



All Things Ignatian



Participating in the Jesuit Tradition: The Ratio Studiorum Program



whole person, a person committed to the pursuit of truth and service to others.

From the start, our students engage the Jesuit tradition of education, formally announced in 1599 as “*Ratio atque Institutio Studiorum Societatis Jesu*,” the first organized, universal program for study at the university level.

Building upon this rich Jesuit heritage from the 16th century and applying it to the 21st century, Creighton University introduced the Ratio Studiorum Program (RSP), or “plan of study,” in 2006 as its orientation/advising program for all incoming students. Centered on a one-semester-hour course, RSP introduces freshmen to the culture of collegiate life at Creighton, its Jesuit heritage, its values, curricula, opportunities and challenges – all aimed to produce men and women for others, committed to excellence in every endeavor.

Moreover, our first-year students’ college journey begins by not only encouraging them to grow intellectually, but also to take an introspective look at “**Who Am I?**”



RSP Faculty Preceptors preparing for the fall semester

The value of a Creighton education proceeds from its Catholic and Jesuit identity and mission – to educate the



At the Welcome Week Mass, a first-day tradition, new students ask for God’s blessing on their Creighton journey

RSP is taught by fifty-six Faculty Preceptors gathered from the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business Administration and the School of Nursing. These faculty members likewise serve as freshman advisors throughout that crucial first college year.

Each RSP section reads, discusses and writes about a book chosen by its RSP professor. Normally provoking who-am-I reflections, these books could be serious non-fiction, challenging memoirs, or notable fiction.



RSP Faculty Preceptors also plan out-of-classroom social activities for their class. These include attending a play or a restaurant, a fall outing, or even a home-cooked meal! Students thus have a chance to get away from the formal collegiate setting and to engage one another in an enjoyable, social setting.



Faculty Preceptor Donna Pawlowski and her RSP class

But it doesn’t stop there.

RSP continues into sophomore year, although without the formality of a course. Now second-year students are encouraged to discover their passion. Assisted by a Pre-Major Advisor, our students explore options for their academic major at Creighton as well as their career afterwards. Ideally, such discernment discovers the place where individual talent and desire intersect with the needs of the world.



The Ratio Studiorum Program introduces freshmen to a Creighton education and its transformative call, all stirred by the Ignatian spirit, *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*.

For more information, visit www.creighton.edu/ratiostudiorum

Sponsored by the Creighton University Jesuit Community, in association with the Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality.