



CATALOG

2014/2015



This catalog reflects the best information available as of June, 2013. All statements concerning fees, financial aid, course offerings, programs of study, admissions criteria and graduation requirements are subject to change without notice or obligation.

Students are advised to inquire within the appropriate office concerning any changes.

Villa Maria College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, marital status, physical or mental disability or any other protected status in its admissions or employment policies, nor in any other aspect relative to the conduct of college programs and activities.

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Mission

Villa Maria College, founded by the Felician Sisters, provides students a rigorous and enriching educational experience. Offering academic programs with a broad core curriculum, the College transforms and empowers students to realize their intellectual, professional, creative and spiritual potential. Inspired by a welcoming Catholic tradition and a dynamic Franciscan spirit, the College offers individual attention and fosters compassion, justice, peace, respect for human dignity and a commitment to service.

Vision

Villa Maria College envisions itself as a flourishing, caring, and innovative institution of higher education that emphasizes the applied and fine arts and music while expanding programs in business, liberal arts, and sciences. By making strategic investments in programs, human resources, facilities, technologies, and community involvement, the College will promote academic excellence and encourage creativity, preparing students for personal and professional success.

History

Villa Maria College was founded by the Congregation of Sisters of St. Felix (Felician Sisters) as a teacher-training center for its sisters in the education apostolate. The congregation, founded by Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska in Poland, is a Franciscan community dedicated to providing education, social service, and health care to the poor and needy. The congregation's mission spread to America and one of the provinces was established in Buffalo, New York. Mother Mary Annette Guzowski, Provincial Superior of the Buffalo province, together with the congregation, founded Villa Maria College in 1961. The College is a member of the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities.

Villa Maria College is a Felician Franciscan Sponsored Ministry.

The College was established as an affiliate of the Catholic University of America. In 1961, a provisional charter was secured from the Board of Regents of the State of New York to grant Associate in Arts (A.A.) and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees to women religious. In 1965, the charter was renewed and extended to include lay women who wished to pursue an associate degree. In 1968, the College was granted an Absolute Charter and was recognized as a co-educational institution. In 1974, the Associate in Science (A.S.) degree was added. In 1972, the College became fully accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Reaffirmation was received in 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1999, 2003 and 2008. In 2005, the Absolute Charter was amended for the College to offer its first baccalaureate degree.

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