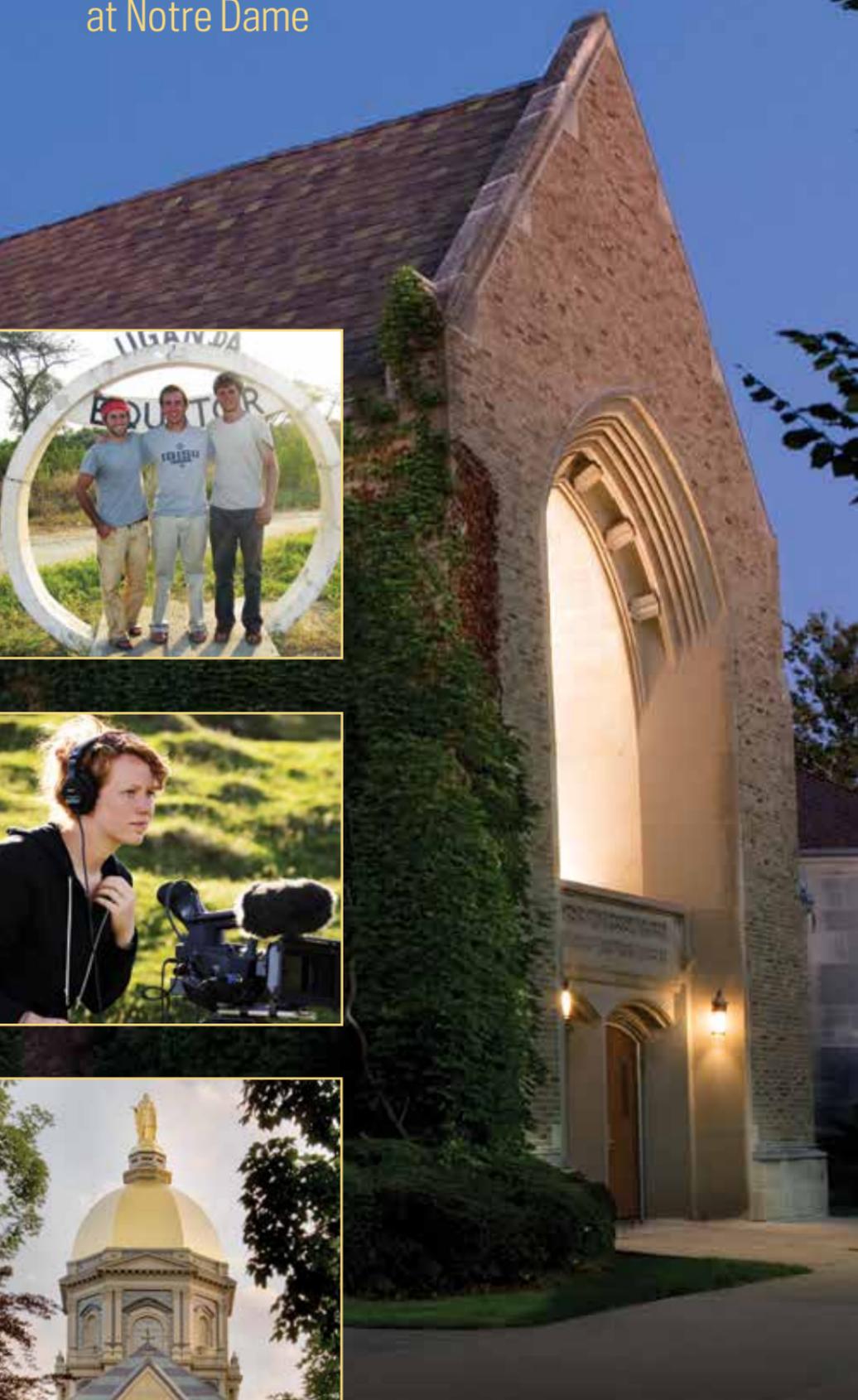
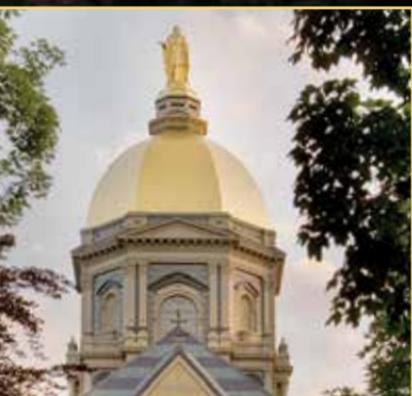
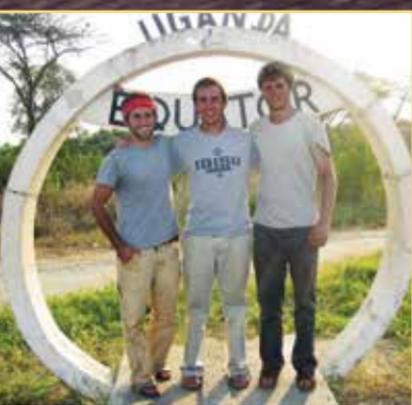


Inside the College of Arts and Letters

pursuing the liberal arts
at Notre Dame



An Invitation From the Dean

When I meet with students (and their parents), I always share what I consider the most important piece of advice you can offer a new college student: study what you love.

College is short; life is long. If you make the most of your time in college, you will be better prepared to start the rest of your life.

At Notre Dame, the First Year of Studies is designed to introduce you to college life and help you discern which path to take in your education. And the College of Arts and Letters is proud to play an important role in this process. It is the place where you will begin to delve into philosophy, theology, literature, history, the arts, and the social sciences as part of your University requirements.



It is also *the* place where you can deepen your liberal arts education with a major, minor, and elective courses in a wide range of disciplines—from international economics (our newest major) to languages, politics, film, and the classics.

No matter which course of study you select, the classes you take in Arts and Letters will help you acquire practical skills, such as research, data analysis, creative problem solving, persuasive writing, and public speaking.

Our unique combination of academic rigor and skills development will prepare you for continued success after graduation, whether you go straight into the working world (as 42% of the Arts and Letters Class of 2011 did), enroll in graduate or professional school (31%), engage in service programs or independent projects (21%), or join the military (4%). Yes, these numbers mean only two percent of Arts and Letters graduates were still looking for work six months after graduating, despite the tough economy.

As an alumnus of the College of Arts and Letters Class of 1986, I know firsthand how the opportunities for our students and graduates have expanded over the past 25 years. The trick is to take advantage of them.

As a dean, I'll offer some last advice: Pursue every opportunity you can and start thinking now about how to make the most of your time at Notre Dame. I know that with planning and preparation on your part, you will achieve your highest aspirations.

Sincerely,

John T. McGreevy, I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean
College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame



The Arts and Letters Experience

how to make the most of your college years



1 Take advantage of your professors.

As advisers, faculty can do more than help you decide which classes to take next. They can suggest research, cultural events, service projects, and internships that match your academic strengths and interests. They are also a great source of advice on how to get into the best graduate and professional schools. And they want to help. So go visit them during their office hours. Talk to them. Regularly.

2 Learn to navigate the world.

One mark of a cosmopolitan citizen is the ability to understand other cultures and to read and speak at least one other language—a skill of increasing value in today's global economy. Through Arts and Letters' many language and literature programs, you will be able to develop both your fluency and your cultural competency. To complement these courses—and the University's study abroad programs—the College's Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures also offers language practice groups, cultural events, and funding for immersion experiences through the Summer Language Abroad program.



3 Spend your summers wisely.

Internships and career-related summer jobs are increasingly important when applying for post-graduate positions. They also give you the chance to apply your education in a variety of professional contexts. In the process, you will gain valuable work experience and a better perspective on the types of jobs you may want to pursue—or not.

The Career Center staff can help you with resources, including career and internship fairs and financial assistance through the Arts and Letters Summer Internship Program.

4 Do independent research.

Housed in the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, the College's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program provides financial and logistical support to students who want to pursue independent research with the one-on-one mentorship of a professor. In the last few years, for example, students filmed a documentary in the Great Lakes wetlands, analyzed gender dynamics in the Middle East, and explored cathedrals in Europe to unravel the mystery of the labyrinth.



The faculty and staff in the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement can also assist you both with research projects and with applications to post-graduation fellowships and scholarships such as the Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, and Truman.

5 Employ The Career Center.

Investigating possible careers and preparing for that first job takes more time than you might think, from self-assessments and industry research to resume writing, practice interviews, and career-event networking. The Career Center's expert staff has made it their career to help you with yours and have many excellent ideas, resources, and referrals to share.

The Senior Thesis

More than a third of Arts and Letters students do a senior thesis, working one-on-one with a faculty mentor on a yearlong research or creative project.

Recent projects include a collection of short stories exploring the relationship between obsession and the hyperconnectivity of the modern world, a look at the Tunisian-Libyan border as a case study of refugee crisis, and a comparative analysis of productivity growth in Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Tracy Jennings '10

classics major

Tracy Jennings, a Glynn Family Honors scholar, conducted research in Italy, Greece, and England for a thesis examining the five acts of deification that occurred under the emperor Hadrian. She was awarded a Clarendon Scholarship to the University of Oxford in fall 2012.



"The attention and guidance provided by my professors and advisers over the years has been truly remarkable. There is such talent in the faculty at Notre Dame, yet they are still very much involved in mentoring and supporting undergraduates."

"They always went beyond expectation in providing feedback and advice. Reflecting on my four years at Notre Dame, I know that I would not be where I am today without their guidance: at Oxford on scholarship studying for a master's degree in Roman history."

Joseph VanderZee '12

history major

A student in the Glynn Family Honors Program and participant in the International Scholars Program at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Joseph traveled to two continents to research his thesis on Catholic missionaries in colonial Peru.

"My fellowships gave me the chance to become intimately familiar with various historical archives in Lima and Rome. This is a huge advantage because archival work is critical to historical scholarship and graduate study."

al.nd.edu/senior-thesis



Summers Well Spent

Internships help you decide which careers to pursue. Students from Arts and Letters recently worked at the following organizations:

- Target
- Marathon Petroleum
- Boston Consulting Group
- British Parliament
- U.S. Senate
- Navajo Nation's St. Michael Indian School
- U.S. Social Security Administration
- Washington National Opera
- Meet the Press
- Steppenwolf Theatre Company
- NBC Universal
- MTV
- National Geographic
- CNN
- NFL Films
- Smithsonian Institution
- Goldman Sachs
- Nielsen Company
- The Learning Channel/Discovery Network
- National Baseball Hall of Fame
- RFK Center for Justice and Human Rights

Carole Wurzelbacher, World Association of Newspapers, Paris

"I had an internship as a blogger, and it put me in a position where I had to stick to intense deadlines and fulfill daily quotas for the number of articles I wrote. Having an internship abroad was liberating because it forced me to acclimate to a different cultural and work environment while simultaneously working hard to do my best at my job. In comparison, starting a job in the United States doesn't seem so intimidating."

Christopher Gleason, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Washington, D.C.

"What I found was that having an internship was a great way to network and build relationships with a different group of people in a different city—and was as useful for helping me know what I did not want to do as for directing me toward what I actually would like to pursue as a career."

Marie Wicht, VH-1, American Pavilion at the Cannes Film Festival, Global Telemedia, New York Mets' video production division

"My internships were the perfect complement to my coursework in Film, Television, and Theatre. They filled in the parts of my education that I could not learn without hands-on experience, while my in-class instruction taught me the production skills necessary to be a valuable member of my internship teams."

al.nd.edu/internships

Map Your Own Way Through College

The choices are yours—explore the possibilities at al.nd.edu.

The First Year

1 Dig deeper into the subjects you already know you love.



2 Challenge yourself to try something completely different.



And no, it's not too soon to start thinking about life after graduation: Go to careercenter.nd.edu.

Sophomore Year

1 Pick the most interesting major you can—it will keep you inspired.



2 Do more than is required—inside and outside the classroom.



Want to study abroad? Go to international.nd.edu.

Want a Summer Language Abroad grant? Apply at cslc.nd.edu.

Junior Year

1 Take that extra elective just because.

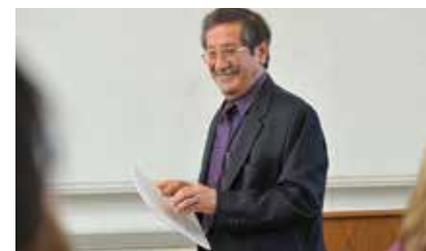


2 Consider a senior thesis project.

To get help planning and funding an independent research project, check out the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program at urop.nd.edu.

Want an internship?

Talk to your department adviser and consult The Career Center's database.



Senior Year

1 Double check that you've fulfilled all your University and College requirements.

Considering graduate school? Make sure you're taking all the right courses to create a strong application.



2 Make room to slip in that one, last, enticing elective.

Interested in applying for post-graduation fellowships?

Go to cuse.nd.edu.

Looking to work in business or a nonprofit after graduation?

Talk—more—with advisers in your major and at The Career Center.

And finally, get ready to be welcomed into the famed Notre Dame alumni network.



Elizabeth Davis '12

at ND:
Program of Liberal Studies

now:
paid intern, global
sustainability marketing,
Coca-Cola Company

Elizabeth Davis was one of just 60 students nationwide named a 2011 Truman Scholar.

She credits her award—which includes \$30,000 in graduate funding, priority admission at select institutions, leadership training, and internships—to her education in Arts and Letters. “Before deciding on my major, I read that a liberal-arts education builds the foundation for lifelong learning,” she says. “After graduating, I found this to be completely true. It provided me a curiosity for the world and a thirst for knowledge that I had not known existed.”

Davis in particular remembers the intellectual community she found with fellow students and faculty. “I read and discussed some of the greatest literature of all time in extremely small classes, and professors encouraged multi-

faceted questions, which generated diverse discussion in and out of the classroom.”

She was also encouraged to do a senior thesis that fit her long-term aspirations.

“Instead of a philosophic dissertation, I wrote on agricultural and environmental sustainability. I interviewed executives in the public and private sector who enabled me to clarify my thesis—and to focus on what I wanted to do after graduation.”

Ryan Lash’s involvement in research began after his first year at Notre Dame, in the Cultural Landscapes of the Irish Coast project.

He then did fieldwork at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado and traveled in England and Ireland to study the link between medieval castle architecture and elite identity formation. He spent his junior year at New College in Oxford studying medieval history, literature, and archaeology. After graduation, he returned to Ireland to do research at Bective Abbey.

“I admit that medieval studies can’t help humanity in the same way that medical or scientific research might,” he says, “but my work will, I hope, contribute by allowing us to better appreciate the challenges, complexities, and consequences of public representations of the past.”

“When we become aware that representations of history are often implicated in substantiating culturally constructed narratives, we become more critical consumers of the value-laden representations we’re exposed to—from high school textbooks to historic heritage sites.”

His senior year in Arts and Letters, Lash was awarded a Gates scholarship, which he used upon graduation to enroll in a master’s program at the University of Cambridge.



Ryan Lash '10

at ND:
medieval studies,
anthropology

now:
graduate student,
Northwestern University

Why Do I Teach?

a student-centered approach

“Most of the famous quotes about the art of teaching leave me cold, except for one. Gandhi summed up in one eloquent sentence the teaching philosophy I’ve spent years trying to enact: ‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow; learn as if you were to live forever.’

“If we imagine ourselves learning forever, the tensions between storied traditions and cutting edges begin to soften. Yes, one

could say my commitment to teaching is solidly within the tradition of old Notre Dame, but my students and I grapple with questions concerning the future of learning when total information access is allegedly only a few keystrokes away. How does that access change our notions of self and other? How has it changed what we think of globality? How does it change our understanding of who is a cultural authority?

“Those questions may be at the cutting edge of the ‘new humanities,’ but I’m convinced we can answer them effectively only by engaging in rigorous intellectual conversations with our students.”

—**Professor Jim Collins**, Department of Film, Television, and Theatre; 2010 Sheedy winner



The College’s highest teaching honor, the Sheedy Excellence in Teaching Award is decided in part by student nominations and recognizes a faculty member who motivates and enriches students using innovative and creative teaching methods.

“When I say I teach, inevitably people ask, ‘What do you teach?’ I always say, ‘It’s not what, it’s *who*. I teach students.’

I suppose I am being deliberately playful or difficult, and eventually I admit the subject I teach is history—but I am trying to make a point answering this way. History is in a sense the language I speak, but I am speaking to and with students.

“I believe the capacity to be curious about a wide array of subjects has helped me to be curious about the different students I have encountered, to be open to them, to be interested in them. I have also found ways to mix preparation and curiosity so as to draw students into my world, my subject, my interests.”

—**Professor Thomas F.X. Noble**, Department of History, 2011 Sheedy winner



Arts and Letters Alumni on navigating career paths



Bob Arnot '70

at ND: pre-professional studies

now: medical doctor, author, T.V. host

"The liberal arts program prepares you for a lifetime of learning. And learn everything you can because eventually you will use it."

"My degree was the best imaginable base. It has allowed me to integrate medicine into broadcasting, publishing, human rights, and humanitarian aid."

Kathleen Blatz '76

at ND: sociology

now: retired Minnesota Supreme Court chief justice

"I don't have one class that helped me in my career; there were many wonderful classes that helped me become who I am as a person."

"You don't go to college to learn a skill; you're going to learn to think differently and broadly, to appreciate that the world is a lot more complicated and diverse than your silo of life experience. I think you have better, more sound judgment if you can appreciate the breadth and depth of life. The beauty and value of Arts and Letters is that it's intentional. It embraces the breadth that is very much about being a judge.

"Arts and Letters helps support the universal, broad-based thinking that I think we need in this world. I think it helps us be better citizens."



Dan Hesse '75

at ND: government and international studies

now: chief executive officer, Sprint Nextel Corp.

"The Bell System conducted a multi-decade longitudinal research study years ago that correlated management career success with undergraduate major."

"The study found that liberal arts undergraduates were the most successful."

"The ability to communicate effectively is critical to business success. What got me recognized when I began my career was my ability to write. I began writing my boss's letters, and before long, I was asked to write letters for my boss's boss and later even for his boss. Liberal arts majors tend to be good critical thinkers who can deal with ambiguity—the absence of 'right' and 'wrong' answers—which is more akin to how the real world works."

Nancy Ruscheinski '84

at ND: American studies

now: chief innovation officer and global vice chair, Edelman

"My journey at Edelman has involved plenty of change and adaptability along the way."

"I've had to master a wide range of subjects and quickly consume and synthesize vast amounts of information. But the type of education I received at Notre Dame—that liberal arts sensibility—prepared me beautifully and offered an ideal training ground.

"It's about the knowledge you've gained. Skills aren't power; knowledge is power—knowledge of people, history and culture, philosophies and systems, and knowledge about the interconnectedness of the world."



Bill Kennedy '90

at ND: economics

now: portfolio manager, Fidelity Investments, London

"My career grew right out of my Arts and Letters degree; I became fascinated with things that are now relevant to my career and what I do every day. What got me interested in investing was learning the history of the places where I wanted to invest."

"I spend time talking, researching, and going to untraditional sources because you need to get an edge. You have to look at a company differently than the thousands of other competitors. You have to have an inquisitive nature and be able to look beyond what common consensus will tell you and question what is widely accepted.

"Investment is conceptual; it's about things you learn with rigorous research, and that's the research you're learning to do in your classes. Talking to people, reading a lot, looking at what happened in history, that's what I do all the time."



Jack Blakey '88

at ND: communications and theatre, '92 law

now: Special Prosecutions Bureau chief, Cook County (Chicago) State's Attorney's Office

"My liberal arts education was grounded in ethics and Christian compassion—and I think that's important. I don't know that you can do that everywhere else. It certainly informed my decision to go into public service."

"Some people think it's such a difference, going from theatre to the legal world, but it seems like a seamless transition. Arguing in front of a jury or judge, whether it's a legal principle or disputed facts, you have to have the power of language and understand the power of strong narrative: What are the issues? What is the story? How do you communicate that intellectually, with emotional content and a sense of history? It's a love of language, really."

Select Your Major

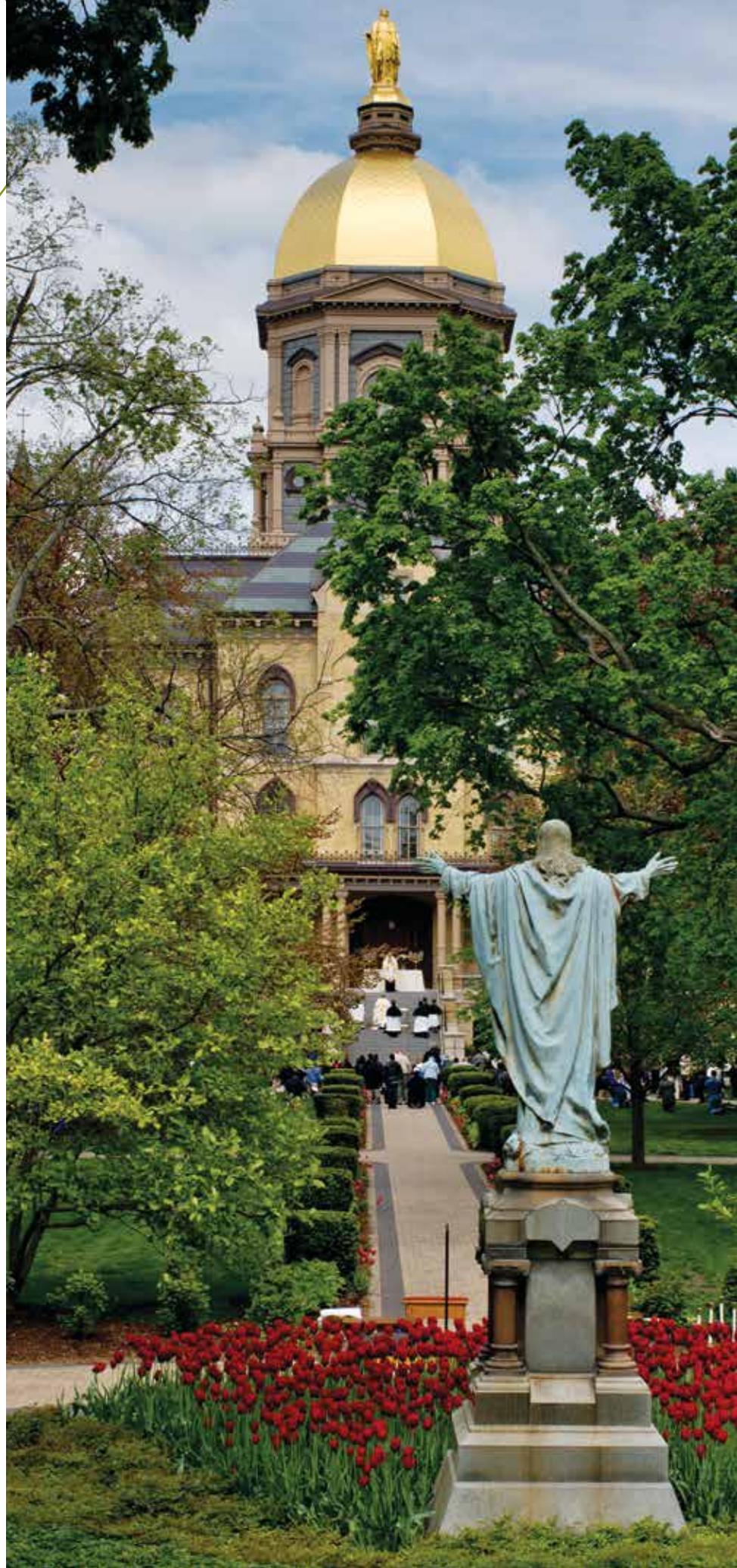
- Africana Studies
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Arabic Studies
- Art History
- Chinese
- Classics
- Design
- Economics
- English
- Film, Television, and Theatre
- French and Francophone Studies
- German
- Greek and Roman Civilization
- History
- Irish Language and Literature
- International Economics
- Italian Studies
- Japanese
- Mathematics
- Medieval Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Philosophy and Theology
- Political Science
- Program of Liberal Studies
- Psychology
- Romance Languages and Literatures
- Russian
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Studio Art
- Theology

al.nd.edu/select-majors

Consider the Possibilities

- account executive, AT&T Mobility
- actuarial analyst, Mercer
- actuarial assistant, Geico Insurance
- analyst, JP Morgan Chase
- assistant, NBC News
- assistant to marketing vice president, Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
- audit associate, Ernst & Young
- business analyst, Capital One
- business analyst, McKinsey & Company
- corporate communications, Burson-Marsteller
- events coordinator, Chicago History Museum
- financial representative, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
- fixed-income sales assistant, Credit Suisse
- fixed-income analyst, Federated Investors
- human resources, Intel
- implementation services, Epic Systems
- information management leadership, General Electric
- intelligence analyst, U.S. Department of Defense
- investment banker, PNC Capital Markets
- investment-banking analyst, Merrill Lynch
- leadership analyst, Central Intelligence Agency
- marketing associate, General Mills
- market planner, Groupon
- media relations coordinator, Detroit Tigers
- paralegal, U.S. Department of Justice
- publicity assistant, Penguin Books
- program analyst, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- research analyst, Federal Reserve Board
- research assistant, American Enterprise Institute
- risk management consultant, Bank of America
- sales leadership development, Johnson & Johnson
- sales specialist, IBM
- sales representative, E&J Gallo
- sports sales assistant, Turner Broadcasting
- staff member, Facebook
- system integration analyst, Accenture
- tax consultant, Deloitte

Excerpted from a Class of 2010 career survey taken six months after graduation.





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