

JESUIT EDUCATION AND IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY

A desktop primer



JESUIT EDUCATION

- Dates back to 1534 and is known for academic excellence and innovation.
- Seeks to develop the whole student—intellectually, morally and spiritually.
- Values social and environmental justice, interreligious understanding and service to others, especially the poor and socially marginalized.
- Prepares students for lifelong learning.
- Explores the interface between faith and culture.
- Recognizes that each discipline reveals something of the sacred.
- Pays special attention to values, ethical issues and the development of moral character.
- Is broad-based, comprehensive and rooted in the liberal arts tradition.
- Prepares students for a rapidly changing and diverse society.
- Develops responsible citizens who are sensitive to the needs of our times.
- Maintains an optimistic view of human nature and of its possibilities.
- Fosters an integration of knowledge within and across disciplines.
- Encourages critical, analytical and creative approaches to solving problems.
- Incorporates a global and international dimension for growth and learning.
- Inspires graduates to change society and the world for the better.

JESUIT EDUCATION includes a network of 28 universities and close to 60 high schools in the United States with similar missions and distinctive identities.



IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY

- Embraces the unique qualities in each student.
- Facilitates students' understanding of information in a personally relevant and personally appropriated manner.
- Employs a systematic, sequential and purposeful teaching plan.
- Encourages students to decide what is truly good for themselves and society through a process of discernment.
- Is challenging and rigorous.
- Is interdisciplinary.
- Makes use of novel teaching methods and technologies as they arise.
- Relies on professors to serve as model "women and men for others" both in and out of the classroom.
- Encourages attentiveness, reverence and devotion to reveal truth and wisdom.
- Utilizes clear and specific evaluation methods.
- Encourages student responsibility and independence.
- Emphasizes *eloquentia perfecta*—speaking and writing excellence.
- Views teaching as a vocation and as a service to others.
- Values the five educational principles comprising the Ignatian pedagogical paradigm:

IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY is a teaching model that seeks to develop students of competence and compassion.

Context—understanding student life and culture;

Experience—providing intellectual and affective learning opportunities;

Reflection of meaning for self and others;

Action—the external expression of learned content;

Evaluation of student growth.

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THE GIFTS OF OUR IGNATIAN HERITAGE

MISSION invites us to understand the history and importance of our Jesuit heritage and Ignatian spirituality. Mission focuses on the centrality of academic excellence, grounded in a Catholic faith tradition.

REFLECTION invites us to pause and consider the world around us and our place within it.

DISCERNMENT invites us to be open to God's spirit as we consider our feelings and rational thought in order to make decisions and take actions that will contribute good to our lives and the world around us.

SOLIDARITY and KINSHIP invites us to walk alongside and learn from our companions, both near and far, as we journey through life.

SERVICE ROOTED IN JUSTICE AND LOVE invites us to invest our lives into the wellbeing of our neighbors, particularly those who suffer injustice.

CURA PERSONALIS invites us to care for others recognizing the uniqueness and wholeness of each person.

MAGIS invites us to ask, "Where is the more universal good?" when making difficult decisions; it relates to the Jesuit motto, *For the Greater Glory of God*.

