



ST FRANCIS COLLEGE

MIDDLE STATES SELF-STUDY
2025-2027

Middle States Re-Accreditation Self-Study Preparation Visit (SSPV) – Fri. May 30, 2025

What is the Self-Study Preparation Visit?

- The Self-Study Preparation Visit (SSPV) is a component of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Re-accreditation process.

What is Middle States?

- The **Middle States Commission on Higher Education** is one of six regional institutional accreditors recognized by the United States Department of Education. It assures students and the public of the educational quality of its over 500 institutions. MSCHE's accreditation ensures institutional accountability, self-appraisal, improvement, and innovation through peer review and the rigorous application of standards.

Why is St. Francis College undergoing a Middle States Self-Study?

- Middle States mandates that its member institutions demonstrate that they meet seven rigorous standards in an Accreditation Review Cycle, which occurs every 8 years. A Self-Study is an in-depth, comprehensive, and reflective assessment process to identify institutional priorities as well as opportunities for improvement and innovation. A successful Self-Study results in reaffirmation of an institution's accreditation.

What is St. Francis College doing to prepare for its Self-Study?

- Middle States will conduct its Self-Study Site Visit to St. Francis College in the Spring of 2027.
- On February 13, 2025, in preparation for the Self-Study Site Visit, St. Francis College submitted a Self-Study Design (SSD), which is a 30-page document laying the roadmap for the assessment plan and data-collection that will be required for the Self-Study Report and the Site Visit.
- Following the submission of the SSD, Middle States sends a liaison to help prepare St. Francis College for its 2027 Site Visit.
- The visit from the liaison is called the Self-Study Preparation Visit (SSPV) and will occur on May 30, 2025.

What does the Self-Study Preparation Visit (SSPV) on May 30, 2025 entail?

- This SSPV visit will be conducted by the Middle States Vice President liaison, Dr. Terence Peavy, to help prepare St. Francis College conduct a successful Self-Study Site Visit.
- During the Preparation Visit, the Liaison will:
 - Review SFC's plan to prepare for the Self-Study Site Visit.
 - Learn about the current status of the institution

- Discuss the priorities identified by the institution and find the most appropriate means of addressing them through the self-study process.
- Acquaint those who will have crucial roles in the Self-Study with the Commission's expectations and available resources.
- Discuss and offer feedback on the institution's draft Self-Study Design; and
- Otherwise assist with the institution's preparations for self-study and peer review.

Middle States 7 Standards for Accreditation include:

- **Standard 1:** Mission and Goals
- **Standard 2:** Ethics and Integrity
- **Standard 3:** Design and delivery of the student learning experience
- **Standard 4:** Support of the student experience
- **Standard 5:** Educational effectiveness assessment
- **Standard 6:** Planning, resources and institutional improvement
- **Standard 7:** Governance, leadership and administration

What does a Self-Study process entail?

- Providing MSCHE with evidence of documented compliance with the Commission's seven standards, its policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements.
- A Self-Study report
- A MSCHE Self-Study Site Visit
- It involves the entire SFC community, with members of staff, students, faculty, and administration taking part in its preparation by serving on committees, collecting data, or participating in the visit.

Self-Study Timetable Critical Dates

- **March 26, 2025**, is the Campus-wide Self-Study Kick Off / Launch
- **May 30, 2025**, is the **SSPV** Visit from the MSCHE Liaison

What have we done so far?

- SFC Administrators and Faculty attended the 7-week Self-Study Institute (SSI)
- Steering Committee Members attended the Annual Middle States Conference
- Identified and refining Institutional Priorities
- Steering Committee and 7 Working Groups created: one for each Standard (approximately 70 members inclusive of faculty, staff, students, & administration)
- New Faculty Assessment of Student Learning Software model implemented
- CAFE Faculty Newsletter announcements
- Submitted the Self-Study Design on Feb 13, 2025
- Dedicated presence on Website for Self-Study – updates for college wide internal and external communities
- Self-Study Logos designed
- Created an Evidence Repository for document & data collection
- Faculty Assemblies (Fall 24 & Spring 25) presentations on Self Study
- President's Cabinet Agenda Item (Fall 24 – present)
- Board of Trustees Agenda Item (Fall 24 – present)