness** - UPDATED
	+ A maximum of two grades (and 1-2 credit co-requisite courses such as labs and field experiences, when appropriate) of D, D+, U or F can "be forgiven" or "replaced" **during a student's Loyola career** (previously, could only be from the first semester at Loyola).
* **Compassionate Grade Forgiveness Policy** - NEW
	+ In rare circumstances when undergraduate students are not able to withdraw on their own by the stated deadline and grades have been submitted, a student may petition the Dean of Undergraduate Studies to request compassionate grade forgiveness of a semester's grades from the student's cumulative GPA. Students are eligible to petition for compassionate forgiveness when all grades during one academic semester result in F, D, D+ or U.
	+ A subcommittee of the Academic Standards Committee reviews compassionate grade forgiveness petitions. Compassionate grade forgiveness requests are only considered with verifiable, third-party documentation of extraordinary circumstances that would have prevented the student from withdrawing from courses in advance of receiving a final grade. Upon receipt of the compassionate grade forgiveness petition, a meeting will be scheduled with three members of the Academic Standards Committee and a non-voting, administrative moderator.
	+ Compassionate forgiveness petitions must ordinarily be submitted in writing to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies by the student no later than thirty days after the last day of final exams for the semester in which they are seeking forgiveness.

**Updates from Departments**

* **Accounting**
	+ Students interested in the 3+1 MAcc program must take AC201: Financial Accounting in the first year at Loyola.
* **Forensic Science**
	+ For students pursuing either the BA or BS, BL150/151 should be taken during fall term, followed by BL152/153 in the spring term.
	+ For BS majors, CH101/105 could be taken first year instead of the introductory biology courses. If a student pursues that route, then they need to complete BL 150-153 sophomore year.
	+ FO 101 and FO 102 are recommended for *sophomore year*, not first year.
	+ Students considering a double major with Psychology should take BL 150-153 during the first year.  The BA in Forensic Science offers more double counting opportunities for these students than does the BS.
* **Global Studies**
	+ GT400: Capstone in Global Studies will be offered in Fall 2025 as a trial. If all goes well, the course will be offered once a year moving forward in the fall semester.
	+ GT201: Intro to Global Studies will be offered in Spring 2026. If all goes well, it will be offered once a year moving forward in the spring semester.
* **History**
	+ New course - HS251: Global Histories of Disability
* **Information Systems & Data Analytics**
	+ For the minor, students previously needed to take IS453 as one of their required courses. They will now be able to take IS453 *OR* IS460 *OR* IS420.
* **Mathematics & Statistics**
	+ MA395 will only be offered in fall 2025, not spring. This fall-only offering structure will likely continue.
	+ ST310 will be offered twice in fall and once in spring; the idea is to continue in this way based on recent increases in demand and possible future programs. Several related changes to the suggested order of sophomore year courses for Statistics majors were also made.
	+ ST472 now has ST310 as a prerequisite. (Impacts Data Science students as well.)
	+ We requested a new course, MA491 – Special Topics in Applied Mathematics. This should allow for easier recognition of upper-level special topics electives which count for the Applied Math concentration (and would still count as a general upper-level elective for all math concentrations).
* **Modern Languages & Literatures**
	+ Please encourage students to start language in the first year at Loyola. It is strongly recommended that all students complete their language core requirement (104 level for non-honors students; 200 level for honors) by the end of the second year.
	+ Although students may take the placement exam multiple times, only the highest score is counted and used for placement. Students may only register for the level in which they place. Students who wish to register for a level other than the highest one they place into must contact the MLL Associate Chairs for Student Issues, Dr. Yolopattli Hernandez-Torres.
	+ Students who place higher than the 104 level on Loyola’s language placement exam may be exempt from the language core requirement, pending confirmation from Loyola’s Modern Language department after a proctored, on-site placement exam. Those students will need to complete 1 additional free elective in lieu of the language core. ***Students who place higher than 104 prior to starting at Loyola should arrange to take the proctored placement exam during the first few weeks of fall classes.***
	+ To be eligible to take a language course at another institution (i.e. via “Summer Away”), students must either take a language course at Loyola first OR take the proctored placement exam in the MLL department to confirm their appropriate level. Please encourage students to plan accordingly.
* **Psychology**
	+ PY102 fulfills a social science core for non-PY majors
	+ PY majors still need to take PY101; however, PY102 can count as one of their PY electives in the major
* **Sociology**
	+ New course, SC277: Sociology of Food & Foodscapes (no pre-requisites)
	+ Counts for Global Studies major and Environmental Studies major and minor.
* **Speech Language Hearing Sciences**
	+ SP 103 is a prerequisite for almost every SLHS course except SP 205 (Phonetics) and the electives SP 214 (Sign language) and SP 303 (Sociolinguistics).
	+ Students are required to take 1 BL and 1 Physical Science course; it is strongly recommended they take Human Biology (to meet our requirements at the graduate level) and, if interested in audiology, to take a Bio (for non-science majors) with a lab. For physical science, CH 110 is suggested.