General Information: Core courses are labeled “Core” in the course listings and as “L” on the UIS course registration screen. A listing of core courses in each area may be found on the Core webpage at https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/undergraduate/core-curriculum/core-requirements.html (although not all courses are offered each semester). Do not assume that a course is a core! If the course is not listed on your degree audit under the related core requirement, then it is not a core course; check this on your degree audit after you register each semester.

Specific requirements for CSON:

Writing: One core course. These courses are restricted to freshmen. Some CSON freshmen are unable to fit writing in because they take PULSE, Perspectives or other courses. If you are unable to register online for writing as a sophomore (or later), go to the English department office after you have registered for your other courses.

Literature: One core course. Most are listed under English (ENGL), but there are others in Classics (CLAS), German Studies (GERM), Romance Languages and Literatures (FREN, ITAL, RLRL, SPAN), and Slavic and Eastern Languages (EALC, LING, NELC, SLAV).

Fine Arts (ARTH), Music (MUSA, MUSP), Theater (THTR), Studio Art (ARTS): One core course.

History (HIST) – 2 core courses. You must take a history 1 and a history 2. You may take history 2 BEFORE history 1, and the courses do not have to be from the same sequence. Note that there are many different topic areas in the history core, and students are encouraged to read the course descriptions and choose a topic of interest. Please note that for instance America and the World I & II is only available to first-year students.

Philosophy (PHIL) – 2 core courses. You must take a philosophy 1 and a philosophy 2. Course offerings include PULSE and Perspectives, which requires you to take the Theology and Philosophy together with sections 1 in the Fall and sections 2 in the Spring. Please note that Philosophy of the Person I must be taken before Philosophy of the Person II. Note this is a change within the past academic year.

Theology (THEO) – 2 core courses. You must take a theology 1 and a theology 2. With the exception of Biblical Heritage I and II (where II may be taken before I), the Theology department requires that the 2 courses be from the same sequence and that they be taken in order. Students are encouraged to address theology core requirement early in the program because clinical scheduling in the junior and senior years can conflict with theology course times.

Social Sciences- 1 core courses from Economics (ECON), Nursing (NURS1210, Public Health), Political Science (POLI), Psychology (PSYC), Psychology in Education (APSY), or Sociology (SOCY)

Mathematics: CSON students fulfill the math core by taking MATH1180 (statistics). Students who for one reason or another do not complete MATH1180 must complete a course that meets core requirements elsewhere in the university (e.g. calculus, finite probability) in addition to another statistics course (for instance a one-semester statistics course in psychology, sociology, economics, business, or biostatistics). In some cases (for instance transfer students who have been awarded math core credit for a calculus course), a statistics course outside a mathematics department can substitute for MATH1180 with the approval of the CSON undergraduate associate dean.
Natural science- CSON students fulfill the natural science requirement with their freshman science courses.

Cultural diversity- CSON students fulfill the cultural diversity requirement with their upper level nursing courses.