THIS HOPE WE HAVE AS AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL, A HOPE BOTH SURE AND STEADFAST AND ONE WHICH ENTERS WITHIN THE VEIL, WHERE JESUS HAS ENTERED AS A FORERUNNER FOR US...

HEBREWS 6:19-20
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This hope we have as an ANCHOR of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us...

Hebrews 6:19-20
“Remember who you are.” It seemed like every time I was walking out the door in high school, whether to baseball practice, a school event, a youth group overnighter or just to run an errand, my Dad would fire that one at me. As a teen, I took it to mean, “Don’t mess up... protect our family name.”

As a husband, father, entrepreneur and ministry leader who now has many more years walking as a Christ-follower, I find that pointed comment to be very profound. We live from identity, whether we intend to or not. All of our “doing” flows from our “being.”

Our identity begins with our eternal citizenship. When you know who you are... or Whose you are... decisions become clearer. Priorities take shape.

Anchor Christian University is simply an extension of our call as a leadership team to align with what the Lord is doing to reproduce effective ministry leaders on the front lines of ministry across the globe. One of the big challenges to global education is meeting every student where they are, linguistically, economically and geographically. We’ve worked hard to partner with committed people and organizations that are called to the same mission... and we’ve developed an educational model with necessary tools to do just that.

Why does that matter to you? Because we are ready and able to help you discover your God-designed purpose, develop your skill and accelerate you on the path God built you to walk. Our purpose is to amplify yours, to the glory of God. It’s what we exist to do. Let us join your journey!

Anchored in Christ,
Ben Wilhite, President
GENERAL INFORMATION

PURPOSE
Anchor Christian University aims to amplify the reproducing mission of the local church worldwide through faith-infused biblical training and education.

VISION
The vision of Anchor Christian University is to return biblical higher education to the front lines of ministry and leadership through a distance education model, producing graduates who are biblically grounded, faith-driven, relevantly experienced, and highly competent Kingdom citizens.

MISSION
The mission of Anchor Christian University is to deliver challenging, effective, and practical biblical and professional education to students within the frontline contexts to which they are called.

Anchor Christian University is a private, independent university dedicated to building a sustainable model for modern ministry preparation that intentionally involves the local church and other faith-based organizations in the process of growing next generation Christian leaders. As a global learning community, the university is marked by a rigorous integrated learning approach that leads to intellectual, spiritual, and professional skill development.

LOCATION
Anchor Christian University is headquartered in Boca Raton, FL. We are committed to a sustainable economic model for our students focused on learning on the front lines of life and ministry, rather than in a traditional classroom. This approach is best served by a distance learning model that brings education into the student’s world rather than removing the student to a campus distant from their context.

STATE AUTHORIZATION
Anchor Christian University grants degrees under the authority of the Florida State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities in compliance with Section 1005.06(1)(f), Florida Statutes.

While ACU strives to build articulation agreements and strategic partnerships with other post-secondary degree-granting institutions, there is no guarantee academic credit will transfer to degree programs elsewhere, outside of existing agreements.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT
Anchor Christian University does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability.

STATEMENT OF FAITH
We believe the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. Therefore, it is absolutely true and the final authority for what we believe and how we live our lives.

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, each having the same nature, attributes, and perfections, as revealed in the Bible.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He was eternally begotten of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. We believe that Jesus Christ died for the sins of the whole world as the substitutionary sacrifice, that His crucified body was raised from the dead, and that He
ascended into heaven to appear before the Father as our High Priest, Advocate, and Mediator.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, proceeding from the Father and the Son, and equal in deity. The Holy Spirit carries out the ministries of restraining evil in the world; convicting people of sin, righteousness, and judgment; regenerating and indwelling all believers; baptizing them into the Body of Christ; sealing them unto the day of redemption; and empowering them for sanctification and service.

We believe God created humanity, male and female, reflecting the image and likeness of God. Each person’s biological sex has been sovereignly appointed by God and is an irreversible aspect of his or her nature. God has established and revealed in Scripture a divine order to regulate humanity. Human institutions reflecting that order are marriage of a man and a woman, family, and human government. Marriage is a union ordained by God between one man and one woman, and is thus the only biblically sanctioned context for sexual expression.

We believe that Adam, the first human, sinned and thereby incurred the judgment of both physical death and spiritual death which is eternal separation from God. Therefore, all human beings, with the exception of Christ Jesus, are born with a fallen nature, are accountable for their sin, and need to be born again.

We believe that sinners are justified by faith alone, forgiven, reconciled to God, kept by Him, and granted eternal life as a gift of His grace, which they receive by faith alone in the crucified and risen Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe that all who trust Him are born of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God.

We believe that God not only counts believers as righteous but that he makes them righteous; freeing them of sin’s dominion at conversion, purifying their hearts by faith, perfecting them in love by his Spirit, and providing for their growth in grace through their participation at every stage of their spiritual life, enabling them through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to live a victorious life of righteousness and purpose.

We believe the Church universal began at Pentecost with the baptism of the Holy Spirit and consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is the Head of the Church, called His Body. The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together under scriptural leadership for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, for fellowship, for the proclamation of the Gospel, and for observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

We believe that Jesus Christ will return to the earth personally and physically to receive His people into His presence, to bring judgment on an unbelieving world, and to establish His sovereign rule of righteousness and peace over the earth. We believe His coming could occur at any time. We believe that both believers and unbelievers will be raised from the dead bodily, believers to conscious eternal blessedness in God’s presence and unbelievers to conscious eternal punishment and separation from Him.
Anchor Christian University prepares graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to function as educated individuals, responsible citizens, and lifelong learners who communicate Biblical truth and lead from that foundation with character and competence.

**DEGREE OUTCOMES**

Students who complete an undergraduate degree that includes the following course blocks will be able to accomplish the following objectives:

**Biblical Studies Objectives**

1. Demonstrate core skills to engage and interpret the Bible accurately as the foundational source of truth for life and leadership.
2. Understand the overarching themes of the Bible, its various literary types and the redemptive story it tells.
3. Acquire a general knowledge and basic understanding of theology based upon the exegesis of biblical texts.
4. Develop a philosophy and strategy of godly living that will guide him or her for a lifetime.

**General Studies Objectives**

1. Acquire knowledge and analytical skills to engage a variety of perspectives and experiences from a biblical worldview.
2. Assess and weigh moral and cultural beliefs and practices and their applications to ethical dilemmas.
3. Systematically question and analyze problems, issues and beliefs.
4. Venture beyond established patterns of thought in imaginative and creative ways.

5. Exchange information and ideas through writing, speech, and visual and digital media.
6. Locate, evaluate, cite, and effectively use information.
7. Apply mathematical, statistical, and symbolic reasoning to complex problems and decision making.
8. Develop attitudes and skills for a physically healthy lifestyle.

**Professional Studies Objectives**

1. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
2. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
3. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
4. Understand structural models for governance of non-profit organizations and how they shape and empower practical ministry.
5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of financial stewardship, including basic budgetary principles and procedures for non-profit organizations.
6. Apply a working knowledge of legal issues and loss control strategies to the delivery of ministry organizations and their programming.
7. Establish a Biblical foundational philosophy for ministry and develop basic skills and competencies for effective ministry in their chosen field.
8. Understand modern culture and its impact on the worldview of those one is ministering to.
9. Establish a comprehensive strategy for effective organizational communication in ministry.
10. Effectively equip others to influence their world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
DEGREE & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

ACU offers associate, bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Bible, ministry and leadership to equip students for the life and ministry that fits their unique God-designed gifts, abilities, calling and context. The following pages describe the purpose and requirements for each degree.

Associate of Science (A.S.)
- Biblical Studies
- Biblical Leadership

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
- Camping Ministry
- Intercultural Ministry
- Urban Ministry
- Youth Ministry

Master of Arts (M.A.)
- Biblical Studies
- Christian Leadership

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS
- Biblical Foundations
- Ministry Leadership
- Applied Ministry
BIBLICAL STUDIES (A.S.)
Build a strong foundation in the Word of God with a 30-credit Bible and Theology core and a slate of elective courses that allow some personalization for cross-applying that foundation in a variety of subjects and disciplines. This program is designed to stand alone or to serve as a launch point into one of the bachelor’s degree programs. **60 credits.**

**PROGRAM GOALS**
Upon completion of this program, students will effectively engage and apply the Word of God in their personal and professional life as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate core skills to engage and interpret the Bible accurately as the foundational source of truth for life and leadership.
2. Understand the overarching themes of the Bible, its various literary types, and the redemptive story it tells.
3. Acquire a general knowledge and basic understanding of theology based upon the exegesis of biblical texts.
4. Develop a philosophy and strategy of godly living that will guide them for a lifetime.
5. Acquire knowledge and analytical skills to engage a variety of perspectives and experiences from a biblical worldview.
6. Assess and weigh moral and cultural beliefs and practices and their applications to ethical dilemmas.
7. Systematically question and analyze problems, issues, and beliefs.
**COURSES OF STUDY**

**Bible & Theology Core (30 credits)**
- Principles of Bible Study
- Old Testament Survey
- New Testament Survey
- Foundations for Christian Living
- Theology Survey
- Bible/Theology Electives

**Arts & Sciences Core (15 credits)**
- Foundations of Worldviews
- World Religions
- Fundamentals of Written Communication
- Arts & Sciences Electives

**Free Electives (15 credits)**
Choose courses from the course catalog that broaden and/or focus your study around personal areas of interest.

**GAP YEAR**
Get started with your degree while orienting your personal life path in a focused environment with solid coaching and community. We partner with amazing programs like...

- The Launch Initiative (PA)
- The Quest (MI)
- STAND (PA)

**THE NUMBERS**
For most students, gap year experiences have an impact on their choice of academic major and career – either setting them on a different path than before a gap year or confirming their direction.

- The GAP Year Association

TLI is not only growing me educationally, but also preparing me for college and widening my abilities in practical life skills. TLI is helping me to take the next step in pursuing my passion.

EMMA - THE LAUNCH INITIATIVE (PA)
BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP (A.S.)

Leadership is facilitating God-designed growth in the people and organizations in our sphere of influence. The Christian Leadership (A.S.) program is designed to lay the foundation for a lifetime of effective biblical leadership in the personal and professional life of the student. The program combines Bible and theology courses, core general education skills, leadership foundations, and professional ministry courses that apply well to any personal or professional calling. The blend of courses is intentionally constructed to mesh well with one or more extended internship or GAP year experiences, which allows students to take advantage of ACU’s unique experience-based educational approach. **60 credits.**

**PROGRAM GOALS**

Upon completion of this program, students will minister effectively within a Christian leadership environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate core skills to engage and interpret the Bible accurately as the foundational source of truth for life and leadership.
2. Understand the overarching themes of the Bible, its various literary types, and the redemptive story it tells.
3. Acquire a general knowledge and basic understanding of theology based upon the exegesis of biblical texts.
4. Develop a philosophy and strategy of godly living that will guide them for a lifetime.
5. Acquire knowledge and analytical skills to engage a variety of perspectives and experiences from a biblical worldview.
6. Assess and weigh moral and cultural beliefs and practices and their applications to ethical dilemmas.
7. Systematically question and analyze problems, issues, and beliefs.
8. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
9. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
10. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing, and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
11. Effectively use impact ministry environments and dynamics as tools for introducing others to a growing, intimate relationship with their God.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies (15 credits)
- Principles of Bible Study
- Foundations for Christian Living
- Old Testament Survey
- New Testament Survey
- Bible/Theology Elective

Arts & Sciences (15 credits)

Ministry Leadership Foundations (12 credits)

Professional Ministry Core (18 credits)
- Dynamics of Discipleship
- Introduction to Impact Ministry Leadership
- Principles of Ministry Strategy
- Developing Dynamic Teams
- Organizational Communication
- Professional Ministry Elective

INTERNSHIPS

We have worked with several amazing organizations like...

Breathe Partners
Coatesville, PA (Haiti, Philadelphia)
breathepartners.com

Arrowhead Camp
Brackney, PA
shepherdscamp.org

The Springs Ministries
Gladwin, MI
thespringscamp.com

Lifeline Ministries
Elkhart, IN
elkhartlifeline.com
BIBLICAL STUDIES (B.S.)
The Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. Therefore, it is absolutely true and the final authority for what we believe and how we live our lives. The Biblical Studies program is designed to lay a strong biblical foundation on which a customized program can be built. Whether students are preparing for a unique ministry or professional environment or transferring in a stack of credits from a previous institution, the program’s Free Elective block (50 credits) and flexible Arts & Sciences core ensure the opportunity for a bespoke pathway to completion while ensuring an array of opportunities to build and apply strong biblical formation and application skills. This program is also easily paired with personalized strategies for accelerated graduate degree pathways and transfer options into accredited ACU partner schools. 

120 credits.

PROGRAM GOALS
Upon completion of this program, students will effectively engage and apply the Word of God in their personal and professional life as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate core skills to engage and interpret the Bible accurately as the foundational source of truth for life and leadership.
2. Understand the overarching themes of the Bible, its various literary types, and the redemptive story it tells.
3. Acquire a general knowledge and basic understanding of theology based upon the exegesis of biblical texts.
4. Develop a philosophy and strategy of godly living that will guide them for a lifetime.
5. Acquire knowledge and analytical skills to engage a variety of perspectives and experiences from a biblical worldview.
6. Assess and weigh moral and cultural beliefs and practices and their applications to ethical dilemmas.
7. Systematically question and analyze problems, issues, and beliefs.
8. Accurately and effectively apply biblical principles and precepts to a wide array of personal and professional pursuits.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (30 credits)
- Principles of Bible Study
- Foundations for Christian Living
- Bible Survey
- Theology Survey
- Bible/Theology Elective

Arts & Sciences Core (40 credits)
- Foundations of Worldviews
- World Religions
- Fundamentals of Written Communication
- Arts & Sciences Electives

Free Electives (50 credits)
Whether transferring from another school or custom-designing a unique program path, the free elective block in this program is set up for flexibility and focus. You have options!

The style of the material and the professor’s experience as a ministry mentor allow the program to walk alongside me as I become a better equipped and more effective leader. Each question or challenge I have on the field is now filtered through what I am learning and I am able to quickly apply solutions... as I apply the coursework.

STEPHANIE (OH)

A recent Gallup survey reported that only 9% of employers place importance on a student’s graduating university, while 84% cited a candidate’s skills and field knowledge as “very important” in making hiring decisions.

-DAVERAMSEY.COM
CAMP & RECREATION MINISTRY (B.S.)

Every year in the United States the lives of 9 million children and adults are impacted through more than 12,000 camping and retreat ministries hosted by organized camps, local churches, colleges, agencies, and mission boards. In addition, almost every church and school integrates experience-based learning principles into their core curriculum whether it be at youth meetings, VBS, AWANA, Sunday school, cell groups, missions trips, or work trips. Camping and recreation programs are becoming key components of mission outreach strategies around the world. Mastery of the skills and competencies surrounding the use of camping and recreation programs for impacting the lives of people will prepare students to play a valuable role in the mission of the church. 120 credits.

PROGRAM GOALS

Upon completion of this program, students will minister effectively within a camp ministry environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
2. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
3. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
4. Understand structural models for governance of non-profit organizations and how they shape and empower practical ministry.
5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of financial stewardship, including basic budgetary principles and procedures for non-profit organizations.
6. Apply a working knowledge of legal issues and loss control strategies to the delivery of ministry organizations and their programming.
7. Understand the history, philosophies and current trends within the outdoor education and organized camping movement.
8. Effectively use impact ministry environments and dynamics, as tools for introducing others to a growing, intimate relationship with their God.
9. Apply current experience based learning theories, models, and tools.
10. Understand the program development cycle endemic to typical camping environments, from assessment and design to implementation and evaluation.
11. Apply principles necessary to move participants towards growth in the context of short-term impact ministry environments.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (30 credits)

Arts & Sciences Core (40 credits)

Ministry Leadership Foundations (12 credits)

Professional Ministry Core (18 credits)

Camp Ministry Focus (12 credits)
  Foundations of Camping and Outdoor Education
  Introduction to Impact Ministry Leadership
  Foundations of Experience Based Learning
  Rec Programming: Vision, Assessment, Design
  Counseling in Active Learning Environments

Free Electives (8 credits)

INTERNSHIPS

We have worked with several amazing camps like...

Lake Ann Camp (MI)
River Valley Ranch (MD)
Skyview Ranch (OH)
Arrowhead Camp (PA)
Camp Patmos (OH)
And more...

THE NUMBERS

Every year in the United States the lives of 9 million children and adults are impacted through more than 12,000 camping and retreat ministries.

“Through one-on-one mentoring, I was challenged to grow, and pushed further than I thought I could go. My mentor coached me through real life conflicts... Hands on education allowed me to live and breathe Christian camping in a way I would never have known in the classroom.”

EMILY - SKYVIEW RANCH (OH)
INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY (B.S.)

According to the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon Conwell University, by 2025, it is estimated the global population will crest 8 billion souls. Only 240 million of them (about 3%) will live in North America. Over 2.2 billion people (28%) will still be unevangelized. Global population is growing 20% faster than the population of Christian workers. Christian martyrdom will increase 50% to 150,000 martyrs per year. The global poor constitute 46% of world population, including 1.4 billion urban poor and 500 million people on the verge of starvation. Based on current trends, the cost effectiveness of Christian finances will be $1.47 million per baptism, up from $762,000 in 2012. The world is a needy place full of needy people. It’s a harvest field full of Kingdom opportunities. It desperately needs the Gospel. The demand for creative, Gospel-soaked engagement with the world by evangelical believers has never been greater. Nor have the farthest reaches of the globe ever been more accessible due to the technology and resource advantages of modern Christ-followers. **120 credits.**

**PROGRAM GOALS**

Upon completion of this program, students will minister effectively within an intercultural ministry environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
2. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
3. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
4. Understand structural models for governance of non-profit organizations and how they shape and empower practical ministry.
5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of financial stewardship, including basic budgetary principles and procedures for non-profit organizations.
6. Apply a working knowledge of legal issues and loss control strategies to the delivery of ministry organizations and their programming.
7. Establish a Biblical foundational philosophy for ministering in intercultural contexts and develop basic skills and competencies for effective intercultural ministry.
8. Understand modern global culture and its impact on world citizens and their worldviews.
9. Establish a comprehensive strategy for effective communication in intercultural ministry.
10. Effectively train teens to influence their world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (30 credits)

Arts & Sciences Core (40 credits)

Ministry Leadership Foundations (12 credits)

Professional Ministry Core (18 credits)

Intercultural Ministry Focus (12 credits)
  Intercultural Ministry Philosophy
  Introductory Cultural Anthropology
  Intercultural Communication
  Intercultural Evangelism

Free Electives (8 credits)

INTERNSHIPS

We have worked with students serving in ministry environments around the world, including:

- London, England
- Berlin, Germany
- South Africa
- Japan
- Honduras
- And more...

THE NUMBERS

By 2025, it is estimated the global population will reach 8 billion souls. Only 240 million of them (about 3%) will live in North America.
URBAN MINISTRY (B.S.)

There are almost 310 million people living in America today. Of them, 222 million (71.6%) live in an urban setting. In more than two thirds of the 51 largest US cities, the young, college-educated population grew twice as fast in the past decade. Young adults with 4-year degrees are 94% more likely to live in urban neighborhoods. They respond to social media, cutting-edge events, live webinars, smart phone apps and simulcast video sessions. Urban environments are racially diverse, economically diverse, community-driven, media-driven, cause-driven, service-oriented and influence-driven. Family dynamics, education gaps and the wrestling match between religion and church are front-line issues in the urban conversation. The next generation of urban Americans is trendsetting and entrepreneurial. The urban landscape is ever-changing. This program will prepare students to know and embrace the multicultural dynamics that shape the communities they serve, and to minister Christ within them. 120 credits.

PROGRAM GOALS

Upon completion of this program, students will minister effectively within an urban ministry environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
2. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
3. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
4. Understand structural models for governance of non-profit organizations and how they shape and empower practical ministry.
5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of financial stewardship, including basic budgetary principles and procedures for non-profit organizations.
6. Apply a working knowledge of legal issues and loss control strategies to the delivery of ministry organizations and their programming.
7. Establish a Biblical foundational philosophy for urban ministry and develop basic skills and competencies for effective urban ministry.
8. Understand modern urban culture and its impact on urban communities and their prevailing worldviews.
9. Establish a comprehensive strategy for effective communication in urban ministry.
10. Effectively engage urban communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (30 credits)

Arts & Sciences Core (40 credits)

Ministry Leadership Foundations (12 credits)

Professional Ministry Core (18 credits)

Urban Ministry Focus (12 credits)
  - Foundations of Urban Ministry
  - Urban Ministry Culture
  - Communication in Urban Ministry
  - Engaging America 2024 and Beyond

Free Electives (8 credits)

INTERNSHIPS

We have worked with urban ministry organizations like...

- Lifeline Ministries
  Elkhart, IN
  elkhartlifeline.com

- Urban Youth Impact
  West Palm Beach, FL
  urbanyouthimpact.com

THE NUMBERS

There are almost 310 million people living in America today. Of them, 222 million (71.6%) live in an urban setting.

"Going into this internship I was hoping to change lives and instead my life was changed. I saw firsthand what these kids experience, from extreme poverty to no love from anyone near to them."

EMILY P. - ELKHART, IN
YOUTH MINISTRY (B.S.)

Youth ministry is both an ancient and modern phenomenon, where strong Biblical patterns regularly collide with changing cultural and ministry models. Current studies show shocking attrition in post-graduation church attendance and measurable decreases in key spiritual indicators in young people. Yet the youth ministry “industry” that includes local churches, growing para-church organizations, residential Christian camps, spiritually-oriented adventure programs and missions trip agencies, continues to press into the challenge of reaching youth for the Kingdom. The platforms for engaging youth ministry are diverse and plentiful. This program will prepare students to strategically minister to young people where they are. **120 credits.**

PROGRAM GOALS

Upon completion of this program, students will minister effectively within a youth ministry environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Actively shepherd individuals toward God, helping them grow in faith and mobilizing them as productive Christ-followers.
2. Create programming that is driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.
3. Apply group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing and mending teams for maximum effectiveness.
4. Understand structural models for governance of non-profit organizations and how they shape and empower practical ministry.
5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of financial stewardship, including basic budgetary principles and procedures for non-profit organizations.
6. Apply a working knowledge of legal issues and loss control strategies to the delivery of ministry organizations and their programming.
7. Establish a Biblical foundational philosophy for ministering to youth and develop basic skills and competencies for effective youth ministry.
8. Understand modern youth culture and its impact on adolescents and their worldviews.
9. Establish a comprehensive strategy for effective communication in youth ministry.
10. Effectively train teens to influence their world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (30 credits)

Arts & Sciences Core (40 credits)

Ministry Leadership Foundations (12 credits)

Professional Ministry Core (18 credits)

Youth Ministry Focus (12 credits)
  - Youth Ministry Philosophy
  - Adolescents & Youth Culture
  - Communication in Youth Ministry
  - Youth Ministry Evangelism

Free Electives (8 credits)

INTERNSHIPS

Internships can be engaged in the local church or a para-church organization serving teens. We have worked with organizations like...

- **Lifeline Ministries**
  Elkhart, IN
  elkhartlifeline.com

- **Cuyahoga Valley Church**
  Broadview Heights, OH
  theinternship.org

“I was confronted with the rigors of full-time ministry, and at times it felt overwhelming. But when I saw students develop into leaders and disciplers of their own, I knew that God’s gospel purposes were being fulfilled and it was completely worth the struggle.”

JOSH L. (CLEVELAND, OH)

“Our teenagers aren’t primarily leaving because they have significant disagreements with their theological upbringing or out of some sense of rebellion. For the most part, they simply lose track of the church and stop seeing it as important to their life.”

**LIFEWAY RESEARCH, 2015**
BIBLICAL STUDIES (M.A.)
The Bible claims to be the Word of God, breathed out onto the pages of a book. It is alive and powerful for the transformation of lives. Within it is everything that is needed for life and godliness. At once it is a window into the incomprehensible mystery of the eternal God and a clear communication of God’s expectations and directions for humanity with all of humanity’s limitations. The Bible invites us to engage it with simplicity and godly sincerity and promises to change us by its power. It is the communication from God that must form the foundation for a meaningful life. It provides a practical, engaged and immersive educational pursuit for graduate-level students that enhances their ability to lead and teach from a solid biblical foundation. Its aim is to equip leaders with skills for a lifelong journey in the Word, while igniting in them a hunger that anchors them in that pursuit. 30 credits.

PROGRAM GOALS
Upon completion of the MA Biblical Studies program, students will engage and leverage the Word effectively within any professional ministry or lay leadership environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate understanding of a biblical hermeneutic approach that engages the Scriptures as the authoritative power for life and practice.
2. Apply foundational exegetical skills to the examination of Scripture resulting in a clear understanding of what the text says, what it means, and its implications for life.
3. Articulate the contextual message of the whole of Scripture and the relation of each part to the whole.
4. Interpret a narrative text in context with its historical and cultural settings so as to enable dynamic and legitimate application in diverse cultural settings.
5. Exegete a prescriptive text in its historical and cultural context in a manner that enables dynamic and legitimate understanding of its implications for today.
6. Respond to questions and challenges that arise out of constantly-changing cultures by applying a broad understanding of the Bible, synthesis of its various teachings, and principles of application.
7. Communicate Scriptures formally or informally through preaching, teaching, discussion, or in writing, with a view to helping others hear, consider, and respond to its teachings and their implications.
COURSES OF STUDY

Biblical Studies Core (18 credits)
- Interpretive Bible Study
- Bible Study Exegetical Skills
- The Story of the Bible
- Exposition of Narrative Scriptures
- Exposition of Epistles
- Doing Biblical Theology

Program Electives (12 credits)
The MA Biblical Studies program is designed with a flexible elective block that allows students to select from a range of available Bible and Theology courses that broaden the application of the concentration skills to a variety of ministry and leadership dynamics. The following is a sampling of suggested courses.

PROGRAM VISION
The vision that drives this program is to mobilize leaders who engage the Bible, interpret it well, apply it to the transformation of their own lives, and draw others along on that journey with them, so as to see the power of God in His Word bringing light and life into a darkened world.
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP (M.A.)

In these times of rapid cultural and economic change, effective organizational leaders must be able to maintain focus on the mission. They must focus the attention of various stakeholders on a common vision, mobilize people in pursuit of that vision, and facilitate the execution of strategies that accomplish the mission. This is a tall order. It requires extraordinary leadership. The purpose of ACU’s organizational leadership program is to provide a high quality educational experience for graduate level students interested in enhancing their ability to provide excellent leadership that mobilizes an organizational team and equips them to accomplish the mission for which the organization exists. **30 credits.**

INTEGRATED EXPERIENCE-BASED APPROACH

Most of our Organizational Leadership students are already working in a professional leadership role in a ministry organization, in a nonprofit organization or in a professional business context. The balance, typically younger students that have just completed an undergraduate degree, choose an internship as the context for their learning. We’ve carefully crafted the program and course learning objectives of the Organizational Leadership track to engage the range of soft skills (personal leadership, mission-driven leadership, strategic thinking and team development) and hard skills (governance, finance, risk management) that are the fabric of organizational leadership in any context. The program is designed to develop measurable competency in each skill set. Using our proprietary experience-based approach as a framework, we custom-build each student’s learning inputs, processing challenges, and project-oriented deliverables to make the most of their professional role as the primary learning context--and beneficiary. The learning process intentionally engages the student’s work role not as a competing distraction, but as an opportunity for deeper focus and learning.

PROGRAM GOALS

Upon completion of the Organizational Leadership program, students will minister effectively within any professional ministry or leadership environment as demonstrated by the following competencies:

1. Exercise of leadership that encourages and facilitates collaborative learning at all levels of the organization.
2. Application of a solid understanding of organizations that creates and maintains a productive community of learners.
3. Development of comprehensive organizational strategies using skills in evaluation, adaptation, and integration of new and existing strategies for efficient and effective pursuit of organizational goals.
4. Recruitment, development, and mobilization of employees and volunteers as effective teams.
5. Coordination of board and administrative team activities for creation and maintenance of maximum organizational productivity.
6. Effective and prudent planning and oversight of all financial aspects of a nonprofit organization.
COURSES OF STUDY

The discipline of leadership synthesizes the mission of an organization within its practical realities. Effective leadership understands the confluence of philosophy and practice. This track of courses is designed to engage that dynamic, with a balanced dose of organizational philosophy and practical skill development. **30 credits.**

COURSES INCLUDE:

- An Interpretive Study of Biblical Discipleship
- Leading in Active Learning Environments
- Spiritual Disciplines in Leadership
- Organizations as Learning Communities
- Organizational Communication
- Strategic Thinking
- Developing Dynamic Teams
- Governance & Administration of Nonprofit Organizations
- Financial Management of Nonprofit Organizations
- Risk Management of Nonprofit Organizations

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Since 2011, Organizational Leadership students have applied our integrated approach to professional positions in camping ministry, youth ministry, urban ministry, active duty military, special needs education, worship ministry, paralegal services, public speaking, university administration, high school education, at-risk residential education, experiential education, insurance, relief work, local church leadership, government services, information technology, hospital administration, intercultural missions and more on four different continents.

Our proprietary Learning Blueprint allows you to grow core leadership skills right where you are... applied to the specific challenges there.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANT410 Introductory Cultural Anthropology
This course will provide students a working foundation toward understanding global cultures, languages, worldviews and belief systems. Emphasis will be placed on comparing and contrasting these dynamics with an eye toward productive and proactive engagement with people of and in different cultures.

ART HISTORY

ARH001 Art History
This course will introduce learners to the development of the fine arts, including important artists, works, and genres. Students will learn to critically converse with works of art and the ideas they embody, and will develop a personal philosophy of the arts in order to form a basis for wise and discerning engagement with the arts in personal, family, and community environments.

BIBLE

BIB100 Principles of Bible Study
This course provides an introduction to methods and tools for inductive study of biblical texts, through observation, interpretation, application, and implementation. Taking a skill-development approach, students will identify and practice sound hermeneutical methods toward understanding Scripture, including analysis in light of historical background and biblical context.

BIB110 Bible Survey
This course lays a foundational understanding of the Bible through a historical survey of the Old and New Testaments. Emphasis will be given to interacting with biblical literature, basic hermeneutical principles, key themes and characters, and the redemptive theme of Scripture.

BIB111 Old Testament Survey
This course is a chronological survey of Old Testament people, places, and events. Emphasis will be given to the theology and the interpretive challenges of the Old Testament. The course will highlight the basic message of the Old Testament books, their contribution to God’s redemptive storyline, and their significance for Christian thought and practice.

BIB112 New Testament Survey
This course is a chronological survey of New Testament people, places, and events. It highlights the basic message of the New Testament books, their contribution to God’s redemptive storyline, and their significance for Christian thought and practice, based on the life and teaching of Christ, the apostles, and the early development of the churches.

BIB211 Old Testament Directed Study
This course is designed to be an independent study of selected books of the Old Testament. The primary focus will be on the history, theology, and interpretive challenges of selected books, specifically in relation to God’s redemptive storyline.

BIB212 New Testament Directed Study
This course is designed to be an independent study of selected books of the New Testament. The primary focus will be on the history, theology, and interpretive challenges of selected books, specifically in relation to God’s redemptive storyline.
**BIB301 Genesis**  
The book of Genesis serves as the fountainhead out of which all subsequent Scripture flows. The focus of this book is upon God’s creative and restorative work primarily evidenced through his covenants given to the patriarchs and traced through human history. This course is designed to enable students to: (1) identify central themes of Genesis, (2) articulate the eschatological message, (3) employ solid Bible study skills, (4) embrace a unified view of Scripture, and (5) apply the central themes to their life.

**BIB305 Nehemiah**  
The book of Nehemiah offers a poignant picture of God-centered leadership and influence in submission to God’s plan and provision. Attention is given to Nehemiah’s example and character as a leader, his competency, and commitment to his people, and conflict resolution.

**BIB310 Matthew**  
Matthew’s account provides an intimate interaction with key teachings and actions of Jesus. The focus of the narrative is on Jesus as the Son of God, the promised Messiah, and on his interaction with the culture, customs, and creeds of the Jewish people of his day. Through this course students will develop and use solid skills for absorbing, interpreting, and applying the text, expecting to interact with the voice of God in a manner that will change their perspectives and transform their lives.

**BIB315 Acts**  
The Acts of the Apostles is a foundational source to understanding the church, its nature, its mission, how it operates as the body of Christ, formed, informed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Students will immerse in the narrative of Acts to provide a foundation for more fully understanding the rest of the New Testament.

**BIB316 Romans**  
Paul’s Epistle to the church in Rome stands out as the most detailed and comprehensive single summary of the message and implications of the Gospel of Jesus Christ offered in the New Testament. This course is designed to enable students to engage its theology and apply that truth to the transforming of their lives. This will involve the developing and using of skills in absorbing, interpreting, and applying the text as it was intended, expecting to interact with the voice of God in a manner that changes their perspectives and transforms their lives.

**BIB321 James**  
This course is a study of the book of James, designed to help the student come to a personal conviction of how a follower of Jesus Christ ought to behave. Further, students will develop strategies and patterns to begin adjusting their behavior to conform to the Biblical standard.

**BIB320 Interpretive Bible Study**  
The Scriptures are the life-giving breath of God in the pages of a book, given to us by God to transform us into the very image of Jesus Christ. How we approach that book matters. How we understand what it is saying matters. How we apply what it says to the shaping of our perspectives, attitudes, and actions will determine whether we will be transformed by it or further hardened to its intended impact. This course of study is intended to introduce students to an understanding of what the Bible says about itself and engage them in a pursuit of all that it claims to offer to them.

**BIB500 Bible Study Exegetical Skills**  
The effort to understand an ancient text for what it is saying and to apply its teachings in a very different time and culture is a difficult challenge. When that text is a translation of an original written in a different language
it is an even bigger challenge. This course is designed as a hands-on exercise aimed at enhancing the student’s ability to understand, interpret, and apply the text of Scripture. Students will be introduced to exegetical skills that will help them identify what the text is saying, interpret its message accurately, and apply it to their lives consistently with its intent.

**BIB520 The Story of the Bible**
This collection of books that were written over thousands of years, by many authors, in a variety of places and cultures, in the midst of widely ranging historical contexts has been compiled and handed down generation after generation, claiming to be God’s revelation of who He is, who we are, what has been, and what is to come. This course is designed to help students see, in the many pieces, genres, times and places, the big story that it presents and to understand the relationship of the parts to the whole. From that understanding, the goal is to ignite in students a passion for exploring the life-giving truth in the story it tells.

**BIB530 Biblical Exposition: Narrative Scriptures**
The stories of the Bible are often epic and inspiring. They provide windows into the nature of God and people, good and evil, and the raw dynamics of humanity as it engages with a broken world. The focus of this course is to find in biblical narrative a deep sense of who God is, what is the condition of fallen humanity, and what it looks like when broken people pursue or resist the God who made them. It will explore persons, personalities, cultures, and contexts to find real and legitimate application to life and godliness in this present time and place.

**BIB540 Biblical Exposition: Epistles**
Prescriptive texts, and particularly those epistles that make up a large share of the New Testament are those from which we find the most specific instructions on how a Christian is to live and serve. Yet these texts tend to be those most widely interpreted and debated. The purpose of this course of study is to help students apply solid hermeneutic principles so as to grasp the intent of a Scriptural letter, to explore how that intent applied in the particular setting to which it was initially sent, and to apply its intent to a current setting. While it is a worthy exercise to arrive at answers to theological questions by extracting statements lifted from various biblical texts, the purpose of this course is to make sure that we understand what this text is overtly saying rather than to focus on implications that are not the primary purpose of the author.

**CAMPING MINISTRY**

**CAM400 Learning Activities, Games and Events**
Students will be introduced to skills and competencies necessary for planning and leading purposeful learning activities. Students will learn how to introduce truth, illustrate truth, and illuminate a lack of truth through the use of and modification of known activities or by introducing new activities, games, and initiatives.

**CAM401 Foundations of Camping & Outdoor Education**
This course is designed to familiarize the student with the history, philosophies, and current trends within the outdoor education and organized camping movement. Topics include: centralized vs. de-centralized programming; residential & wilderness environments; needs-based & age graded programming. Students will be introduced to the roles that many of the major professional organizations play, such as the American Camping Association, Christian Camping International, Association for Experiential Education, and Association for Challenge Course Technology. Students will develop and clearly articulate a solid, philosophic approach to developing a camping ministry.
CAM405 Counseling in Active Learning Environments
This course is designed to help students understand principles and acquire competencies necessary to move participants toward growth in the context of short-term impact ministry environments such as retreats, resident camps, mission trips, and wilderness trips. Key subjects include: group dynamics, relationship building, camper discipline, facilitation, framing, debriefing, processing, and Bible study.

CAM407 Foundations of Experience-Based Learning
This course is designed to introduce the student to current experience-based learning theories, models, and tools. Students will interact with these theories, investigating, evaluating, and adapting them in order to develop skills for facilitating learning for a wide range of students in a variety of environments and experiences.

CAM409 Recreational Programming
Students will be introduced to the recreational program development cycle typical to camping environments, from assessment and design to implementation and evaluation. Assessment of human development, spiritual development, and group dynamics will be addressed along with basic strategic program development. Students will be introduced to the necessary skills, techniques and methods for effectively and safely implementing a learning strategy in the context of recreational programming, along with proper evaluation methods and post-event learning integration.

CAM424 Management of Support Services
This course will introduce people to competencies necessary for effectively managing the support services that surround organizations including food service, facilities services, housekeeping, and site maintenance. Key topics will include record keeping, planning, equipment procurement, outsourcing, budgeting, evaluation, standards, and inspections.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

CAP100 Basic Computer Skills
This course will develop student proficiency in text editing and formatting, spreadsheet and database management, and presentation preparation, with special attention to Microsoft Office products and their practical uses. Further study will cover available operating systems, web resources, security software, as well as other specialized software that is available to the student in today’s open source environment.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

ENC100 Fundamentals of Written Communication
This course will introduce the college student to the purpose, elements, and qualities of good writing. Students will be coached through the drafting, revision, and the final stages of writing, and they will learn to find, assess, and properly document sources of information.

ENC137 English Composition 2
In this course, students will develop skills toward expository writing based upon the close reading and study of selected texts. The course emphasizes oral and written analytical interpretations which include recognition of the techniques, forms, and rhetorical devices used by writers of literature. The course also serves as an introduction to literature.
ENGLISH LITERATURE

ENL300 Great Authors
This course is designed as a survey of the lives and works of great authors in literature. Students will be led in and will lead discussion of the authors’ seminal works within their cultural and historical contexts. Students will learn to engage in critical evaluation of authors’ worldviews, but the emphasis will be on learning to converse with a text on its own terms, in light of its author’s questions and ideas.

FINANCE

FIN131 Personal Finance
This course will develop the student’s strategic thinking and skill in planning for their economic future. Students will develop the capabilities for managing income and expenses with an emphasis on saving and investment plans. They will also be introduced to the house buying process, acquisition of health, auto and life insurance coverage, borrowing money and various types of consumer contracts.

GLOBAL STUDIES

GLS210 Survey of Global Issues
A study of global issues and challenges such as crime, pollution, war, poverty, drug addiction and racial tensions, with a focus on researching the historical roots and modern implications of an issue.

GLS220 World Religions
Religion as an effort to make sense of a chaotic world and to shape it into something predictable and manageable, has been around in many and widely varied forms since the earliest times in human history. This course is intended to help students explore human religiosity by engaging with current religious traditions, in terms of their histories, cultural contexts, and varied expressions, all with the goal of developing the ability to understand, engage, and effectively carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ into a highly diverse and constantly changing world.

HEALTH, LEISURE AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HLP080 Personal Wellness Appraisal and Improvement (1 credit)
This course introduces concepts of fitness for living. A personal fitness evaluation and planned program for fitness are included.

INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY

MIS311 Intercultural Ministry Philosophy
This course is designed to help students to establish a Biblical foundational philosophy for ministering in intercultural environments and to introduce students to basic skills and competencies necessary for effective ministry in any culture. Emphasis will be placed on understanding non-negotiable Biblical principles, exploration of characteristics unique to intercultural and cross-cultural communities, and applying ministry principles to the specific needs of individuals across the globe.

MIS321 Intercultural Communications
Students will develop an understanding of what culture is and how communication occurs within it, and will increase sensitivity to and understanding of intercultural differences and similarities. This awareness will lead to more effective communication by helping the student build an effective approach to communicating in intercultural settings, including those where language barriers may exist. A focus will be placed on the many elements and processes involved in the sending and receiving of messages within intercultural contexts.
MIS411 Intercultural Evangelism
This course is designed to help students develop an effective practical approach to bringing the unchanging Gospel to culturally diverse settings in today’s world. Core Gospel concepts will be reviewed along with an evaluation of methods of engagement, challenges of communication, indigenous worldviews, and cultural patterns. Identification of practical local needs will be explored with a view to determining the logical starting point when communicating the Gospel within a target culture.

LEADERSHIP

LDR301 Foundations of Leadership
This course is designed to disciple students in the role, qualifications, and skills of leadership. It is designed to introduce the student to the basic principles of leadership as they relate one-on-one, in small group environments, as well as in leading leaders within an organization. Attention will be given to learning to differentiate between various leadership styles, to identify exemplary role models from various contexts, to evaluate personal leadership tendencies and traits, and to help students begin to work on their own leadership skills.

LDR340 Introduction to Accelerated Learning
This course is an introduction to wilderness camping as a medium for in-process learning. Emphasis will be placed on the development of skills for experiential learning, problem solving, communications, and team building.

LDR350 Wilderness Leadership
This course has been developed to train individuals in the effective use of the wilderness environment and its dynamic as a tool for introducing others to a growing, intimate relationship with their God. While the focus is on the wilderness laboratory, this is a leadership course. The skills that are introduced are highly transferable into any environment. Our goal is to help students to acquire tools that will help them increase their effectiveness in moving people toward God.

LDR440 Principles of Leadership and Discipleship
This course will introduce the student to the basic principles of leadership and discipleship on the individual level. Fundamentals include philosophy, skills, and tools aimed to assist the individual in his or her own growth. By learning how to grow ourselves, we will be better growers of others. Emphasis will be on the development of skills for experiential learning, problem solving, communication, and personal philosophy.

LDR450 Leading and Discipling Relationships
This course will train individuals to effectively lead and disciple others in a growing, intimate relationship with their God. Building off a strong biblical philosophy of ministry, emphasis will be given to diagnosis and interactive skills between mentors and mentees. In the context of a highly intense, small group environment individuals will develop and exercise communication, mentoring, and problem solving skills in the lives of others that are transferable to any real life setting.

LDR460 Leading Discipleship Communities
This course is designed to train students in organizing and facilitating discipleship groups, whether in a family, local church, or para-church organization. Emphasis will be on evaluating other’s personalities and learning styles, utilizing and adapting leadership approaches, and implementing strategies for moving individuals and groups towards greater spiritual growth with God.

LDR501 Leading in Active Learning Environments
This course is a study of organizational leadership theory and practice as it relates to the development and facilitation of active learning environments. Emphasis
will be on identifying and evaluating students’ personalities and leadership styles, adapting and using leadership approaches, and exploring principles for moving individuals and organizations toward growth and development. The course content is designed to serve as a catalyst for applying leadership principles to the student’s organizational environment.

LDR502 Organizations as Learning Communities
The rapidly changing environment has produced a significant shift in organizational theory and practice. In times of rapid change, the ability of an organization to learn emerges as a primary competency. Students will engage organizational theory to help them identify and understand the unique organizational culture within which they function, and to formulate interventions to enhance learning and innovation. Students will also interact with learning theory to help them develop effective approaches to encouraging and facilitating learning within the organization.

LDR503 Strategic Thinking
In a fast-paced environment organizations must be able to respond quickly to emerging challenges. Planning processes must keep pace with the changing realities. The ability to think with strategic flexibility in producing effective approaches to fleeting opportunities and imminent crises places a leader in a position to be of great service. This course engages students in applying strategic theory, change theory, and implementation disciplines to real challenges within their organizations.

LDR504 Developing Dynamic Teams
Organizations are increasingly realizing the need for a team orientation, yet, despite the rhetoric, there remain significant cultural impediments to team development and maintenance. This course leads students in an application of group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing, and mending teams of employees and volunteers for maximum effectiveness.

LDR505 Governance & Administration of Nonprofit Organizations
Leadership of a nonprofit organization presents unique challenges, limitations, and advantages. This course exposes students to theories of governance and administration with a view to helping them interact effectively with all levels of an organization from any position within that organization.

LDR506 Financial Management of Nonprofit Organizations
Prudent planning and management of organizational finances is essential to continued success. Financial management challenges in the non-profit organization include planning, fundraising, marketing, oversight, and accountability. Students interact with all aspects of their organization’s finances to gain proficiency in the rudiments of financial oversight.

LDR507 Risk Management of Nonprofit Organizations
This course is designed to familiarize students with current law and industry standards according to which liability is determined. Students will also examine accreditation agencies and processes, and the development of sound risk management policy.

LDR508 Organizational Communication
This course is designed to develop students’ skills in managing organizational behavior through the leveraging of effective communicative processes. It will provide them with a solid grounding in theories and strategies of organizational communication relevant to their experiences, real-life professional settings, and potential situations.
LDR509 Spiritual Disciplines in Leadership
This course is designed to develop the believer’s spiritual life, with a focus on the spiritual disciplines, prayer, and the biblical nature of calling, ministry, character, and the relation of spiritual formation to the process of sanctification.

LDR510 Emotional Intelligence
This course will introduce students to emotional intelligence as a skill that can be developed with training and practice. Students will learn to engage the style of individuals and adjust their communications accordingly. This course will focus on the core competencies of emotional intelligence, including self-management, self-awareness, self-regulation, self-motivation and empathy. Students will learn to develop and implement these competencies to enhance their personal, professional and ministry relationships by increasing their understanding of social and emotional behaviors, and adapting and managing their responses to various situations.

MATHEMATICS

MAT121 Problem-Solving Strategies
This course is an introduction to classic and nontraditional problem-solving strategies. Students will learn how to successfully gather information, arrange it, implement one or more strategies to best solve a problem, and then communicate the solution in both written and oral form. Above all, this class will teach how to think creatively and critically and how to solve problems collaboratively.

MINISTRY

MIN311 Personal Life of the Ministry Leader
This course explores the core values that drive the healthy personal life that is foundational for effective ministry leadership. It will address issues of life purpose, priorities, time management, spiritual disciplines and healthy relationships. Students will be given opportunity to evaluate themselves and to develop a plan for personal character development.

MIN312 Family Life of the Ministry Leader
This course is designed to develop biblical foundations for godly leadership in the home. It explores biblical expectations for leading the family and those specifically mandated for ministry leaders, then lays groundwork for building a strategy to deploy as one’s family develops over time.

MIN320 Effective Bible Teaching
This course is a study of methods and skills of teaching and learning as applied to Bible teaching. Not just a pedagogy class, its emphasis will be on observing and applying methods and strategies in the student’s life and work.

MIN401 Dynamics of Discipleship
The core of ministry leadership is shepherding individuals toward God, helping them grow in their faith, and mobilizing them as productive parts of the body of Christ. This course is designed to introduce students to concepts of spiritual development, a biblical understanding of what it takes to be a shepherd, and approaches for fostering people of various age groups through each stage of growth.

MIN402 Introduction to Impact Ministry Leadership
This course is designed to train individuals in the effective use of impact ministry environments and dynamics, as tools for introducing others to a growing, intimate relationship with their God. While the focus is on the camping and wilderness laboratory, this is a leadership course. The skills that are introduced are skills that are highly transferable into any environment.
Our goal is to help students to acquire tools that will help them increase their effectiveness in moving people toward God.

MIN403 Principles of Ministry Strategy
This course is designed to introduce students to practical competencies and skills for the effective development and use of a wide range of programming as tools for accomplishing biblical ministry objectives.

MIN404 Developing Dynamic Teams
Organizations are increasingly realizing the need for a team orientation, yet, despite the rhetoric, there remain significant cultural impediments to team development and maintenance. This course leads students in an application of group and team theory for recruiting, developing, mobilizing, and mending teams of employees and volunteers for maximum effectiveness.

MIN405 Governance and Administration of Nonprofit Organizations
This course will examine structural models for governance of nonprofit organizations. It will also introduce students to principles and practices employed by boards and administrations for the management of such agencies. Key topics will include board structure, finance, publicity, program planning, strategic planning, and consultants.

MIN406 Financial Management of Nonprofit Organizations
This course will introduce students to basic budgetary principles and procedures for not-for-profit agencies. Key topics will include budgeting, reporting, financing, cost analysis, fundraising, stewardship, and donor management.

MIN407 Risk Management in Nonprofit Organizations
This course will introduce students to situational analysis of the legal systems impacting the delivery of recreation and leisure services. Emphasis will be on applied legal understanding and loss control strategies. Key topics will include insurance, release forms, record keeping, risk transference, signage, and supervision.

MIN408 Organizational Communication
This course is designed to increase students' understanding and skills in managing organizational behavior through the use of effective communicative processes. It will provide them with a solid grounding in relevant theories and strategies of organizational communication relevant to their experiences, real-life settings, and potential situations.

MIN409 Foundations of Technology in Ministry
This course examines the function and use of the tools of technology in the varied ministries of the church. It asks critical questions about technology and its use. In the context of addressing issues such as virtual community, media arts and worship, internet-based ministry, Christian education and youth ministry, and spirituality online, it seeks to equip students with discernment in this area of ministry.

MIN411 Planning for Integrative Learning
This course is designed to empower the student to design effective methods of pursuing learning objectives through a wide variety of experiences, challenges, and assignments. An emphasis will be placed on integrative approaches, collaboration skills, tracking systems, and assessment as part of a comprehensive approach to developing and using effective learning environments.
MIN414 Mobilization of Staff and Volunteers
This course is designed to equip the student with the conceptual framework and the human relations skills necessary to the successful personnel management of a recreational service organization.

MIN520 Communication of the Word
A ministry leader is responsible for communicating God’s words to the people for whose care they have been given responsibility. That communication takes many forms if the truth is to be planted deeply into the hearts of the hearers. The focus of this course is to help the student focus their communication of the Word and to build skill for delivering it effectively.

PHILOSOPHY

PHI1010 Introduction to Philosophy
This course is designed to acquaint the student with the fundamental issues of philosophy through the study of its basic terminology and concepts, as well as the philosophers, philosophical movements, and problems that have shaped the Western world. It also serves as an introduction to critical thinking and philosophical reflection. Time will be given to the philosophical development of a personal worldview, examining how various factors affect one's views of the major academic disciplines and their application to contemporary issues.

PHI110 Foundations of Worldviews
This course will survey modern worldviews through the lenses of history, philosophy, religion, and popular culture over the centuries and evaluate their impact on the modern Christian worldview using the primary lens of Scripture for critical evaluation. Students will examine the nature and function of belief structures, then build a personal worldview from a biblical foundation.

PHI130 Introduction to Ethics
This course is designed as an introduction to ethical thought and its application to contemporary decision-making. Examination of issues such as those involved in reproduction, abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, genetic engineering, biomedical research, divorce, homosexuality, LGBT, capital punishment, civil disobedience, war, social justice, and the environment may be explored. The desired outcome is for students to demonstrate critical thinking about such issues and to develop skills to articulate positions about moral and social problems from their own personal worldviews.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PEN210 Outdoor Living Skills (1 credit)
The purpose of this course is to help students become actively involved in outdoor pursuits and to braid those pursuits together with the governing values and purposes in their lives. The focus is not to add something new to a busy student's life, but to assist them in integrating ministry passion, fitness activity and outdoor pursuits. If we are successful we will see students who are involved in moving people toward godliness while establishing quality fitness habits all in the context of enjoyable outdoor activities.

PEN220 Recreational Activities
This course is designed to instruct students in the development, organization, execution, and supervision of recreational group activities for fun and fitness. Activities may include lawn games, aerobics, orienteering, backpacking, and various group games that may or may not be sports related.

PEN251 Canoeing (1 credit)
A hands-on study of canoeing skills for a variety of conditions, including flat water and moving water canoeing, taught through a series of outings. The student will
acquire basic principles, techniques and safety procedures for handling a canoe under a variety of recreational conditions.

SCIENCE

SCI120 Science and Theology
This course is designed to explore the interdisciplinary dialogue between scientists and theologians on critical, moral, ethical, scientific, and theological issues. Students will become familiar with a variety of contemporary issues in both science and worldview. They will develop their scientific literacy and the critical thinking skills needed to analyze these issues and to generate a response from their worldview.

SPEECH COMMUNICATION

SPC040 Speech Communication
This course is designed as a practice-oriented introduction to public speaking, as well as small group, and interpersonal communications skills. Attention is given to the fundamental processing of ideas, organization of materials, and group dynamics, along with the use of the voice, articulation, and body expression. Emphasis will be given to the delivery of prepared messages in various settings, with various audiences, and in various formats.

STUDENT LIFE SKILLS

SLS167 Foundations of Learning
This course is an introduction to learning styles and strategies that provide a foundation for a lifelong pursuit of personal growth and leadership. Students will learn to identify and leverage their own personal learning style, to cultivate a personal culture of learning, and acquire core skills to accelerate dynamic learning that will become foundational for leading others effectively.

THEOLOGY

THE120 Foundations for Christian Living
This course will guide students in developing a philosophy, strategy and skill set for godly living that will guide them for a lifetime. These foundational concepts for successful Christian living include developing a Biblical world view, ethics and patterns of behavior; Bible study; prayer; making Biblically-informed choices; and developing personal growth strategies.

TH201 Theology Survey
This course is a foundational survey of Bible doctrine designed to introduce the student to the major areas of systematic theology.

THE220 Creation to Consummation
This course is a study of the overarching storyline of the Bible, with special attention given to how the Scriptures fit together as a unified whole. This course will trace the development of key themes that unite the Scriptures, beginning at creation in Genesis 1 and ending at the consummation of all things in Revelation 22.

THE225 The New Testament Church
This course is an introduction to the origin, nature, purpose, mission, polity, and ministry of the church. It explores the biblical and theological issues involved in the doctrine of the church with a particular focus on the practical preparation of students for effective ministry in local churches or parachurch ministry organizations, based on a biblical understanding of the local church.

THE230 Christian Apologetics
This course is a survey and evaluation of various evangelical approaches to apologetics and an examination of various worldviews, with an emphasis on the development of a Christian worldview. The course will equip the believer in the use of scripture and theistic proofs to
defend the Christian faith by identifying and responding to attacks from secularists, pragmatists, skeptics, and those in other religions. Most importantly, this course will bolster the faith of Christians by commending the reality, relevance, reliability, credibility, excitement, and wonder of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**THE250 Theology of the Gospel**
This course introduces the gospel and its implications for the Christian life and ministry, with a focus on understanding the gospel in the context of the entire biblical narrative, developing a gospel-centered life, and viewing ministry through the lens of the good news of Jesus Christ.

**THE500 Doing Biblical Theology**
Doing theology, as the exercise of asking and answering questions by consulting and combining various Scriptural teachings, takes a variety of forms. Understanding those approaches allows us to test theological conclusions. A biblical theology uses an approach that seeks to understand the direct teachings of Scripture in its context and holds loosely the answers to questions that are derived from indirect Scriptural inferences. This course is designed to help students build a solid theological framework built on an understanding of the direct teachings of Scripture while gaining skills in seeking for answers to real and immediate questions by applying principles of investigation based on sound practices of biblical theology.

**THE525 The New Testament Church**
This is a study of the origin, nature, purpose, mission, polity, and ministry of the church. It examines the biblical and theological issues involved in the doctrine of the church with a particular focus on the practical preparation of students for effective or enhanced ministry in local churches or parachurch ministry organizations, based on a biblical understanding of the local church.

**THE538 An Interpretive Study of Biblical Discipleship**
As Christians, we are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, followers in His way, participants in His mission in the world. Ministry leadership, in all of its varieties, is about helping people become such followers of Jesus Christ. This course will focus on facilitating discovery of the New Testament teachings related to the discipleship mission, in order to provide strong biblical foundations for the pursuit of that mission.

**URBAN MINISTRY**

**URB311 Urban Ministry Philosophy**
This course is designed to lay a foundation for urban ministry by introducing the history, trends and challenges that uniquely shape it uniquely. Building on that context, the course will challenge learners to integrate Scripture into every aspect of urban ministry and create programming driven by a clear sense of mission and purpose.

**URB315 Dynamics of Urban Culture**
This course is designed to help students understand and engage the cultural dynamics of urban ministry in America and worldwide in a way that helps to position them and their urban ministry organizations as servants to the local church and urban world unit.

**URB321 Communication in Urban Ministry**
This course is designed to help students establish a comprehensive strategy for effective communication in urban ministry. Emphasis will be placed on engaging the various stakeholders in urban ministry with relevant, timely, and clear communication across various contexts and channels.
URB411 Engaging America 2025 and Beyond
The goal of this course is to help individuals develop ministries which will enable them to engage and influence urban environments with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the coming decades. A secondary goal is to help students develop a plan to have an effective personal outreach ministry in their own urban contexts.

YOUTH MINISTRY

YMN301 Youth Ministry Philosophy
This course is designed to help students establish youth and to introduce students to basic skills and competencies necessary for effective youth ministry in any culture. Emphasis will be placed on understanding non-negotiable Biblical principles, exploring characteristics unique to youth and youth culture, and applying ministry principles to the specific needs of adolescents.

YMN315 Adolescents and Youth Culture
This course is designed to help students understand modern youth culture and its impact on adolescents, and then engage them from a biblical worldview.

YMN321 Youth Ministry Communication
This course is designed to help students establish a comprehensive strategy for effective communication in youth ministry. Emphasis will be placed on engaging the various stakeholders in student ministry with relevant, timely, and clear communication across various contexts and channels.

YMN407 Youth Ministry Evangelism
The goal of this course is to help students develop ministries which will enable them to train teens to influence their world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A secondary goal is to help students develop a personal plan to have an effective outreach ministry themselves.
ADMISSIONS POLICIES

Anchor Christian University’s innovative approach to distance education is intended to inject learning into the student’s world. As such, our educational design requires each student to be in a context well-suited to engage and invest their learning in real time. An ideal context might be a GAP program, an internship, a professional position in a ministry or para-church organization, or any other situation relevant to the program of study. Don’t have one? Our team may be able to help you find the right fit. Visit us online at AnchorU.com/ministry-partners for ideas and options.

Prospective students desiring to enroll or wanting more information about the university may contact the Admissions Office in one of the following ways:

Phone: 561.510.1812
Email: info@AnchorU.com
Web: AnchorU.com/admissions

ADMISSIONS PROCESS
Students who want to enroll to pursue a degree or certificate must be high school graduates or have passed an equivalent high school educational test in their state of residence, such as the General Educational Development test (GED). High school and home school students may apply after they have completed a six-semester transcript.

Applicants are evaluated based on references from those familiar with their character and spiritual development (usually church leaders or teachers), previous academic performance, standardized test scores, and personal interest in and desire for Christian leadership and ministry.

Anchor Christian University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, disability, national or ethnic origin in employment, admissions, financial aid, and participation in University programs. All new and reactivating applicants must agree to uphold ACU’s Community Covenant found in the Student Experience section of this catalog.

ACU reserves the right to change aspects of the University’s admissions policies that may affect admission requirements and criteria for new applicants. Applicants are notified of current application requirements when they apply. Current requirements are also found on the website at AnchorU.com/admissions. The following documents must be received by the Admissions Office before an applicant will be accepted.

1. **Application:** Apply online at AnchorU.com/apply

2. **Official High School, Homeschool, or GED Transcript** (or equivalent high school test approved by the applicant’s state of residence): A transcript with at least six semesters is required for review before acceptance. A complete transcript is required to enroll. Students who have attended ACU in the past do not need to submit high school or equivalent transcripts.

3. **ACT or SAT Score:** If the scores are not included on the applicant’s high school transcript, students will need to request an official score to be sent to ACU at the time of the test or afterwards. The following applicants do not need to submit an ACT or SAT score report: applicants who are 23 or older and have not taken the ACT or SAT, applicants who have completed 12 or more transferable credit hours at another college or university, or applicants who have attended ACU in the past.
4. **Church Leader, Educational Leader, and/or Employer References:** Two references are required for applicants. Applicants who are new to ACU are required to submit a Church Leader and Educational Leader or Employer Reference. Students who have attended ACU in the past and have been away for two or more consecutive semesters (or three or more consecutive online sessions) are only required to submit a Church Leader Reference.

5. **Official Transcripts of All Colleges Attended:** Applicants who have attended a college or university since high school are required to submit transcripts from all colleges and universities that they have attended or are attending in order to be reviewed for acceptance. Complete, official transcripts are required in order to receive credit for prior work.

Applicants who have attended ACU in the past must be approved to return by the Academic and Business Offices. Onsite students who return to ACU after two consecutive semesters of non-enrollment and online students who return after three consecutive sessions of non-enrollment are charged a reactivation fee.

**ADMISSIONS RESULTS**
Applicants may expect a decision in writing (hard copy and/or email) from ACU within two weeks of the completion of the admissions checklist. If more information is required before a decision can be made, that will be communicated to the applicant as well.

- **Acceptance:** Being accepted as a student is the first step toward being approved to enroll for classes. Other forms and information are required before registering for classes.
- **Financial Aid:** ACU does not currently participate in the federal Department of Education Title IV program. Students taking courses through one of our contract partnerships with other colleges and universities may be eligible to apply for financial aid (Pell Grant, loans, etc…) through their home school. Current scholarships and other aid programs available through ACU are listed online at AnchorU.com/tuition-financial-aid. Scholarships opportunities are also listed on that page.
Anchor Christian University is committed to providing exceptional education that launches ministry leaders into their calling without a heavy debt load. From a strategic approach to tuition and scholarship programs to creative funding options, ACU is laser focused on helping students invest wisely in an education that returns both missional and financial value. At present, ACU does not participate in the Federal Student Aid program, though students attending ACU as guests from other schools may apply their Federal Financial Aid to ACU tuition. The ACU distance learning model often allows students to cover tuition and living expenses without borrowing to fund their education.

The following is key information to help students fund their education strategically:

**TUITION SCHEDULE**
Current tuition rates are published online at AnchorU.com/tuition-financial-aid.

**FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**
Anchor Christian University takes financial responsibility seriously. Honoring God with our financial stewardship is a core value of the institution. Financial integrity is a fundamental biblical principle for all Christians. The following policies are designed to both support that core value and build the skill of responsible financial stewardship for students in partnership with ACU.

**REGISTRATION PAYMENT POLICY**
In order to attend classes, a student’s bill is to be paid in full by the Monday following registration week. The following exceptions will be honored:

1. If the student has a signed payment plan in place and is current on that plan. However, if the student terminates the plan or defaults on the plan, full payment is due immediately. See below for payment plan options.

2. The University may consider awards from churches, service clubs, or other sources and decrease the payment required prior to attending classes by the amount of such awards only if the University receives written notice stating the award name, sponsor, amount, date of disbursement, and notice of no award restrictions.

3. If the student is enrolled as a guest student from another college or university that provides access to Federal Student Aid and the student submits the proper documentation per ACU’s consortium or contract agreement with the “home” school that shows Federal Student Aid funds will be released to cover the semester cost of attendance in line with the payment schedule. In some cases, the “home” school may release funds directly to ACU. In other cases, funds may be released to the student to transfer to ACU. In any case, the financial responsibility for the cost of attendance and timely payment lies with the student, regardless of the funding source. Students using the Federal Student Aid program through another school are responsible to navigate that process in all of its dynamics with their “home” school’s financial aid office.

If the University determines that the student’s financial aid will not be available, the student shall be notified in writing of the remaining obligation. The student will have seven days from the date of notification to settle the remaining obligation. Nonpayment will result in the student’s withdrawal from the University.
PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS
Good stewardship starts with building a realistic plan that is achievable within one’s financial means without compromising the big picture. The following payment plan options offer flexibility and structure that should fit any student’s situation.

• **Four Payments**
  - Fall semester: 25% due July 15, August 15, September 15, October 15.
  - $85 Plan Fee

• **Three Payments**
  - Fall semester: 50% down payment due August 15, 25% due September 15, 25% due Oct. 15
  - Spring semester: 50% down payment due January 15, 25% due Feb. 15, 25% due March 15
  - $85 Plan Fee

• **Two Payments**
  - Fall semester: 50% down payment due August 15 with balance paid by September 15.
  - Spring semester: 50% down payment due January 15 with balance paid by February 15.
  - $35 Plan Fee

• **One Payment**
  - Pay in full at enrollment. All charges for the semester are paid by August 15 for the fall semester and January 15 for the spring semester.
  - Your payment includes tuition, class fees, and any other amount calculated in the total cost of attendance less authorized financial aid.
  - No plan fee

There will be a two-week grace period for late payments on an installment plan agreement. Student accounts with unresolved balances more than two weeks late will result in automatic withdrawal from all current courses and forfeiture of costs paid up to that time. See the Refund Policy below.

Students experiencing financial hardship may contact the ACU administrative offices during the grace period if they anticipate an inability to meet their agreed payment. That will allow the ACU team to engage in constructive assessment with the student on next steps in the student’s best interest.

REFUND POLICY
No refunds on any fees or charges will be given to students who are dismissed or who officially withdraw from all or a portion of their classes or programs. The following exceptions will be honored.

1. If a student has received orders to report for Active Duty in the Military, the student must present a copy of their military orders.

2. If a student becomes unable to attend school due to a medical condition, the student must present a written medical release from attending classes from his/her doctor.

3. If a student’s immediate family has an emergency—because of major illness, death, or other family loss which would cause undue hardship for the family if the student remained enrolled, that student may be considered for a refund. A written request must be submitted by the student’s parent or guardian and the student explaining the situation and requesting to be excused from further class attendance.

All documentation for refunds must be presented to the ACU Administration for approval. Approved refunds are based on the date of submission. If approved, a student will receive a grade of W for all withdrawn
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Cheating, including plagiarism, is a violation of biblical principles. Students are expected to display integrity in every aspect of their lives, including ministry and academic work. Anchor Christian University takes cheating very seriously. It is expected that all work students submit to any class for grading is their original work unless the student gives credit to the source. Confirmed cases of dishonesty may result in dismissal from the university.

It is the student’s responsibility to understand what plagiarism is and to take steps to ensure they do not intentionally or unintentionally represent another’s work as their own.

When a case of cheating has been confirmed, a faculty member will confront the student; adjust the student’s grade for the exam or project on which the offense occurred; and report the incident to the ACU administrative office. Should a student feel they have been unfairly accused, they may appeal the decision.

ACADEMIC LOAD
In order to be considered as a full-time student, one must register for 12 or more credits. Approval from the faculty advisor is required for a student to take more than 18 credits.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
The distance learning format leveraged by ACU lends itself to a nontraditional attendance policy. As such, attendance expectations will be set for each course by the instructor and communicated at the beginning of each term. Students that do not regularly attend...
within the parameters of the course attendance policy will be automatically withdrawn from the course per the course policy.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS
All credits that have been successfully completed are counted when determining student classification. The undergraduate classifications are:

Freshmen 0-29 credits
Sophomores 30-59 credits
Juniors 60-89 credits
Seniors 90 credits and up

COURSE WITHDRAWALS
A student may withdraw from a course during the first nine weeks of the semester. No financial adjustments will be made. Students can obtain course withdrawal forms from the ACU administrative office. Students must continue to attend class until they return the completed course withdrawal form to the administrative office. Students who withdraw will receive a grade of “W” as assigned by the faculty member. After the nine week period, if the faculty member believes extenuating circumstances are present and in consultation with the registrar, course withdrawal is permitted with a grade of “W”.

CREDIT HOUR DEFINITION
At Anchor Christian University, academic credit is measured in semester hours. A semester hour represents the equivalent of at least one class period of 50 minutes per week for 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend approximately two hours outside of traditional class engagement for each hour in class or its equivalent.

DISMISSAL (ACADEMIC)
Students will be academically dismissed at the conclusion of the academic year according to the following standard:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Registered</th>
<th>Minimum GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-17</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-59</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-89</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who are academically dismissed may appeal to the ACU administrative office if they believe extenuating circumstances were present.

GRADING POLICIES
Grade point average (GPA) is a numerical measure of all grades. It is calculated by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credit hours attempted (excluding courses marked AU, FW, I, IP, W). The student’s GPA is based only upon courses taken at Anchor Christian University.

The following is the standard grade system for all ACU courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-94</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-91</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-88</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>84-85</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>81-83</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>78-80</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>76-77</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>73-75</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>68-69</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-67</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FW: Failure due to excessive absences and withdrawn
W: Withdrawn from a course
AU: Course was audited by a student, no grade was given
I: Incomplete grade (temporary)
IP: In progress (temporary)

GRADUATION POLICIES
Degrees are awarded in May and December and are awarded at the next graduation date after all degree requirements are met.

General Requirements for Undergraduate Programs
To be eligible for a degree, the student must have:

- Completed a minimum of 30 semester-hour credits at Anchor Christian University.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.
- Completed all the requirements of the student’s program.
- Paid the graduation fee.

General Requirements for Graduate Programs
To be eligible for a degree, the student must have:

- Completed a minimum of 2/3 of required classes at Anchor Christian University.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0.
- Completed all the requirements of the student’s program.
- Paid the graduation fee.

Because character is fundamental to Christian living as well as effective biblical ministry, Anchor Christian University stresses the central importance of reflecting the character of Christ in our lives and professional practice. While we are called to act redemptively toward those who fall, it is also true that actions have consequences. Therefore, moral or ethical misconduct is considered a serious violation of the ACU Standards of Conduct and may be grounds for dismissal at any point prior to graduation.

GRADUATION HONORS
Graduation honors announced at commencement are based upon a student’s cumulative grade point average at the beginning of the last semester before graduation. The final transcript and diploma will reflect honors standing based upon completion of all academic studies.

The following standards apply:

UNDERGRADUATE
- 3.4 With Honor
- 3.6 With High Honor
- 3.8 With Highest Honor

GRADUATE
- 3.5 Cum Laude
- 3.8 Magna Cum Laude
- 4.0 Summa Cum Laude

ONLINE COURSE ELEMENTS
All ACU courses are facilitated, at least in part, via an online learning management system. All students must have regular access to log in and engage online elements of their coursework throughout the term they are enrolled. Proper planning is the responsibility of the student. Enrollment by the student in one or more courses will be considered affirmation that they have the requisite internet access to engage regularly in classwork online.
PROBATION (ACADEMIC)
Students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 (C average) will be placed on probation. Removal from academic probation will occur when the cumulative GPA reaches 2.0.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS
The U.S. Department of Education mandates institutions of higher education to establish minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to be evaluated and monitored for all students in order to receive Federal (Title IV) aid. Any student who is otherwise eligible must meet the standards used by the institution to determine if a Title IV recipient is maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress in their course of study, regardless of whether the student had previously received Title IV aid. Students must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements in order to receive Federal (Title IV) financial aid that includes Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants, Stafford Loans, Plus Loans, and Federal Work Study.

Anchor Christian University does not currently participate in Title IV, though hosted students from other institutions may apply Title IV funds to their ACU costs, in some cases. In such cases, ACU is responsible to participate in supporting the home institution’s SAP compliance. Such students should educate themselves on their home institution’s SAP requirements. Regardless of financial aid status, all students must meet SAP requirements to maintain enrollment at ACU without special permission from the Academic Office.

All students will be evaluated using qualitative, quantitative, and maximum time frame standards. Academic records of all students will be reviewed after the end of each term (Fall, Spring, and Summer). The review is cumulative and includes all courses taken at the student’s current academic level. After the evaluation, letters will be sent to all students who have not successfully met SAP requirements. Warning letters will be sent to those who did not meet the requirements at the end of the first term, and those who are not making progress at the end of the second term will receive a letter that their enrollment status has been suspended unless and until a plan is implemented in concert with the Academic Office.

Qualitative Standard
To meet the qualitative standard, students must obtain a minimum cumulative GPA as determined by their classification and program. Cumulative GPA is composed of all coursework at the current academic level and is calculated by the Academic Office.

Student Classification

Undergraduate Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Min. Cum. GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1–18</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19–36</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37–55</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56+</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Min. Cum. GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once a transfer student has grades for a term at ACU for coursework taken toward an eligible program, the institution will use the cumulative GPA calculated from those grades only.

Quantitative Standard
In order to meet the quantitative standard, students must complete 67% of their cumulative attempted credits at their current level. Withdrawals, incompletes, repeated courses, and failure grades will count as at-
tempted but not earned credits and will lower the completion rate.

Transfer credits will count as attempted and earned. Completion rates are NOT ROUNDED UP to meet progress. If a student has a completion rate of 66.777%, they are not meeting the minimum 67% requirement of satisfactory academic progress.

Maximum Time Frame
A student may not exceed 150% of the program’s required credits. Once the student reaches the maximum timeframe allowed, the student will be ineligible to receive financial aid; students may appeal on the basis of coursework not applicable to current degree program.

The maximum number of attempted credits allowed can be calculated by multiplying the number of credits required in the program by 1.5. Program Credits X 1.5 = Maximum Allowed.

Break in Enrollment
When a student has a break in enrollment and is re-admitted, the Satisfactory Academic Progress status for prior terms will apply. For example, if a student is placed on financial aid suspension at the end of the spring term, does not return in the fall term, and is re-admitted the next spring term, the student will continue in a financial aid suspension status for that term.

SCHEDULE CHANGES
At the beginning of each semester, a period of time not longer than one week is established by the administrative office for the purpose of giving students an opportunity to adjust their schedules. Appropriate financial adjustments will be made.

TRANSCRIPTS
Students desiring a transcript should use the Transcript Request Form available online at AnchorU.com/transcripts. If there are any questions related to transcript requests, please contact the ACU administrative office.

TRANSFER CREDIT
Anchor Christian University accepts credit from accredited institutions of higher education and from other institutions of higher education which have academic standards comparable to ACU. Transfer credit is limited to those courses which are applicable to the program in which the student is enrolled and to those courses in which a grade of “C-” or higher was earned. Only the credit is transferred; the grade and grade points are not figured in the student’s grade point average.

WITHDRAWING FROM ACU
Any student who is contemplating withdrawing from the university should contact the administrative office. The administrative office will insure that all details are completed for an official withdrawal. Tuition refunds will be made according to the policies established by the college as listed in the Financial Policies section of the catalog.