

GRACE
CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY



2019-2020

Online Undergraduate Academic Catalog

1011 Aldon Street SW
PO Box 910
Grand Rapids, MI 49509

(616) 538-2330
1-800-968-1887

Business Office Fax (616) 538-0599
Academic Office Fax (616) 261-8593

GRACECHRISTIAN.EDU

The academic catalog is not a contract between Grace Christian University and the student. Grace makes every effort to include applicable academic and non-academic information available at the time of publishing the annual catalog. Web-based catalog content will continue to be updated as new information becomes available and represents the most accurate version of the catalog.

While all students must follow academic programs as listed in the catalog in effect at the time of entrance or re-entry to the university, any changes instituted by the faculty or administration become effective when official notification is published unless otherwise stated and may differ from the entering catalog.

Students are expected to satisfy the degree requirements of the respective entry year catalog within eight years. After a period of eight years or upon re-entry to the institution, a student will be expected to satisfy the degree requirements of an active catalog year, eight years old or less.

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Acknowledgment of Receipt

All students are provided with notification of and access to the current academic catalog. Enrollment in any Grace Christian University course indicates the student's acknowledgment of the policies and procedures outlined in the respective division's academic catalog. The student acknowledges that he/she has read and understood the Grace Christian University Academic Catalog pertaining to his/her academic division, which is located on the University website (gracechristian.edu). The student understands that it reflects the current policies, regulations, guidelines, and services of Grace Christian University and accepts responsibility for compliance. The student understands that these policies, regulations, guidelines, and services are subject to change at the discretion of the University at any time with or without prior communication. The student understands it is his/her responsibility to remain current with this information. The student acknowledges that, if he/she does not understand any statements of this catalog, it is his/her responsibility to seek out clarification from either a dean or an administrator.

Message from the President

Grace Christian University (formerly Grace Bible College) is an incredible place. As president of Grace, I am excited to welcome you to experience a life-transforming education. The Grace Christian University faculty, staff, and students are committed to being a growing community. By that, we mean that each of us, starting with the president, realizes that we are still in process. We are not all that God designed and purposed us to be, nor are we content with our current condition. Through competent instructors committed to academic excellence, and staff and administration committed to serving and growing, we believe Grace Christian University can be used by God to change your life!

The prevalent mentality of the day is intent on tolerance and policing certain words and activities deemed inappropriate or incorrect according to their own vacillating set of values. Grace Christian University believes that the eternal truths and values of the Word of God, rightly divided, are principles that pervade all areas of life and education.

The Apostle Paul states, *“For in Him all things were created both in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together...so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything”* (Colossians 1:16-18).

I would conclude from the above Scripture that Jesus Christ is to be the center of life, speech, values, service, education, and social relationships. The world we live in and its present crises are evidence of what happens when education and life are no longer Christ-centered. There is no values-free education, it is all taught from a particular world-view. I believe it is vital for our students to be educated from a biblical world-view that prepares them for their careers, vocations, or further education with God’s values and purposes in view.

Grace Christian University is committed to preparing leaders to be all that God wants them to be, educationally, socially, physically, and spiritually. If that’s your heart’s desire, then Grace is the place for you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. B. Kemper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. Ken B. Kemper, President

Mission Statement: Graduating Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society

Accreditation

Grace Christian University is dually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education.

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

hlcommission.org

800-621-7440

Commission on Accreditation Association for Biblical Higher Education

5850 T.G. Lee Blvd., Ste. 130

Orlando, FL 32822

Ph: (407) 207-0808

Fax: (407) 207-0840

abhe.org

Grace Christian University is authorized by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs for the State of Michigan to award Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Religious Education, Bachelor of Music, and Associate of Arts, and Master degrees. The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has statutory powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities regarding the establishment and approval of non-public institutions incorporating private colleges and universities.

Documents from all of these agencies are available for review upon request in the Administration Office.

Grace Christian University is authorized under Federal law to enroll non-immigrant students and cooperates with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in processing benefits for the training of honorably discharged service members.

Location

Grace Christian University is located just west of US 131, near the intersection of 28th Street and Clyde Park Avenue. Grace's campus can be found in Wyoming, Michigan, a suburb of the greater Grand Rapids metropolitan area. The area is serviced by major air, rail, and bus lines.

History

Grace began in 1939. It was founded as Milwaukee Bible Institute, a training center for laymen and Sunday school teachers of Milwaukee. The Institute was organized by Reverend Charles F. Baker, then pastor of Fundamental Bible Church. The regular day school program began in 1945. This move was stimulated by a group of evangelical pastors especially concerned about advancing a dispensational theology approach to the Bible, the distinctive character of the revelation given to the apostle Paul, and the preparation of full-time Christian workers to fulfill this goal. In 1953, the curriculum was broadened and Milwaukee Bible Institute became Milwaukee Bible College.

In 1961, the College relocated to suburban Grand Rapids, Michigan, and was renamed Grace Bible College. The State of Michigan granted the University the authority to grant Associate and Bachelor of Religious Education degrees, as well as a five-year degree for vocational ministers. In 1967, Dr. Jack T. Dean became President and led the College through a period of growth and expansion. Early on, the College (1967) received accreditation from the Association of American Biblical Colleges (now Association of Biblical Higher Education). In order to serve the growing needs of students and those of the broader Christian community and society, Grace has expanded its degree programs over the years. These include Associate of Arts degrees in General Studies and Business as well as Bachelor degrees in Business, Early Childhood Education, Human Services, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Worship Arts. The Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies degree is granted with Concentrations in General Ministry, Intercultural Studies, Pastoral Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Women's Ministry.

Over the years, Grace has formed partnerships with two local colleges: Davenport and Cornerstone Universities, which allow students to graduate with dual degrees in Business and Education, as well as a few other degrees offered by Cornerstone. Dr. Samuel R. Vinton was Grace's third President from 1985-1989. Under President Vinton, initial regional accreditation was granted to the University by the North Central Association (now the Higher Learning Commission) with the hard work of Dr. Marlin Olson and others.

Along with the academic expansion, the University has been blessed with numerous progressive steps in student development. Bruce Kemper came to Grace in 1990 from pastoral ministry and brought a strong ministry emphasis. Throughout the years, Grace has continued to emphasize ministry off-campus, in the neighborhood, around the country, and with cross-cultural ministry teams locally and overseas. This ministry is often with faculty and staff or student leadership.

Gospel teams which minister to students in churches, along with evangelism and preaching teams, have been a constant part of Grace's commitment to ministry for every student as a normal way of life.

Grace has a proud history of intercollegiate athletics (soccer, volleyball, basketball, and cross-country). Since moving to the Grand Rapids campus, the teams have earned many regional and national championship titles against much larger opponents.

Ken Bruce Kemper was called on to lead the College in early 2003 when his father retired. By God's strength, he brought vision and energy to the College. Several significant updates and additions have since occurred on the campus. The Jack T. Dean Academic Center was purchased and remodeled in 2005. This purchase more than tripled classroom space, provided additional faculty offices, and added over five acres to the Grace Campus. The O'Hair Administrative Building was also remodeled to house Grace Administrative offices, Grace Ministries International, Grace Gospel Fellowship, and Grace Publications.

In 2010, Grace began a non-traditional education program offering working adults an opportunity to study one night a week or exclusively online and earn an Associate or Bachelor Degree. The Beyond the Bricks Capital Campaign was a revitalization of the campus which added a new student commons and upgraded exterior parking, walkways, and landscaping. God blessed the College's efforts in student enrollment as it doubled the traditional student count by 2015 and even more non-traditional students enrolled. This growth helped Grace grow its program in both size and quality of academic and student services. Most faculty hold doctoral degrees.

In January 2016, after accreditation approval by the HLC, the College began its graduate program with the first degree – a Masters in Ministry, recently adding another graduate degree in organizational leadership. These classes are formatted for graduates already serving, and are therefore completely online.

In 2017, the Board of Directors of the College unanimously voted to change the name of the College to Grace Christian University. This change officially took place on July 1, 2018. Grace Christian University reflects the expansion and excellence of the institution's programs of study, while also showing the commitment to our valuable past. Bible remains a core value and a significant portion of all degree programs. Vocational ministry also continues to be an institutional priority as well.

Praise God that there are hundreds/thousands of Grace alumni serving the Lord with great impact in various vocational settings around the world today!

Doctrinal Statement

The Bible

The verbal inspiration and plenary authority of the Bible in its original writings.
(II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:21)

The Godhead

The eternal Trinity of the Godhead.
(Genesis 1:26; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 11:33-36; I Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:4-6; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:8-10)

The Person of Jesus Christ

The eternal deity and spotless humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
(Luke 1:35; Romans 1:3-4; I Corinthians 15:1-8; Philippians 2:6-11)

Sin and Depravity of Man

The total depravity of humanity by nature.
(Romans 3:11-23; Isaiah 59:2; 64:6)

Salvation

Salvation by grace, through faith in the crucified and risen Christ.
(John 1:11-13; 3:16-17; Romans 3:24-28; 10:9-13; I Corinthians 15:1-4; II Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9)

Eternal Security

The eternal security of the saved.
(John 10:28-29; Romans 8:1; 8:28-39; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; II Thessalonians 2:13-14; Hebrews 9:11-12)

The Holy Spirit

The personality and deity of the Holy Spirit.
(John 16:7-8; Acts 5:3-4; I Corinthians 2:10-12; 6:19; 12:13; Galatians 5:16-26; Ephesians 4:4-6)

The Church

The essential unity of all believers of this present dispensation as members of the one true church, the Body of Christ.
(I Corinthians 12:13, 27; Ephesians 1:22-23; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:18, 24-25)

The Believer's Walk

The privilege and duty of all the saved to walk as children of the light.

(Psalm 119:9-11; Romans 6:6-14; II Corinthians 5:11-15; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:27-32; Philippians 2:12-13)

The Lord's Supper

The communion of the Lord's Supper "until He comes."

(I Corinthians 10:14-22; 11:17-34)

Baptism

The one divine and spiritual baptism by which believers are made members of the Body of Christ at conversion as the only baptism necessary in God's spiritual program in this dispensation of the Grace of God.

(Romans 6:3-4; I Corinthians 1:17; 12:12-13; Galatians 3:26-27; Ephesians 4:3-6; Colossians 2:9-12)

The Resurrection

The physical resurrection of the body.

(Luke 24:39-43; John 5:28-29; I Corinthians 15:12-24; Philippians 3:21; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15)

The Return of Christ

The pre-tribulation rapture of the members of the Body of Christ.

(I Corinthians 15:51-53; Philippians 3:20-21; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13-14)

After a seven-year tribulation period, the personal, premillennial return of Christ to reign on earth.

(Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 9:20-27; Zechariah 14:4, 9; Matthew 24:15-41; Revelation 19:11-16; 20:1-4)

The Eternal State of the Dead

The eternal punishment of the unsaved dead.

(Luke 16:23-28; John 3:36; II Corinthians 5:6-8; Philippians 1:23; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:10-15)

The Mission of the Church

The worldwide preaching of the gospel of the Grace of God.

(Acts 20:24; Romans 12:9-21; 16:25-27; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Ephesians 3:8-9)

Buildings & Facilities

Bultema Memorial Library

Named for the late Pastor Harry Bultema of Muskegon, MI, the library was expanded and renovated in 2003. The Library houses over 40,000 items, a curriculum room, CDs, DVDs, and videos, internet access and an online catalog, as well as comfortable reading and study areas for individuals and groups.

O’Hair Memorial Building

Named after the late Pastor J.C. O’Hair, this building houses the president’s, business and administrative offices as well as three affiliated organizations – Grace Gospel Fellowship, Grace Ministries International, and Grace Publications.

Huston Hall

The late T.R. Huston was one of the founders of the College. The building contains the Kahawa Café, recreation room, and dining hall. The dining hall, kitchen, and recreation room portion of Huston Hall have undergone major renovations during 2019.

Jack T. Dean Academic Center

This academic hub was named after the College’s second president. It includes classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, student lounge, facilities for the expanded Worship Arts program, and the Grace Online program staff.

Baker Chapel

Charles F. Baker was the founder and first president of the College. The chapel, named in his honor, was constructed in 1980 to accommodate the regular college chapel services, musical recitals and concerts, as well as dramatic productions. In 2019, the chapel was upgraded with new technology equipment to live stream and video record events in the chapel.

Aldrich Athletic Center

Named for the Aldrich sisters from Chicago, Illinois, this building, erected in 1977, includes a gymnasium with bleacher seating for 500. The upstairs houses the fitness center and the Community Life offices, which include the campus counselor, campus pastor, and career services.

Aletheia Hall and Preston Hall

Separate residence halls for women and men students. Both residences have laundry facilities. Student lounges are adjacent to each hall.

Campus Houses

Ten (10) houses adjacent to College property are available for upperclassmen housing.

Enslow and Klein Memorial Apartments

Twelve one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments provide additional housing for students. The buildings honor Fred and Julia Enslow and Karl Klein who bequeathed generous gifts to Grace.

26th Street Apartments

The 2-6 houses 14 students in living units comprised of a kitchen, bathroom, and living areas with either one or two bedrooms. The apartments have a free laundry facility and wifi.

Houses

Grace owns a number of houses which provide living quarters for dozens of students. The houses include a kitchen, bathroom, a living area, and three bedrooms. All houses have free laundry and wifi.

Student Commons

The Student Commons renovation and addition was completed in 2011. The Commons provides students with a comfortable central gathering place.

Commitment to Cultural Intelligence

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all ONE in Christ Jesus.”
-Galatians 3:28

Grace Christian University is committed to educating students from diverse backgrounds and preparing them to serve Christ in a diverse society.

Grace defines diversity as differences in culture, experience, and background among individuals and groups. This includes but is not limited to race, ethnicity, nationalities, generations, abilities, and denominations consistent with our Christian world-view and appropriate to our theological context.

In order to build the capacity to both create a more diverse campus and better prepare students for a diverse world, the University has partnered with the **Cultural Intelligence Center (CQC)** to provide training and assessment in **Cultural Intelligence (CQ)** for every employee and student at Grace. CQ consists of four capabilities: CQ Drive, CQ Knowledge, CQ Strategy and CQ Action.

Every employee and every student takes a CQ assessment to understand their own levels of cultural intelligence compared to worldwide norms. Every employee receives CQ training.

The four CQ capabilities have been integrated into the curriculum of every student using the following educational outcomes:

- CQ Drive: Is the student able to interact with a high level of interest, persistence, and confidence in multicultural situations?
- CQ Knowledge: Is the student able to analyze how cultures are similar and different?
- CQ Strategy: Is the student able to plan with awareness for multicultural interactions?
- CQ Action: Is the student able to adapt when relating and working in multicultural contexts?

Grace Christian University believes that by building capacity for diversity through CQ, the University is creating the ability it needs to create a more diverse campus that prepares students to serve Christ in a diverse society.

Online Programs

Welcome to Grace Christian University! You have made a great choice to pursue not only your educational edification but your spiritual edification as well. We desire for our students to graduate with a greater knowledge of both Jesus Christ and their chosen career path. Our mission at Grace Christian University is to Graduate Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society!

ABOUT GRACE ONLINE

Grace Christian University developed its Online program to meet the needs of busy adult learners. Grace Online students are typically employed part-time or full-time and are interested in completing their degree while continuing to work. Grace Online provides students the opportunity to begin classes at different times of the year and attend class online on a year-round basis, thus allowing earlier completion of the degree than through traditional means when attending only part-time.

Grace Online offers the following degrees:

- Associate of Arts in Leadership and Ministry, Human Services, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Business, and General Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Ministry, Human Services, Psychology, Criminal Justice, and Business.
 - The Bachelor of Science majors in Leadership and Ministry, Human Services, and Psychology include 12 credits of exploratory electives. Choose from one of the following elective tracks or select your own individual electives. Elective Track Options: Adult Development and Aging, Business, Criminal Justice, Global Communication, Leadership & Ministry, Pastoral Studies (Leadership & Ministry students only), Social Sciences, Women's Ministry, and Youth Ministry.

ONLINE COURSES

To increase access to education and meet the flexibility needs of busy adult learners, courses and programs are offered through online delivery. In online courses, students complete their weekly learning activities (reading, discussions, assignments) in an asynchronous way (i.e., not necessarily at the same time as others). Each course contains a complete syllabus and course guide with learning activities and due dates for each week.

Within the Blackboard learning environment, navigation buttons provide ease of maneuvering through the course sections. Email allows students to communicate with the instructor, while the electronic discussion board capabilities allow students and instructor to post, share, and read threaded discussions, questions, and comments. Students must use Microsoft Word documents when submitting assignments. Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher will be needed for some courses; an Office 365 subscription is provided at no-additional-cost to the student. Students should expect to spend approximately 20 or more hours per week engaged in coursework.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Students in the Online programs will be able to:

- Complete an Associate of Arts degree in as little as 2 years;
- Complete a Bachelor of Science degree in as little as 2 years (with a prior Associate degree earned);
- Convert significant prior learning into college credit by submitting a thorough portfolio demonstrating prior college-level learning;
- Attend class asynchronously online and minimize interference from work schedules and family responsibilities;
- Improve written, oral, and computer skills, and strengthen their ability to maximize ministry responsibilities and/or leadership skills;
- Meet in a collaborative format and benefit from the varied experiences and ideas of classmates;
- Obtain a degree that opens a wide range of opportunities, including pursuing graduate studies;
- Attend small virtual classes with the same students, developing teamwork skills and mutual support;
- Receive individualized instruction and specific attention;
- Gain satisfaction by fulfilling an educational goal.

Educational Philosophy

Grounded in a fundamental belief in the pursuit of truth, a primary concern of Grace Christian University is to cultivate a learning environment that encourages participation, freedom of thought, open questions and the free exchange of ideas for every individual. This openness arises from a threefold conviction: 1) that truth is to be found in the person of Jesus Christ, who is himself the Truth (John 14:6); 2) that the Bible is the Word of God and therefore God's truth revealed (John 17:17, Psalm 119:60); and 3) that truth is coherent because God is the author of truth (e.g., "all truth is God's truth"). In this pursuit of truth, the faculty of the University is committed to the holistic personal growth of each student in his or her intellectual, moral, and spiritual capacities, and as an expression of each student's God-given identity, mission, and purpose.

In alignment with the mission, vision, and values of the University, the faculty affirm:

Our Historic Purpose and Distinctive Theological Perspective

Belief in the inspired and authoritative Word of God has been fundamental to the University since its founding as Milwaukee Bible Institute in 1939. Its distinct theological perspective of Pauline dispensational theology continues to guide biblical and theological instruction as the faculty train 21st-century leaders for Christian service in a range of vocational contexts. In all cases, the faculty seek to model and extend practical dimensions of this Grace theology, including but not limited to: mercy, kindness, forgiveness, inclusion, humility, and service.

Our Bible-Focused Curriculum and Instruction

The University's unwavering commitment to the authority of the Bible is reflected in and through an integrated biblical perspective in all classes. This includes the integration of biblical knowledge (Old and New Testaments, Christian World-view) and other academic knowledge (general and discipline-specific education). Students are encouraged to develop a framework for personal and professional decision making that correlates with the truth of God's Word.

Our Career-Oriented Student Body

Recognizing the diversity of the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12), the faculty support on campus, online, and graduate students in the pursuit of their unique career callings and vocations. Whenever possible, students will be given opportunities for practical learning experiences that will equip and enhance them with knowledge and skills that prepare them for viable careers in a competitive job market. Faculty will continually evaluate degree programs and instructional methods to ensure that the education offered by the University is practical and relevant in preparing students to serve Christ in Church and society.

Our Commitment to Transformational Relationships

As a community of lifelong learners, the Faculty seeks to develop life-changing learning environments and experiences for students, both inside and outside of the classroom. They value students' personal and professional development, and are committed to guiding them through the educational process through life-on-life mentoring relationships, career counseling, and personal and spiritual guidance. The commitment to transformational relationship includes awareness of and commitment to cultural intelligence, diversity, inclusion of underrepresented and under-served communities of students.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

The mission of Grace Christian University is *Graduating Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society*. In order for students to graduate ready to serve, they need a *commitment* to KNOW truth and wisdom, they need to BE people with *character*, they need *competence* in what they DO, and they need to SERVE others with *compassion*. Therefore, the following Institutional Learning Outcomes are expected of all Grace Christian University students. In addition to these institutional outcomes, each degree program has specific outcomes which build upon and enhance these outcomes.

KNOWING

Students will increase their knowledge of God's word since this is foundational for all contained in Christian character. While God's word is given as special revelation, we also understand the need to grasp God's general revelation through creation which leads students to pursue a broad understanding of humanity. In a world of competing truth claims, students must be able to think critically and creatively as they acquire the knowledge needed for life and work.

K.1 - Increasing Knowledge of God's Word

Ability to increasingly understand the Bible as God's Word revealed to man throughout history

K.2 - Understanding of Humanity

An expanding awareness and appreciation of humanity's social, emotional, historical, ethical, and physical development

K.3 - Critical and Creative Thinking

The ability to understand, apply, analyze, and evaluate concepts and beliefs as well as formulate clear expressions of one's own concepts and beliefs

K.4 - Knowledge Acquisition

The ability to locate, evaluate and benefit from information needed to navigate life and work

BEING

Students will be people of strong character who are able to apply God's Word to their lives from the foundation of a Christian world-view resulting in behavior which is ethically sound and relationships which honor God.

B.1 - Applying the Word of God to life

The ability to correctly understand God's Word and the principles from which we draw guidance and wisdom for the questions of life

B.2 - Christian World-view

An understanding of God's creation, the sinfulness of mankind, and the outworking of God's redemptive plan through human history

B.3 - Ethical Sound Behavior

The ability to recognize difficult life situations and make right and just choices based on ethical standards and the Word of God

B.4 - God Honoring Relationships

Ability to engage people in relationships which admonish and edify all parties for the glory of God

DOING

In their course of study, students will develop the skills needed for living and working in the world. This will necessitate strong communication skills and an ability to work with others in a variety of situations. Students will also develop their own life skills.

D.1 - Communication Skills

The ability to communicate effectively in oral, written, and culturally relevant forms

D.2 - Work with Others

The ability to accomplish tasks and assignments as part of a larger effort than one's self

D.3 - Life Skills

The ability to manage one's personal life as a steward of God's gift

SERVING

Students will develop a heart of compassion and concern for others demonstrated through service to church and society.

S.1 - Concern for Others

Understanding that God has created all people in his image and values them

S.2 - Service of Others

Giving of one's time, talents and energy for the betterment of others in the church and in society

S.3 - Cultural Intelligence

Students will compare and contrast cultures, articulate strategies for cross-cultural interactions, and demonstrate effective cross-cultural motivation and behaviors

S.4 - Leadership

Students will articulate a biblical perspective of leadership principles and demonstrate leadership skills in work and ministry

Student Performance Statistics

The Student Right-to-Know regulations require all colleges and universities participating in federally funded financial aid programs to document information on the cohort of first-time, full-time freshmen entering the institution on or after July 1, 1996. Disclosure is not required until 150% of the estimated program length has elapsed. All colleges and universities entering into Program Participation Agreements with the Department of Education are required to complete the IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey of 1997 (Section 490 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992, P.L. 102-325.106. Stat. 448).

Graduation/Completion Rates

- Transfer, part-time, and non-degree students are not included in the graduation/completion rate.
- The graduation rate is based on 6 years of attendance that equates to 150% of the longest program.
- The graduation/completion rate does not include students who left the institution to serve in the armed forces, with an official church mission organization, or in the foreign service of the federal government. Students who died or were totally and permanently disabled are also excluded.
- The institution is not required to report the transfer-out rate since the mission of the institution does not include providing substantial preparation for students to enroll in other institutions.

Year of Entry	Undergraduate, First-Time, Full-Time, Bachelor-Degree Seeking Students Enrolled	6 Year (150%) Graduation Rate
2008	52	52%
2009	48	61%
2010	53	32%
2011	68	49%
2012	86	51%
2013	90	47%

First-Time Full-Time Freshman, Bachelor Degree Seeking Student Retention Rates

Year of Entry	Undergraduate, First-Time, Full-Time, Bachelor-Degree Seeking Students Enrolled	1 Year Retention Rate (Students who returned for the following fall semester)
Fall 2010	53	61%
Fall 2011	68	62%
Fall 2012	86	66%
Fall 2013	90	68%
Fall 2014	72	56%
Fall 2015	85	66%
Fall 2016	70	62%
Fall 2017	66	61%
Fall 2018	85	72%

EMPLOYMENT/GRADUATE STUDIES RATES

While Grace Christian University does not formally place students in jobs or guarantee employment, the University is concerned that graduating students are fulfilling the mission of the University through employment in their degree fields or are pursuing further graduate studies. Rate is based on status one year after graduation.

What Questions do We Ask Our Graduates?

- What is your employment standing? (working, volunteering, continuing education, military, still seeking)
- Who is your employer? What is your job title?
- If working, what type of work applies to you? (Full-time, part-time, temporary contract, graduate assistantship/fellowship)
- What is your salary? (hourly or salary)
- If you are continuing education, what institution are you attending? What degree are you pursuing?

How is “First Destination” defined?

Destination is defined as full-time employment (30 hours or more) or continuing education within 6 months of graduation. The position does not need to be degree related.

When does the Survey Launch and Close?

The survey launches roughly a month before graduation and closes 6 months after graduation. The survey is sent out 6 times during this time period.

Final Destination Survey Results - All Graduates

Year	Type of Degree	Response Rate	Destination Rate	Full-Time Employment Rate
2017	Online Bachelor Degree	49%	76%	59%
2017	On-Campus Bachelor Degree	97%	89%	84%
2018	Online Bachelor Degree	96%	65%	46%
2018	On-Campus Bachelor Degree	97%	87%	77%
2018	Online Masters Degree	100%	85%	71%
2019	Online Bachelor Degree	67%	76%	63%
2019	On-Campus Bachelor Degree	100%	76%	67%
2019	Online Masters Degree	83%	80%	80%

Distance Education Reciprocity Agreement

Grace Christian University has been approved by the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA). NC-SARA is a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of post-secondary distance education. By participating in NC-SARA, Grace is able to offer online degree programs and courses to residents in NC-SARA participating states as well as states in which prior authorization for the recruitment or enrollment of students is not required.

Currently, Grace is able to enroll students from all states participating in SARA membership. The state of California is not a member of NC-SARA.

More information on NC-SARA can be found at [nc-sara.org](https://www.nc-sara.org)

Grievance Procedure

Most matters of conflict or disagreement can be resolved by meeting individually with the offending party. Grace Christian University asks that any member of the community with a complaint against another member or entity first attempt to seek a resolution by meeting with the individual with whom they are in conflict. Whether or not an individual meeting has taken place, students have the right to submit a formal complaint. This process is initiated by completing a **Formal Grievance Form**. The Academic Provost maintains a record of these complaints as well as the processing of complaints according to University policies.

If the student is not able to satisfactorily resolve the complaint or grievance with the University, the student has the right to submit his or her complaint to the State of Michigan or either of the Institution's accrediting bodies:

- Higher Learning Commission: hlcommission.org
- Commission on Accreditation, Association for Biblical Higher Education: abhe.org
- Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs: michigan.gov/lara

Cooperation & Support

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The primary purpose of the association is to foster fellowship among graduates and former students. Homecoming at the University as well as regional banquets, breakfasts, and other meetings are exciting times. Members of the association encourage students to attend Grace and provide regular and special fund support of the University.

GRACE GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP

Grace Christian University is an affiliated organization of Grace Gospel Fellowship and is therefore recognized as the only college and theological training school of the Fellowship.

CHURCHES

The University may receive financial support from caring churches.

PUBLICATIONS

The University publishes The Journey magazine, which contains articles of educational thought, University news, and alumni activities. TRUTH is a subscription magazine, published quarterly by the Grace Gospel Fellowship. It contains Bible study articles and news sections from the University, GGF, and other affiliated organizations.

Academic Calendar

2019-20 ONLINE UNDERGRADUATE TERM SCHEDULE

Grace Christian University operates on a semester basis. The Online Undergraduate programs run 5-week courses according to the schedule below.

Term Start Date	Term End Date
5/14/19	6/17/19
6/18/19	7/22/19
7/23/19	8/26/19
8/27/19	9/30/19
10/1/19	11/4/19
11/5/19	12/9/19
12/10/19	1/20/20
1/21/20	2/24/20
2/25/20	3/30/20
4/7/20	5/11/20

2019-20 SCHEDULED BREAKS

Courses will not be in session during the following week-long periods. A break may fall during the middle of a term.

Christmas (1 week): 12/24/19 - 12/30/19

Spring Break (1 week): 3/31/20 - 4/6/20

Board of Directors & Advisory Board

Matt Amundsen

Holland, MI
Executive Director, GGF

Jill Anderson

Wyoming, MI
Librarian, Kent District Library

Craig Apel

Holland, MI
Retired Pastor

Dale Day

Jenison, MI
Owner, Hudsonville Trailer

Dr. Daniel Gowdy

Grand Rapids, MI
VP of Development,
Sunset Communities

Matthew Hall, J.D.

Kentwood, MI
Assistant Public
Defender, Ottawa County

Tim Hall

Rockford, MI
Retired, Pastor-At-Large

Dr. Gretchen Johnson

Grandville, MI
Director of Education and
Training, Pine Rest

Dr. Mulonge Kalumbula

Grand Rapids, MI
Curriculum Director, Grand
Rapids Public Schools

Keith Kemper, J.D.

Edmonds, WA
Partner, Ellis, Li &
McKinstry, PLLC

Dr. Ken Bruce Kemper

Hudsonville, MI
President, Grace
Christian University

Russell Kopp

Jenison, MI
Senior Director of Professional
Services, Wesco

Bill Krombeen

Byron Center, MI
Retired, Dickinson Press

William Lange

Mobile, AL
Pastor, Forest Park
Bible Church and
Owner, Bay Auto Glass

Gary Leyendecker

Byron Center, MI
Pastor, Retired and
Monument/Marker Specialist
Cook Funeral Service

James Moore

Hudsonville, MI
Educator, Byron
Center High School

Scott Myers

Enumclaw, WA
Pastor, Northwest Bible Church

Rebekah Shyne

Muskegon, MI
Teacher,
Muskegon Public Schools

Brenda Tuttle

Eastport, NY
Family Life Director,
Eastport Bible Church

Rodney Velting

Rockford, MI
Pastoral
Resident, Calvary Church

Dr. Sam Vinton

Caledonia, MI
Retired, GMI and
Adjunct Instructor, Grace
Christian University

Bryan Walker

Hopkins, MI
Superintendent, Calvary
Schools of Holland

Dr. James Webb

Byron Center, MI
General Surgeon/Short
Term Mission Work

Shocka Williams

Wyoming, MI
Senior Application Developer,
Red Van Workshop

Randy Zandbergen

Wyoming, MI
CFO, Pioneer Construction

Leaders

Kenneth Kemper, M.Div., Ph.D.

President

Brian Sherstad, M.S.

Executive Vice President

ACADEMICS

Kimberly Pilienci, M.A., Ph.D.

Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Timothy Rumley, M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D.

Associate Provost

Shaelyn Baas, M.Ed.

Dean of Online Undergraduate, University Registrar

Matthew DeYoung, M.B.A.

Dean of the School of Business

David Greydanus, J.D.

Chair of Criminal Justice

Pamela Grissom, M.A., M.S., Ed.D.

Graduate Program Champion - Organizational Leadership

Matthew Loverin, M.T.S., Ph.D.

Dean of the School of Biblical Studies

Patrick McGillicuddy, M.A.

Chair of Pastoral Ministry

Scott Shaw, M.A., M.T.S., M.A., M.S.W., Ed.S., D.Min., Ph.D.

Dean of the School of Social Science and Human Services

Pamela Sherstad, M.A.

Chair of the School of Arts & Sciences

Mark Sooy, M.A.

Chair of Leadership and Ministry

Paul Sweet, M.A., Ph.D.

Graduate Program Champion - Ministry

Jason Werkema, M.M., Ph.D.

Dean of the School of Music, Worship, & Technology

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Doug Vriesman, M.B.A.

Vice President of Finance and Business Services

Sherea Lacy, M.B.A.

Associate Vice President of Talent Management

Zak Sorensen

Associate Vice President of Enrollment and Marketing

ADVANCEMENT

Stephen Gowdy

Vice President for Advancement, Chief Advancement Officer

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Kyle Bohl, M.A.

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs

Faculty

FACULTY EMERITI

The designation of Professor Emeritus, granted by the Board of Directors of Grace Christian University, is an honor given to a retired faculty member who has demonstrated particularly meritorious service to the institution, its students, and the cause of scholarship in Christian higher education.

Evelyne Beyer (1963 – 1990)

Dale S. De Witt (1961 – 2003)

Gunvor K. Olson (1979 – 1995)

Marlin L. Olson (1977 – 1995)

FACULTY, ADJUNCT FACULTY, INSTRUCTORS

ZAWDIE ABIADE

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Interdenominational Theological Seminary

D.Min. Trinity Theological Seminary

D.Min. Chicago Theological Seminary

GEORGE ACKERMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Nova Southeastern University

M.B.A. Nova Southeastern University

J.D. Nova Southeastern University

Ph.D. Capella University

THOMAS ALDRICH

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Ed. Grand Valley State University

ANDREW ALEXSON

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. University of Maine

M.Div. Columbia International University

D.Ed. Liberty University

MARK AMERMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Capella University

Ph.D. Capella University

LILIA ANAND

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. University of Oregon

DANA ARLEDGE

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Liberty University
M.T.S. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

VALISSA ARMSTEAD

Online and Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. University of Phoenix

DEBRA BALDWIN

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Webster University
D.Ed. Barry University

JORDAN BALLARD

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.Div. Liberty University
M.A.R. Liberty University
M.R.E. Liberty University
S.T.M. Dallas Theological Seminary

DAVID BARRY

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Western Michigan University
Ed.D. Western Michigan University

ADAM BARTON

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Malone University

KYLE BOHL

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Associate Vice President – Student Affairs
M.A. Cornerstone University

BRIAN BOSSICK

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. University of Akron
Ph.D. University of Akron

KELLI BOSSICK

Online Adjunct Faculty, Director of Career Services
M.Ed. Grand Valley State University

JEFFREY BRODRICK

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Director of Library Services
M.L.I.S. University of Pittsburgh
M.S. Wilkes University

DAVID BROWN

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Hope International University
D.W.S. Institute of Worship Studies

GERALD BROWNING

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Illinois State University

INGRID BUCH-WAGLER

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.M. University of British Columbia
Ph.D. Trinity Theological Seminary

MARK CARROLL

Faculty
M.R.E. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
Ed.D. Trinity Theological Seminary

RAYMOND CASE

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Trinity Theological Seminary

SCOTT CHEATHAM

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.R.E. Liberty University

KURT CLASSEN

On-Campus Faculty, Assistant Athletic Director/Events Coordinator
M.A. Walden University

JOHN COIN

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
D.Ed. Min. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

MARK CONGROVE

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Faith Baptist Theological Seminary
Th.M. Calvin Theological Seminary
D.Min. Dallas Theological Seminary

CHRISTOPHER CORNELL

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

MARTIN COVEY

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Michigan State University

Ph.D. Michigan State University

DANIEL DEFEVER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Tyndale Theological Seminary

RICHARD DEVRIES

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Western Michigan University

MATTHEW DEYOUNG

Faculty, Dean of the School of Business

M.B.A. Cornerstone University

STEVEN DOBO

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Malone University

RICHARD WAYNE DOWNING

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.B.A. University of Phoenix

DEAN DYKSTRA

Faculty

M.Ed. Grand Valley State University

PAMELA EDWARDS

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Northcentral University

REBA EZELL

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Ed. Calvin College

ANDREW FERRIS

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

B.M. Cornerstone University

JOHN FISCHLE

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Luther Rice Seminary & University

D.Min. Luther Rice Seminary & University

JIMMIE FLORES

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Fielding Graduate University
M.S. Regis University
M.S. DeVry University
M.B.A. The University of St. Thomas
M.Ed. Regis University
D.M. University of Phoenix
Ph.D. Fielding Graduate University

GARY FORTNEY

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Wheaton College

ERIC FREEMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.B.A. The University of Portland

JAMES GAMBLE

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Campus Ministries Coordinator

B.A. Grand Valley State University

MADISON GEORGE

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Drum Instructor

MICHAEL GOHN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
Th.M. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

DAVID GREYDANUS

Faculty, Chair of Criminal Justice

J.D. The University of Toledo

PAMELA GRISSOM

Faculty, Graduate Program Champion - Organizational Leadership

M.A. Indiana Wesleyan University
M.S. Indiana Wesleyan University
Ed.D. Indiana Wesleyan University

GARY HANSEN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology

CHASTITY HARPER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. North Carolina Central University

RICHARD HARRELL

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

M.A. National University

SUSAN HARRELL

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Shenandoah University

M.A. National University

CASSIDY HAWF

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Capella University

M.S. Kaplan University

KELLY HAYES

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

Th.M. Liberty University

Ed.D. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

ANGIE HENSON

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S.W. Indiana University

JEREMY HERR

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

MADISON HETZLER

Online Adjunct Faculty, Senior Enrollment Advisor - Graduate Online

M.A. Liberty University

EBONI HILL-MATHIS

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Siena Heights University

M.S. Central Michigan University

D.M. University of Maryland University College

PHILLIP HOLMES

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Vocal Instructor

M.M. University of South Carolina

M.A. University of Michigan

KENNETH HOOD

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

D.Min. Erskine Theological Seminary

WILLIAM HORTON

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Regent University

ASHLEY HUISMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.S.W. Western Michigan University

SHERITA JAHAZIEL

Faculty, Associate Professor of the School of Social Sciences & Human Services
M.A. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
M.S.W. Norfolk State University

SHANE JOHNSON

Online and Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty
M.Div. Ashland Theological Seminary
D.Min. Ashland Theological Seminary

MICHAEL KAGER, JR.

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Malone University

KIZOMBO KALUMBULA, JR.

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Liberty University
Ph.D. Northcentral University

KENNETH KEMPER

Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty, President
M.Div. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
Ph.D. Lancaster Bible College

SHEREA LACY

Online Adjunct Faculty, Associate Vice President of Talent Management
M.B.A. University of Phoenix

DAVID LAYTON

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.Div. Tennessee Temple University
D.Min. Tennessee Temple University

JOHN LINGELBACH

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Liberty University
M.Div. Liberty University
M.S. Joint Military Intelligence College
Ph.D. Liberty University

PHILLIP LONG

Faculty

M.A. Talbot Theological Seminary

M.A. Talbot Theological Seminary

Ph.D. Andrews University

MATTHEW LOVERIN

Faculty, Dean of the School of Biblical Studies

M.T.S. University of Notre Dame

Ph.D. University of Notre Dame

ALLISON LOYD

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

BETSY MARVIN

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Indiana Wesleyan University

BRIAN MATTSON

Faculty

M.Div. Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary

Th.M. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

GARY MAY

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Ph.D. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

PATRICK MCGILLICUDDY

Faculty, Chair of Pastoral Ministry

M.A. Fuller Theological Seminary

SEAN-DAVID MCGORAN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

M.Div. Liberty University

D.Min. Golden Gateway Baptist Seminary

MICHAEL MCGORMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Tennessee Temple University

BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

Th.M. Calvin Theological Seminary

ROBERT MILLER

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.Ed. Lynchburg College
D.Min. Covington Theological Seminary
Ph.D. Andersonville Theological Seminary

CONNIE MITCHELL

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. Liberty University
Ph.D. Tennessee Temple University

SCOTT MYERS

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. Corban University
M.Div. Liberty University

JOSHUA NELSON

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.Ed. Grand Valley State University
M.A. Western Michigan University

OLIVIA NOLAND

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Trinity International University

JOHN O'BRADOVICH

Online and Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. Amberton University
Ph.D. Capella University

ATTAH OBANDE

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. Cornerstone University

LONNETTE OSTRANDER

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Piano Instructor
M.M. Northern Illinois University

TIMOTHY PETERSON

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Vocal Instructor
M.M. Southern Oregon University

KIMBERLY PILIECI

On-Campus and Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty, Provost & Chief Academic Officer
M.A. State University of New York
Ph.D. Western Michigan University

RICK PILIECI

On-Campus and Online Adjunct Faculty, Campus Pastor
M.A. Grace Christian University

RENA POLING

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.M. Seattle Film Institute

DAVID PRICE

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
B.A. Police Academy

GAIL RAMESH

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Western Michigan University

ROBERT RENBERG, JR.

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Trinity Theological Seminary
Ph.D. Trinity Theological Seminary

JOSE RIVERON

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Buxton University

DAWN RODGERS-DEFOUW

Faculty, Assistant Professor of the School of Social Sciences & Human Services
M.A. Liberty University

JACOB RODGERS

Faculty, Assistant Professor of the School of Biblical Studies
M.A. Fuller Theological Seminary

DARLENE RUHL

Online Adjunct Faculty, Community Outreach Coordinator
M.S. Cornerstone University

TIMOTHY RUMLEY

Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty, Associate Provost, Accreditation Liaison Officer
M.A. Bob Jones University
M.Ed. Covenant College
Ph.D. Trinity International University

JANICE SCHREGARDUS

Online and Graduate Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Michigan State University
Ph.D. Walden University

JB SEELEY

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty, Assistant Professor of English
M.S. Pensacola Christian College

BARRI SEIF

Faculty, Director of Online Teaching Effectiveness

M.B.A. Amberton University

Ph.D. Trinity Theological Seminary

LUANNE SHAW

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Trinity Theological Seminary

M.S. Indiana State University

D.N.P. Grand Valley State University

SCOTT SHAW

Faculty, Dean of the School of Social Sciences & Human Services

M.A. Cornerstone University

M.T.S. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

M.A. Arizona State University

M.S.W. Grand Valley State University

Ed.S. University of Michigan

D.Min. Trinity Theological Seminary

Ph.D. Northcentral University

JAMES SHEMARIA, JR.

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Grace Christian University

JAMES SHEMARIA, SR.

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.C.M. Seattle Pacific University

PAMELA SHERSTAD

Faculty, Professor of Communication, Chair of the School of Arts & Sciences

M.A. Western Michigan University

Ph.D. Regent University

CYNTHIA SHYNE

Online and On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Grand Valley State University

JENNIFER SIDEBOTTOM

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Ed. Whitworth College

Ph.D. Trinity Theological Seminary

MARK SIMPSON

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Denver Seminary

M.A. DePauw University

Ph.D. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

RACHELE SLOTMAN

Online Adjunct Faculty, Associate Registrar
M.Ed. Grand Valley State University

MARK SOOY

Faculty, Chair of Leadership and Ministry, Director of Online Curriculum
M.A. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

JANICE SPANGENBURG

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.S. Troy State University
M.A. Fielding Graduate Institute
Ph.D. Regent University

ROBERT STAUFFER

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.B.A. University of Maryland
D.B.A. University of Phoenix

LAWRENCE STEELE

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Liberty University
Th.M. Liberty University

TESS STOCKSLAGER

Faculty, Associate Professor of English
M.A. Liberty University
Ph.D. Indiana University of Pennsylvania

JOYCE STORMS

Online Adjunct Faculty, Executive Assistant to the President
M.A. Grace Christian University

JOSEPH STRANO

Online Adjunct Faculty
M.A. Trinity International University

PAUL SWEET

Faculty, Graduate Program Champion – Ministry
M.A. Moody Graduate School
Ph.D. Columbia International University

ROBERT TALLEY

Part-time Online Faculty, Director of Assessment
M.Min. Tennessee Temple University
M.Div. Tennessee Temple University
Ph.D. Liberty University

ELOISE THOMAS

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Evangel University

M.A. Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

CHERYL TOROK OWEN

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S. Indiana University

Ph.D. Andrews University

MARIA TERESA TRASCRIPTI

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.P.A. University of Central Florida

M.A. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Ed.D. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

RAYMOND VAN DER VEER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.B.A. Baker College

KEVIN VAN WYNSBERG

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

KEITH VANDE VREDE

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.Div. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

KYLE VEGH

Faculty, Assistant Professor of the School of Biblical Studies

M.A. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

SAMUEL VINTON

On-Campus Adjunct Faculty

M.R.E. Grand Rapids Theological Seminary

M.Div. Grand Rapids Theological Seminar

D.Miss. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

CHRISTINA WALKER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.R.E. Liberty University

TRACY WALKER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.B.A. Tiffin University

D.M. University of Phoenix

JASON WERKEMA

Faculty, Dean of the School of Music, Worship, & Technology

M.M. Bowling Green State University

Ph.D. Western Michigan University

JONATHAN WHITMER

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Grand Valley State University

M.A. Baptist Bible Translator Institute

MARK WHYTE

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Dallas Theological Seminary

M.A. Dallas Theological Seminary

SHALIE WILLIAMS

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.A. Liberty University

THOMASINE WORTHAM

Online Adjunct Faculty

M.S.W. Michigan State University

Ph.D. Capella University

Admission Requirements

Grace Christian University seeks to enroll students who desire a Christ-centered educational experience whose objectives can be served by its academically excellent and spiritually minded programs. Grace Online believes all students deserve a second chance for degree completion and career advancement. All students are recommended to apply for admission as soon as possible to give the optimal opportunity for timely admission, transfer credit evaluation, and receipt of textbooks.

FIRST TIME FRESHMAN

1. High school diploma or equivalent
2. Completed Application (no application fee)
3. Ministry Reference (Leadership and Ministry majors only)
4. Additional documentation is required in order to receive the military discount or for Financial Aid

TRANSFER APPLICANTS

1. High school diploma or equivalent
2. Completed Application (no application fee)
3. Ministry Reference (Leadership and Ministry majors only)
4. Official or unofficial college transcript(s). Submission of all official college transcripts is required by the end of the student's first five-week course. Official transcripts may be requested as a part of financial aid verification at any time, regardless of whether or not the student is transferring coursework to Grace.
5. Additional documentation is required in order to receive the military discount or Financial Aid.

EARLY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

All standard admission criteria must be met. In addition, the following policy applies:

Students who earn their high school diploma earlier than the traditional age may enroll in Grace's undergraduate programs subject to the admissions standards in force at the time of their enrollment. If a student will not turn 18 by the end of his or her first semester at Grace, the student's parent or guardian will sign a SPECIAL ADMISSIONS AGREEMENT FOR DEGREE-SEEKING UNDERAGE STUDENTS. The form can be obtained by the Registrar's Office or Enrollment staff.

ADMISSION STATUS

Full Admission

An applicant is given full admission to Grace Christian University when the criteria for admission have been met. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Conditional/Provisional Admission

Students may start courses before the admissions process is complete, but must have all required pieces submitted by the end of the first course. Students may be provisionally admitted to the program by submitting unofficial transcripts before official transcripts are received by the University. Official transcripts must be submitted to the Registrar's office by the end of the first class. Students without official transcripts on file by the stated deadline can be denied further registration until all requirements are met. See the **Transfer Credit** section for more information on the transfer credit process.

Non-Degree Seeking Student Admission

A student who wishes to take courses without seeking a degree may attend Grace Online. The applicant must complete an Application for Admission. The student is responsible for communicating his/her course registration desires to the Academic Advising department a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the start of a term in order to avoid additional charges. Students with a non-degree seeking status are not eligible for state or federal financial aid. A payment plan must be arranged with the Business Office prior to enrollment.

Denied Admission

Grace Online desires to admit all students and has an open door, right-to-try philosophy, which means:

- We admit students without regard to race, sex, national origin or disability;
- We reserve the right to deny admission to any potential student who may be disruptive to the educational environment of the University, including those with felony convictions;
- Any student found to have falsified information on an admission document may be denied admission to the University or may be expelled if already in attendance.

Individuals who have been denied admission may appeal to the Academic Dean by written statement and testimony.

Applicants with Prior Criminal History

Grace Christian University will not ask applicants for the Online and Graduate Online programs to disclose felony convictions. If admitted online students choose to participate in athletics or decide to change to the On Campus program, the University will implement the same background check process as for On Campus students. The University reserves the right to conduct the felony background check process for Online students whose activities create regular physical interaction with other students or Grace employees.

Grace Christian University considers it the applicant's responsibility to understand how criminal convictions or other matters of personal history may hinder or prevent employment in their degree field.

Readmission & Reentry

READMISSION

A student who cancels his or her application for a previous term may apply for readmission by contacting his or her Enrollment Advisor. If the student's application is over one year old, a new application must be completed. Once received, official transcripts will remain on file and do not need to be resent unless additional coursework has been completed at the institution. A student is required to update any information that has changed since the previous application was submitted with the request for readmission (Name, address, phone number, email address, or additional transfer institutions). The student will be notified via email from the Enrollment Advisor regarding the readmission decision.

Students readmitted to Grace must fulfill the requirements of the catalog in effect for the semester of readmission.

The Administration reserves the right to deem a student ineligible to return based on academic ineligibility, behavioral concerns, or student account delinquency.

REENTRY

A student who has withdrawn from the University who desires to return to the institution may contact an Enrollment Advisor, Academic Advisor, or complete the Re-Entry Application to apply for re-entry into Grace Christian University. The Registrar's Office will review the application for re-entry and determine eligibility based on the information provided, current academic status, and current financial status with the institution. The advisor will be notified via email regarding the decision. An Advisor will communicate any conditions for re-entry or the re-entry decision to the student. The Advisor will assist the student in the process of returning. Upon re-entry, the student will be provided access to their student email, student portal, Blackboard, and an updated education plan.

The Administration reserves the right to deem a student ineligible to return based on academic ineligibility, behavioral concerns, or student account delinquency.

Non-Discrimination & Accessibility

Grace Christian University admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, or handicap to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

In conformity with the pertinent requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 enacted by the Congress of the United States, Grace Christian University does not within the context of its religious principles, heritage, mission, or goals discriminate on the basis of sex in the area of employment, admission, educational programs, or other activities.

Grace Christian University complies with all federal and state nondiscrimination laws and is an equal opportunity institution. Grace Christian University reserves the right to maintain student educational and behavioral standards and standards based upon religious considerations consistent with its role and mission.

Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Policy

Grace Christian University is committed to ensuring that all people with disabilities have access to the same services and content that are available to people without disabilities, including services and content made available through the use of information technology. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance covers access to the Physical Plant, Accommodations, and Accessibility. Our goal for this Accessibility Policy is that a person with a disability will be able to engage in the same interactions, experience the same services, and acquire the same information as a person without a disability, be able to do so in an equally effective manner and with substantially equivalent ease of use. Services and information must be made available at the same time to a person with a disability as to a person without a disability.

ADA Accessibility Policy

1. As part of ADA Accessibility, all information communication technology must be accessible so that all students, prospective students, employees, guests, and visitors have equivalent access to information. Examples of information communication technology covered by this policy include university websites, learning management systems, software systems, electronic documents, videos, and other electronic communication.
2. Accessibility coaching will be provided on an on-going basis to help train faculty and staff, increase awareness and sensitivity, and produce and manage accessible content.
3. All Grace Christian University's websites are required to meet the accessibility standards set forth by Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA.

Rationale and Definitions

This policy aligns with Grace Christian University's goal of cultivating a caring learning community where Jesus Christ is exalted and students are equipped for serving the needs of church and society.

It is important to differentiate between ADA accommodations (Section 504) and accessibility (Section 508):

An accommodation is...

- Provided based on the specific needs of a student with a documented disability
- Determined by an accommodations officer on a case-by-case basis
- Provided for students whose needs require great intervention, such as live American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters or lecture transcripts for live courses
- For circumstances that are difficult to anticipate and foresee

Accessibility is...

- The responsibility of all who create or publish digital content
- Provided for all students, prospective students, employees, guests and visitors with no expectation of an explanation of need
- Expected for disabilities that are easily anticipated

Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Procedure

Grace Christian University is dedicated to ensuring that the institution complies with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and that faculty and staff are trained to comply with ADA requirements.

1. Grace Christian University will publish an approved ADA Policy which includes overall ADA compliance, physical plant compliance, accommodation, and accessibility.
2. Faculty and staff will receive on-going training regarding ADA guidelines and compliance with expectations for accessibility, including but not limited to: Documents, video, audio, Learning Management System (LMS), and other forms of electronic communication.
 - Faculty and staff will utilize the Checklist for ADA Accessibility for Web Content.
 - Faculty and staff will be provided properly formatted examples of accessibility.
 - Faculty will receive training on the use of Screencast-O-Matic technology to create and publish content that is accessible to people with disabilities.
 - On-going training modules will be developed for faculty and staff as needed.

3. Faculty and staff will have access to Screencast-O-Matic for development of ADA compliant video content.

Contact for ADA Accessibility Support

- Marketing: VP of Marketing and Enrollment
- Information Technology: Director of Information Technology
- Faculty: ADA Accessibility Coordinator

Academic Accommodations

Admitted students may request a reasonable accommodation as a result of a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (2008) or Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Information on the Academic Accommodation policy and procedure can be found in the [Academic Accommodations](#) section of the catalog.

International Student Admission

International students are welcome at Grace Christian University. Due to strict government regulations, the University has detailed requirements pertaining to international students. The University does not have available special funding to assist international students in financing their education. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain the proper documents and to furnish the University with these documents. International students who are seeking to enroll in an online degree program do not need USCIS or a student visa as long as the student is not physically present in the United States. Online programs are not able to enroll non-US citizens residing in the United States on a student (F-1) Visa. Refugees or undocumented individuals are permitted to attend following the standard admission criteria.

For admission, all international students (those on an F-1 Student Visa attending On-Campus and those attending Online but residing in a foreign country) must meet the stated admission criteria for domestic students for their program of interest and:

1. Must pass an English proficiency test unless the student permanently resides in a country where English is the primary language. Grace Christian University accepts the following tests of English as a second language:
 - ACT minimum cumulative score of 18+
 - SAT minimum 510+ and Verbal 480+
 - TOEFL minimum score of 550 is required on the paper-based test, 213 on the computerized test, or 80 on the internet-based test
 - IELTS minimum score of 6.5
2. Pay for the entire semester before courses begin at Grace. The amount due before the student's start date is determined by estimating class load, room, board, books, fees, and any other known expenses. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Business Office.

On-Campus International Admission Additional Requirements:

1. Provide evidence that the student is a graduate of an accredited secondary school and the ability to satisfactorily complete college-level work in the United States of America.
2. Proof of country of citizenship required for the issuance of the I-20.

Online Orientation

All new Online students are registered for a week-long, tuition-free online orientation course. The purpose of orientation is to allow the student to become familiar with the expectations of Grace Online and Grace Christian University, to provide an opportunity for students to ask questions, and to allow the student to become familiar with the online environment, writing expectations, and resources.

Topics Covered:

- Curriculum Design and the Blackboard Learning Management System
- Communicating with peers, faculty, and staff
- Posting in Discussion Forums
- Resources (Library, Microsoft Office, Writing Resources)
- Improving Your Writing Skills and APA Formatting
- General program expectations

Undergraduate Online

All Undergraduate Online students are encouraged to participate in an online orientation (STU 100) prior to their first course. Students are encouraged to participate in this orientation to ease the transition into the online learning environment.

Graduate Online

All Graduate Online students must participate in an online orientation (GEN 500) prior to their program seminar unless an exception is granted. Graduate Online students must score an overall 80% or higher in the orientation to officially begin a graduate program.

Transfer Credit

Grace Christian University offers traditional and non-traditional credit options for Undergraduate and Graduate students with varied academic and professional backgrounds. It is our policy to award credit based on evidence of learning and not experience alone. Grace Christian University welcomes students to apply for transfer credits from other institutions. Once an official transcript is received, credits transferred are recorded on the admitted student's academic record and will apply toward graduation requirements, as applicable to the declared academic program. Grades are not transferred. Once transfer credits have been granted, a subsequent change of program or major may result in a change in the number of transfer credits applied toward the degree requirements. Types of traditional and non-traditional credit options currently offered by the University are described as follows.

There is an important distinction between transferable and applicable in terms of transfer work. While a course may meet all of the requirements to be transferable, the course may not be applicable to the degree program selected at Grace Christian University.

TRANSFER CREDIT INVENTORY

Courses listed in the online **transfer credit inventory** (TES) have been evaluated by Grace. Evaluated courses may have an equivalent online or on-campus course listed, or multiple. Courses not listed may still be transferable. A formal evaluation will be conducted and the student will be notified of the applied transfer work at the time of acceptance.

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY

The following provisions govern transferring credits to Grace Christian University:

- The student seeking enrollment by transfer from another institution will complete the regular admission process.
- For an evaluation of transfer work to occur, a transcript (unofficial or official) is required. Unapproved document formats or documents lacking the necessary information may not be evaluated.
- The applicant will be notified of the credits approved for transfer by the Enrollment Advisor upon acceptance by the Registrar's Office.
- A pre-evaluation may be conducted by the Registrar's Office prior to the completion of the application process as requested by an Enrollment Advisor.

- An evaluation is not considered official until official transcripts have been received and processed by the Registrar's Office.
 - An official transcript is defined as one that has been received by Grace directly from a secure, authenticated party or the issuing institution. Grace does not accept any electronic documentation directly from the student as official. The transcript must bear an institutional validation (such as a seal, logo, or watermark), date, and appropriate signature. Transcripts that do not meet these requirements will be considered unofficial. Transcripts can be sent to the Registrar's Office at Grace Christian University, 1011 Aldon St SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509. Request electronic transcripts to be sent to onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu.
 - **On-Campus Students:** All official transcripts must be received by the start of the semester. Failure to furnish a complete and valid record of all previous college experience may mean cancellation of the student's privilege of admission.
 - **Online Students:** If an official transcript is not received by the end of the student's first course, the pending transfer work may be removed from the student's education plan or a registration hold for the subsequent semester may be placed on the student's account. An effort will be made to communicate with the student and establish a firm deadline to minimize the impact on the student's registration and program length.
- The student may be required to provide a course description or course syllabus for transfer credit determination if the information is not available through TES or the institution website.
- Transfer credits must be from a Department of Education recognized, nationally or regionally accredited college or university. Students seeking a graduate degree from Grace who graduated from a nationally accredited institution will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- Credits earned at a non-accredited college will be considered only after the student has provided documentation of a minimum of three regionally accredited institutions that accept the non-accredited institution's courses in transfer. Once verified, coursework from an unaccredited school must be evaluated by the Registrar in the same manner as accredited coursework. The maximum number of credits transferable from an unaccredited school is 30 semester credit hours for undergraduate students unless otherwise approved by the Dean or Provost.
- Courses must be college-level courses; typically labeled as 100 level or higher. Remedial or vocational credits will not be accepted for transfer into college-level courses.
- All academic, college-level courses in which at least a C- grade or its equivalent has been earned are eligible for transfer to undergraduate programs. A grade of B or higher is required for the transfer of graduate-level coursework.
- Undergraduate students may be awarded a block transfer of 60 credit hours for an earned Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. The Associate of Applied Science degree is excluded from this policy unless the Registrar's Office is able to verify the existence of a general education component.
- Students completing the requirements of the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) should contact the Registrar's Office for more information about block transfer credit.

- At least 25% of the program required credit hours must be taken at Grace Christian University in order to complete an associate or bachelor degree. Graduate students must complete 50% of the program requirements at Grace.
 - **Associate Degree Program:** The maximum number of transfer credits, including credit by exam or prior learning assessment, is 45. 25% of the program requirements must be completed at Grace Christian University.
 - **Bachelor Degree Program:** The maximum number of transfer credits, including credit by exam or prior learning assessment, is 90. 25% of the program requirements must be completed at Grace Christian University.
- Transfer credit (including non-traditional transfer credit) must be completed prior to the student's last semester at Grace Christian University unless pre-approved by the Dean or Provost.

Reassessment of Transfer Credits

- Credits may be reassessed at any point at the request of the student by emailing the Registrar's Office at onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu. The student may be required to provide the course syllabus from the college or university where the course was taken.
- Duplicate credit will not be granted. Credit will not be granted for two courses with significantly similar content.

Military Joint Services Transcript (JST) (Undergraduate Students Only)

The American Council on Education (ACE) provides quality assurance and policy guidance for the Joint Services Transcript (JST) used by the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard. The Registrar's Office may approve credit to be granted for courses or experience as recommended by ACE with a level of Lower (L) or Upper (U) course level designation, but will not grant credit for Vocational (V) work. Credit will be granted based on the general transfer credit policy regarding maximum transfer credits.

In order to receive credit, the Registrar's Office must receive an official copy of the military transcript.

International Transfer Credit

All international transcripts must be evaluated course-by-course by one of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) member organizations (naces.org/members.html), with the results sent directly to Grace Christian University along with an official transcript. Any fee(s) associated with the evaluation and transcription must be paid by the student. Upon receipt of the evaluation, the Registrar will process the transcript to review for potential course equivalency.

University Partnerships

Grace Christian University has developed partnerships with several organizations to allow college credit to be awarded or granted based on the completion of a specific program that has been evaluated by Grace. Grace reserves the right to review or change these partnerships at any time. Contact the specific organization or Grace directly (info@gracechristian.edu) for more specific information.

CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

A contractual arrangement to grant college credit for completing an approved program of study has been reached with the following organizations:

- **Bridge Street House of Prayer** (Grand Rapids, MI)
- **Grace Adventures** (ASCENT and PACE program) – Silver Lake, MI
- **Leaders for Christ Bible School** (through Resurrection Life Church in Grandville, MI)
- Leadership Essentials Training (Kentwood Community Church) – Kentwood, MI

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

An articulation agreement to accept credit for completing an approved program of study has been reached with the following organizations:

- **School of Missionary Aviation Technology (SMAT)** – Ionia, MI
- **ROTC at Western Michigan University** – Grand Rapids, MI Campus
- Michigan Transfer Agreement (receiving institution)
 - Students who have completed the requirements of the Michigan Transfer Agreement will be considered as having satisfied Grace Christian University’s general education core requirements in total. Grace Christian University will accept the maximum number of usable transfer credits earned at a Michigan community college toward any of its baccalaureate degrees. The only exception to this policy is for those students wishing to pursue dual degrees offered in cooperation with our educational partners.
 - While this agreement can be beneficial to transfer students in all degree programs, it is possible for a student to complete a number of baccalaureate degrees in 2-2.5 years dependent on meeting certain course requirements. These include the following degree programs: Human Services, Worship Arts, and Early Childhood Education.
 - In order to facilitate this process and to ensure students receive the greatest benefit, it is important for transfer students to consider carefully what courses are needed while enrolled at a community college. Failure to do so may prolong the time required to complete these degrees. Contact the Registrar’s Office at Grace Christian University for further information about these requirements.

Credit by Examination

The maximum number of credits a student may receive for prior learning assessment and proficiency exams (PLA, Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and Grace administered Proficiency Examinations) is 30 credit hours.

Credit equivalency for exams can be found by accessing Grace's Transfer Evaluation System (TES) database.

- Access the database directly: **Transfer Evaluation System (TES) database**
- Navigate to the database:
 1. Go to the **Transfer Credit** section of the catalog
 2. Click on Transfer Credit Inventory
 3. Type in the exam name (AP, CLEP, etc.) into the Institution Search box.
 4. Click on the institution link (example: The College Board AP/CLEP)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Grace Online will grant credit to students with scores of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) examination conducted by the College Board. Students are required to have their official AP scores sent to the Registrar's Office. The AP college code number for Grace Christian University is 0809.

COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP)

Credit is granted for subject examinations offered by the College Level Examination Program (CLEP); however, no college credit is granted for the CLEP general examinations.

- Credit may not be granted for a CLEP test that is the duplication of coursework a student has already taken at Grace or received transfer credit for.
- The CLEP examination must be completed prior to the student's last semester at Grace.
- An official transcript must be requested by the student to be sent from the College Board to Grace. The CLEP college code number for Grace Christian University is 1265.
- The CLEP credit will not be considered official until the official transcript has been received by the Registrar's Office and the credit has been posted to the student's Grace transcript.

DEFENSE ACTIVITY FOR NON-TRADITIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT (DANTES) & DSST

Veterans can also earn credit through Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) with scores meeting or exceeding the score requirements provided by the American Council on Education. Students will be notified of specific credit awarded upon evaluation of the official exam transcript.

Prior Learning Assessment

Grace Christian University recognizes that many students come to an institution of higher education with experience and training that has resulted in college-level knowledge. Students who enroll may earn credit for prior learning. A maximum of 30 semester credit hours may be earned through a form of prior learning assessment or proficiency exam (including CLEP and AP). Prior learning can come from a number of different sources including workshops, seminars, self-study, non-credit classes, training programs, and work experiences. Portfolios are to be assessed by a qualified, credentialed content area expert. Grace may award college credit for a license, certificate, or job-specific training as evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE) or through the PLA evaluation process.

Grace adheres to the **Ten Standards for Assessing Learning** as documented by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) at cael.org.

Grace Online offers a college-level exploratory course, PLA 200 Prior Learning Theory and Practicum (3 Credits), designed to assist the learner in understanding learning theory and apply theory to their own prior learning. One's assessment of personal prior learning encourages new learning. Satisfactory completion of PLA 200 allows the student to have one portfolio assessed at no additional charge. PLA 200 may satisfy a lower-level elective course requirement within any undergraduate program, as applicable.

Fill out the **Prior Learning Assessment Advising Form** or contact the Registrar to learn more: onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT FEE STRUCTURE

Item	Cost
Proficiency Exam	\$100 per exam, regardless of the result
Portfolio Assessment	\$300 per portfolio submission, regardless of the number of credits awarded
PLA 200 – 3 credits	See tuition cost table

*Fees may not be covered by financial aid. Contact the Financial Aid Office to determine whether or not your PLA related fees can be covered by your financial aid package.

PROFICIENCY EXAM

A proficiency exam is an examination administered by Grace to assess prior knowledge on a subject. Grace Online currently offers a proficiency exam for New Testament and Old Testament Bible knowledge.

- The challenge exams are \$100 per exam, regardless of whether you pass or not.
- Each challenge exam consists of approximately 100 fill in the blank questions and an essay component.
- You will have 90 minutes to complete the questions portion of the exam.
- The Bible may be used during the exam.
- You will have 1 week to complete the paper portion of the exam.
- You must earn a 70% proficiency on both the questions and paper portions of the exam in order to pass.
- A study guide is available by request.
- In order to take the exam, you will need to either arrange for a time to come on campus or provide information for an individual to proctor the exam for you. [Proctor Agreement Form](#)

PORTFOLIO DEFINITION

A portfolio is a compilation of documentation that significant, college-level learning has been achieved by the learner. The portfolio must be written according to the expectations for college-level writing. Creating a portfolio is the learner's way to translate and validate one's prior knowledge into a format that is able to be assessed by another individual.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Chronological Learning Resume
- Career and Educational Goals Statement
- College-Level Comparable Course Learning Outcomes
- Artifacts, Evidence, Essay, or Third-Party Statement(s)
- Sources/References, as applicable

PORTFOLIO RUBRIC

A rubric will be used to assess evidence of prior learning. The content area expert will assess the portfolio and decide whether there is significant evidence that the student has satisfied at least 70% of content mastery in a specific subject area and that the student has satisfactorily demonstrated that learning. The content expert will also provide helpful feedback to the student. Credit can be awarded as an elective (lower or upper level) or a specific course equivalency.

Prior Learning Assessment Rubric

Area of Evaluation	Explanation of Expectation	Exceeds	Meets	Requires Revision	Does not Meet
Critical Reflection	The essay includes college-level critical reflection. The student includes reflection on the experience leading to college-level learning and content mastery, evaluation of the learning that occurred, and explores ways in which the learning has impacted behavior or future action. The student relates learning to future goals. The reflection further supports the evidence of college-level learning and understanding.				
Content Mastery	The student has presented his/her content knowledge in a way that clearly displays an understanding of the theoretical concepts of learning. The student provides significant detail that articulates core competencies learned. The student demonstrates at least at 70% mastery of college-level content to which the student's learning is being compared.				
Documentation of Competency	The student provided adequate documentation (verification of accomplishments, testimony, learning products, certifications, descriptions, and other direct evidence) to support and validate college-level learning in a specific area of expertise or academic discipline. The documentation includes the college-level learning outcomes to which the student has compared his or her learning. The documentation includes a chronological learning assessment or resume. The comparable learning outcomes are identified and referred to throughout the narrative.				
College-Level Writing	The portfolio is presented in a cohesive, logical manner. Any reference is properly cited. Learning outcomes are included and addressed. Writing is generally at the level of accepted college-level coursework.				

Types of Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office is available to advise and assist students with obtaining funds to attend Grace Christian University. The Financial Aid Office seeks to meet the financial needs of our students through grants, scholarships, and loans. Students who believe their resources are inadequate to meet their expenses at Grace Christian University should contact a Financial Aid Specialist. More information can be found at gracechristian.edu/online/tuition-and-financial-aid/financial-aid.

FINANCIAL AID DEFINED

Financial Aid is financial assistance that helps students and their families pay for college. This financial assistance covers educational expenses including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and transportation. There are several types of financial aid available, including grants, scholarships, and loans.

Once eligibility for financial assistance has been determined, students may be offered a Financial Aid Award Package which includes one or more types of aid.

The Financial Aid Award Package may include the following:

- Scholarship Aid: Awards usually based on academic excellence and not necessarily on financial need.
- Grant Aid: Awards based solely on financial need.
- Loan Aid: Federal loans offered at a low interest rate, which must be repaid to the assigned lender after the student leaves college or drops below half-time enrollment.
- Federal Work Study: Undergraduate and graduate students can earn money from a part-time job to help pay for college expenses.

GRANTS

Federal Pell Grants

A Federal Pell Grant is awarded to eligible students based on their FAFSA results. It does not have to be repaid. This grant is awarded to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's degree. The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over their lifetime is limited by federal law to be the equivalent of six years of Pell Grant funding.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

SEOG funds will be awarded to students with the lowest expected family contributions (EFC) who will also receive Pell Grants in that award year. SEOG funds do not have to be repaid. The Department of Education only provides schools with a limited amount of SEOG funds, so once the funds are depleted, awarding will stop. Valid FAFSA results must be received in the Financial Aid Office to receive consideration.

MILITARY BENEFITS

Grace Christian University accepts educational benefits through the military. These benefits may include GI Bill® and Federal Tuition Assistance. To begin the process of determining any applicable benefits, the student should contact his or her respective educational liaison within the appropriate military organization. Once that action has been taken, the student may contact the Academic Advising Office to proceed with any other applicable processes.

LOANS

Federal Stafford Loans

Direct Stafford Loans are low-interest federal loans available to students who are attending college at least half-time. The funds are borrowed from the Department of Education through the Direct Loan Program. The amount a student may borrow is based on year in school, dependency status, and enrollment status. The FAFSA is the application for Direct Stafford Loans, but first time borrowers are also required to complete Loan Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note at studentloans.gov.

Federal Parent Plus Loan

A parent may borrow a Direct Parent PLUS Loan to help pay the expenses of a child who is a dependent undergraduate student enrolled at least half time. The parent must pass a credit check to be eligible to receive a PLUS Loan. In the event the parent is denied the PLUS Loan due to adverse credit, the student generally becomes eligible to borrow an additional amount in an Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan. Parents who wish to apply for a Direct Parent PLUS Loan may visit studentloans.gov.

Private Loans

A student may also obtain private loans from a Private Lender to cover education-related expenses. Students may need a creditworthy cosigner if they have not established credit yet. Usually loans are borrowed to cover the full year, divided between two semesters, but a student could get a loan for just one semester, if needed. Private loans have NO origination fee. For more details, go to: elmselect.com, choose Grace Christian University, then select Undergraduate Loans.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

All students who wish to apply for financial aid (grants, scholarships, or loans) should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students can apply online at fafsa.ed.gov. For assistance with this application process, students may contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243. The FAFSA must have Grace Christian University's school code (002265) entered in order for the results to be received by the Grace Financial Aid Office. The FAFSA must be renewed prior to each academic year. Students with additional financial aid questions may contact the Grace Christian University Financial Aid Office at financialaid@gracechristian.edu, or by calling 616-538-2330.

Typically, Grace will receive the FAFSA within 2-3 business days of its completion. As soon as the FAFSA is received by the Financial Aid Office, the results will be reviewed. The Department of Education will select some FAFSA applications for a process called "verification," which requires the school to request additional documentation from the student before the financial aid process can be completed.

Once all necessary documentation is received, the student will be sent a Financial Aid Award Package from the Financial Aid Office at Grace. The student is responsible for returning a signed copy of the award letter to the Financial Aid Office, indicating which awards they accept or deny. Students who accept a Stafford Loan must go to studentloans.gov to complete the required Loan Entrance Counseling and Loan Master Promissory Note.

EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

The information on your FAFSA is used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Your EFC is an index number that our financial aid staff uses to determine how much financial aid you can receive. The EFC is calculated according to a formula established by law. Your family's taxed and untaxed income, assets, and benefits (such as unemployment or Social Security) can all be considered in the formula. Your family size and the number of family members who will attend college during the academic year is also considered. For more detailed information about how the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is calculated, visit studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/how-calculated.

Financial Aid Rights & Responsibilities

Students have the right to accept or refuse any part of their financial aid package. If the student rejects any part of his/her financial aid package, it may effect other aid offered. Students may not receive financial aid from more than one school while enrolled at two or more schools for the same time period. Classes the student takes outside of his/her declared program do not qualify for most forms of financial aid.

The student must attend college at least half-time (6 credit hours) in order to be considered for most financial aid. Withdrawal from classes or failure to attend all classes may result in a loss or reduction of financial aid and a balance due to the University.

It is the student's responsibility to inform the Financial Aid Office of any changes to information provided on the FAFSA application. Financial aid offered to the student is dependent upon the availability of funds. Any change in the availability of funds or a student's academic performance may change the award package.

If a student's FAFSA is incomplete, or if their FAFSA verification paperwork is not turned in, no award letter will be provided and the student is responsible for paying out of pocket for all tuition costs and fees.

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

Statement of educational purpose:

- A student must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student and must sign a statement indicating that all federal financial aid will be used for expenses related to study at Grace Christian University. This requirement will be fulfilled when the student signs and returns their Financial Aid Award Letter.
- A student must not be in default on any federal loan or must have made satisfactory arrangements to repay any defaulted federal loan.
- A student must not have borrowed in excess of the federal loan limit at any institution, and must not owe money on a federal student grant.

Selective service registration

Male students born after Dec. 31, 1959, are required to comply with Selective Service registration regulations. For more information, visit sss.gov.

High School diploma/GED

Students are required to have a High School Diploma or GED equivalent to be eligible for Federal Financial Aid.

CAUSE FOR LOSS OF FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

- Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress (see [SAP Policy](#))
- Conviction of Possession or Sale of Drugs

A student who has been convicted of any offense under federal or state law involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance, while receiving Title IV funds, is no longer eligible to receive any federal grant, loan, or work assistance according to the following table from the federal financial aid handbook:

Financial Aid Ineligibility Period for Drug Conviction

Offenses	Possession of Illegal Drugs	Sale of Illegal Drugs
1st Offense	1 year from the date of conviction	2 years from the date of conviction
2nd Offense	2 years from the date of conviction	Indefinite period
3rd Offense	Indefinite period	Indefinite period

For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 616-538-2330 or financialaid@gracechristian.edu.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

In order to receive federal or state financial aid, regulations require that the student maintain satisfactory academic progress toward completion of the student’s current academic program. Academic progress will be reviewed for each student, regardless of whether or not the student is receiving financial aid since these rules determine eligibility for future enrollments.

FINANCIAL AID POLICY

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at Grace Christian University governs the student’s eligibility to receive financial aid based on academic performance. The guidelines outlined below relate to a student’s eligibility to receive federal financial aid. Contact the Financial Aid Office (financialaid@gracechristian.edu) for information about maintaining eligibility for federal and state aid. The determination as to whether or not the student is meeting the SAP requirements is made at the end of each academic year based on three factors mandated by federal policy. These factors include cumulative grade point average (GPA), completion ratio, and maximum time frame as described below.

GPA Requirement

Grace will evaluate the GPA Requirement after each semester. A student will be considered in violation if the student does not maintain the minimum GPA requirement.

The student must have earned the required cumulative GPA based on the semester hours attempted to maintain financial aid eligibility. The Director of Financial Aid has the authority to grant limited exceptions to first-time freshmen who fail to meet this requirement but whose cumulative GPA is at or above 1.50 or for first-semester graduate students whose cumulative GPA is at or above 2.50.

Undergraduate Semester Credit Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA Required	Completion Ratio
3-27	1.50	The required completion ratio for all undergraduate levels is 67%
28-55	1.75	
56+	2.00	

Graduate Semester Credit Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA Required	Completion Ratio
6-12	2.50	The required completion ratio for all graduate levels is 75%
13+	3.00	

Maximum Time Frame Requirement

The maximum time frame limits the number of credits a student may attempt when pursuing a degree. Grace will monitor the Maximum Time Frame Requirement at the end of each academic year by comparing the required hours for program completion to the cumulative hours attempted. A student will be considered in violation when it becomes mathematically impossible for them to graduate within the 150% time frame. For example, in an undergraduate program of study that requires 124 credits, you may not exceed 186 credits and remain eligible for financial aid.

Graduate students must complete all degree requirements within five years from admission to their program. An approved leave of absence of up to two semesters is not counted in the five years.

Completion Ratio Requirement

The completion ratio is determined by dividing cumulative semester hours earned by cumulative semester hours attempted. The required completion ratio for all credit levels is 67%.

Determining Satisfactory Academic Progress

When determining SAP, grades and credits are tallied according to the following guidelines:

- Earned semester hours include all grades (A, B, C, D, S, and P) including all +/- variations and applied transfer work.
- Attempted semester hours include the grades listed above, as well as E, F, U, W, WF, and XF.
- For repeated courses, credits from each time a student is enrolled are applied to the attempted and earned credits. However, only the most recent grade earned is used when calculating the cumulative GPA.
- Transfer credit accepted at the time of admission, if applicable, is not included when calculating cumulative GPA. Such credits are, however, included in the determination of a student's cumulative GPA required.
- Transfer credits are also included when calculating the completion ratio and maximum time frame.

The Financial Aid Office evaluates whether or not a student is meeting the SAP requirements at the end of each academic year. If it is determined that a student failed to meet the SAP standards outlined above, the student will be disqualified from receiving federal financial aid until the student has met the SAP standards. Students who no longer qualify for financial aid may secure alternate funding for their education and remain enrolled unless a determination has been made that the student is academically suspended.

SAP Appeal Process (for possible reinstatement of financial aid eligibility)

If a student loses eligibility to receive federal financial aid because of failure to meet the SAP standards, the student may attempt to regain financial aid eligibility in one of the following ways:

1. By successfully appealing the loss of eligibility. To appeal, the student must submit a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form, available from the Financial Aid Office. The extenuating circumstances that may justify reinstating one's eligibility for financial aid on a temporary basis are outlined on this form. If this appeal is successful, the student's eligibility for financial aid will be reinstated with specified conditions.
 - When considering any extenuating circumstances, financial aid probation can only be granted if it is also determined that the student should be able to meet SAP standards by the end of the next semester. Failure to meet SAP standards at that time would make the student ineligible for federal aid without the right to further appeal.
 - Under certain circumstances, the Financial Aid Appeal Committee has limited authority to approve an academic plan that would reinstate the student's eligibility to receive federal aid provided the student is able to meet SAP standards by the end of the next academic year. This academic plan also includes a minimum threshold that must be achieved at the end of the first semester in order to maintain eligibility to receive federal aid. Failure to meet this threshold would make the student ineligible for federal aid without the right to further appeal.
2. By using personal financial resources to complete one or more semesters at Grace with at least half-time enrollment. Reinstatement of the student's eligibility for financial aid will be determined at the end of each semester, dependent on whether or not the student meets the SAP standards at that time. Courses taken must be approved by the Registrar and must advance the student toward earning the declared degree.

Tuition & Fees Schedule

GRACE ONLINE PROGRAM RATES

Course Level	Fall 2018 - Spring 2019	Fall 2019 - Spring 2020
100-200	\$330 per credit hour	\$345 per credit hour
300-400	\$400 per credit hour	\$410 per credit hour
*Military Discount	\$250 per credit hour	\$250 per credit hour

Other Grace Online Fees:

- Application Fee: \$0 (Waived for Online Students)
- Resource Fee: \$150 (Per 3 Credit Course; see explanation below)
- Graduation Fee: \$100
- Official Transcript: \$5 (per transcript, paid in advance)

The cost to audit a course or enroll as a non-degree student follows the same tuition and fee schedule as the degree-seeking tuition and fee schedule.

Full payment or a verified payment plan is due prior to the beginning of the first class of every semester.

*Grace Online honors those who have served our country as a part of the armed forces. Military students and families may be eligible to receive a discounted tuition rate. Students may also be eligible to receive education benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Students who are currently serving on active duty, released from active duty, part of the Reserves or National Guard or a spouse or dependent of a veteran, may be eligible for these benefits. The military discount is available to all military service members, veterans, military spouses, and dependents (under age 23). Required documentation may include a certificate of release or discharge from the military (DD214), certificate of eligibility (COE), and/or a tuition voucher. The required documentation and an honorable discharge status must be submitted to receive the military discount. G.I. Jobs Magazine named Grace Christian University a Military Friendly School in 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

Tuition is set on a per-academic year basis. The Rates of tuition and fees are those published in the academic catalog prior to the start of a new academic year. Tuition and fee rates are subject to change at any time as determined by Grace Christian University's Board of Directors.

RESOURCE FEE

The Resource Fee covers all textbooks, workbooks, technology and associated costs required for Grace Online students. If a student qualifies for financial aid, just like tuition, the resource fee will be paid with whatever financial aid has been awarded. This service prevents the inadvertent purchase of wrong textbook editions, incorrect access codes, or late arrival, among other issues. Students are expected to return the rented text(s) upon completion of the class. Books not returned will incur charges for the additional cost of the text over the rental price. These charges will be added to the student's account.

Textbooks + Tree of Life Bookstores Partnership

Grace Online uses a streamlined book rental service that fits the accelerated program format. Books are shipped directly to the student before each five-week class and are returned by the student the week after each five-week class.

Important items to make it work:

- The student must provide an accurate shipping address (can be home, work, or other);
- The student must immediately inform their the University of an address change;
- The student is responsible to make sure books get returned in a timely manner, or pay buyout fees for the books.

Follow this link for Customer Support and Rental FAQ's: treeoflifebooks.com/customersupport

What is Textbook Butler?

Grace Christian University Online has a robust relationship with Tree of Life (TOL) Bookstores for a convenience-driven service that delivers your books straight to you: the right books, on time, at a competitive price.

Why has Grace Christian University Online chosen to use Textbook Butler?

- Adult learners can focus on the learning necessary for academic success in accelerated programs.
- Because the learning resources are put on the student bill, students can use financial aid for books and materials.
- Students can choose their preference of new purchase, used purchase, or rental. (Rental is just the default setting.) If a student wants to keep a rental book, they pay only the difference in price between rental and purchase (no fees).
- TOL maintains a great Customer Care Team which is available Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 11 PM (est) to answer inquiries.

- Grace's faculty and staff can focus on serving students in academics, advising, chaplaincy, and services – and allow TOL to focus on knowing the book business and getting competitive prices for students.

Tree of Life Student Portal

Students are encouraged to use the Tree of Life Student Portal to view outstanding rentals, text buyout prices, and request/print return shipping labels.

Follow this link for the Student Portal access: gracechristian.treeoflifebooks.com/#/landing

Rental Extension

If a student is granted an incomplete, the student should contact Tree of Life to request an extension of their rental and discuss any additional charges. A student's decision to return a book instead of completing the required coursework is not advised.

Opt-Out

Under special circumstances, a student may complete a Student Acceptance of Responsibility to Procure Learning Materials form to opt out of the textbook delivery service. However, opting out of the rental agreement does not decrease the Resource Fee.

Why is there an opt-out? The federal government requires that students be given the opportunity to opt-out of a book delivery service.

What is Grace Christian University's recommendation? Our recommendation is that students focus on their learning and everything else that happens in life (family, work, church responsibilities), and allow TOL to serve them by delivering books when they are needed so that books arrive on time for the next course!

Learning Management System

Grace Christian University uses Blackboard, a learning management system, as the virtual classroom for both online and on-site learners to communicate announcements, hold discussions, submit assignments, and track grades.

Microsoft Office

Grace Christian University provides each student access to the Microsoft Office suite, allowing the student to download Microsoft applications to assist with coursework.

Online Resources

Students have access to various online resources including, but not limited to online research databases, writing lab resources, research help, and a live librarian (during business hours).

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, & LOANS

Visit gracechristian.edu/online/tuition-and-financial-aid/financial-aid for information on the available scholarships, grants, and loans for Grace Christian University students.

Tuition Payment Options, Payment Deadlines & Past Due Balances

For students who elect not to utilize federal financial aid, there are several options for payment.

Option 1: Payment in Full by Start of First Course

Tuition payment should be completed two weeks prior to the first class to avoid delays or being withdrawn from class. First-course payment must be made in full before the first week starts in online courses. Payment must be made by check (made out to Grace Christian University), or by calling the Business Office at 616-261-1986 to pay by credit card. For online payment, you will need to register for an account and follow the online instructions. Follow this link for online payment: gracechristian.edu/current-students/student-account-payment.

Option 2: Online Payment Plan

You must sign up for a payment plan before the start of your course. Please visit gracechristian.edu/current-students/student-account-payment and click on “Sign up for the TMS Payment Plan” to set up a payment plan. You may use the Online Payment Plan in combination with another payment option if you would prefer. If you prefer, you may set up a payment plan directly with the Business Office by calling 616-261-8560.

Option 3: Private Student Loans

A student may also obtain a private loan from a Private Lender to cover education-related expenses. A lender may require a credit-worthy cosigner if the student has not yet established credit. Typically, loans are borrowed to cover the full academic year’s educational costs, divided between two semesters. Private loans do not have an origination fee. For more details, go to elmselect.com and choose “Undergraduate Loans” at Grace Christian University.

Option 4: Employer Reimbursement or Military Tuition Assistance

In order for Employer Reimbursement or Military Tuition Assistance to be considered an approved payment plan, a student must send a copy of the employer’s reimbursement policy or the military tuition assistance voucher to the Grace Christian University Business Office prior to the start of the first course.

PAYMENT DEADLINES

New Online and Graduate Online Students

First-course payment must be made in full no later than two business days before the start date. Exceptions apply to pending federal financial aid as long as all requested information and or documents have been submitted prior to the course start. If all requested information and or documents have not been submitted to the Financial Aid Office prior to the start date, the remaining balance is due immediately.

New students whose financial aid does not fully cover tuition costs will be contacted by the Business Office to make payment arrangements for the remaining balance. Registration is considered incomplete until arrangements have been made for full payment of all charges and incomplete registration will preclude the student from staying enrolled in the course.

Undergraduate Online: If a student is dropped from a course for non-payment, the student is still responsible for returning textbooks to Tree of Life (third-party supplier) to avoid being charged for them.

Continuing Online and Graduate Online Students

Prior to each award year, continuing online students who are using federal financial aid must have their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completed two weeks prior to the start of the semester. Continuing students whose FAFSA has been selected for verification, or has FAFSA errors, must have these issues completed before the end of the first course in the semester or they will be dropped from future courses.

Continuing students, who have not completed a FAFSA, or whose financial aid does not cover the costs, will be contacted by the Business Office to make payment arrangements. Registration is considered incomplete until arrangements have been made for full payment of all charges and incomplete registration will preclude the student from staying enrolled in the semester. The student will only be rescheduled for classes after an approved payment plan is established.

Continuing students who do not return to classes within 45 days of their last date of attendance in the previous award year will be withdrawn from the program unless they have been approved by Academic Advising to be on an approved leave of absence (see [Leave of Absence Policy](#)).

Undergraduate Online: If a student is dropped from a course for non-payment, the student is still responsible for returning textbooks to Tree of Life (third-party supplier) to avoid being charged for them.

PAST DUE BALANCE

A student's balance must meet the following criteria for re-enrollment:

- The balance must be less than or equal to \$200, regardless of the age of the unpaid balance.
- Any balance must be paid in full OR have been awarded financial aid for the current academic year.
 - A financial aid status of any of the following will disqualify the student from attending class with an unpaid balance greater than \$0: Financial Aid Verification, Unusual Enrollment History, Outstanding Master Promissory Note, Incomplete Entrance Counseling
- If the student's account balance was written off by the University for any reason, the student must pay the original balance before being re-admitted.

The Business Office reserves the right to deny a prospective student's attendance regardless of the account balance if documented evidence shows a history of uncooperative behavior.

Students with an outstanding balance may not be allowed to re-enroll for another term or class, receive official transcripts, or be mailed a diploma.

MILITARY FUNDING

In compliance with the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018, Grace Christian University will allow any individual entitled to receive Chapter 31 (VR&E) or Chapter 33 (Post 9/11 GI Bill®) benefits to attend registered courses while the institution awaits payment from the VA.

We will not assess late fees due to delayed VA payments. We will not deny access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities. We will not require that a covered individual borrow additional funds. We will not impose any penalty on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33.

The waiting period will expire upon receipt of the payment from the VA or after 90 days from the date the institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

It is recommended that Military students submit their Certificate of Eligibility or Statement of Benefits to the school before classes begin. If the student's eligible VA benefits do not fully cover the financial obligations at the University, the student will be responsible to make other payment arrangements to cover the remaining balance before classes begin.

Student Account Balance & Refund Options

The tuition refund policy is based upon the Last Day of Attendance (see official **Course Attendance and Participation policy**). Absenteeism or failure to begin a class does not reduce a student's financial obligation.

TITLE IV FUNDS

Credit Balance

Federal regulations prohibit the use of Title IV funds to be applied toward a past due balance greater than \$200.

Withdrawal Impact/Return of Funds

Students are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from classes to understand the complete financial impact of withdrawal. Many times a withdrawal can result in a student owing the University and/or federal government for financial aid that has already been refunded to the student. Withdrawing from classes may also impact the Satisfactory Academic Progress completion ratio.

Federal laws set forth regulations that govern the treatment and calculation of refunds for recipients of Federal Financial Aid (Title IV aid) when a student withdraws from a class.

The Financial Aid Office is required by the Dept of Education to recalculate federal financial aid eligibility for students who withdraw, drop out, or are dismissed prior to completing at least 60% of a semester. Recalculation is based on the percent of earned aid. The Financial Aid Office must return Title IV funds to the programs from which the student received aid during the payment period or period of enrollment as applicable, in the following order, up to the net amount disbursed from each source:

- Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
- Subsidized Stafford Loan
- Federal PLUS Loan
- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal SEOG Program
- Other Title IV grant programs

The University reserves the right to amend this procedure to comply with federal regulations.

FINANCIAL AID HANDLING OF EXCESS FUNDS

A student who receives financial aid will be asked to complete an Authorization to Retain Funds form. This form must be returned to the Financial Aid Office. The form will ask the student to choose one of the following options:

1. Keep the credit balance at the school;
2. Keep \$200 at the school to cover additional of future fees, and mail the remaining excess funds to the student;
3. Mail the entire credit balance to the student.

Student's federal aid will arrive at the school according to the following table:

Campus	Requirements	Funds' Arrival	Disbursement Date
On-Campus Undergraduate	Students must be in attendance beyond the add/drop refund period.	30 days after the semester begins	within 14 days of the funds' arrival
Online Undergraduate	Students must participate in class before funds arrive at the school. Participation is verified by the FA Office. A schedule change may impact the disbursement date.	3rd week of the 2nd course of the semester	4th week of the 2nd course of the semester
Online Graduate	Students must participate in class before funds arrive at the school. Participation is verified by the FA Office. A schedule change may impact the disbursement date.	2nd week of the 2nd course of the semester	3rd week of the 2nd course

After the student's financial aid has arrived at the school, the Financial Aid Office will send a "Loan Notification" email to loan recipients. If the student has a credit balance remaining after the Financial Aid is posted for the semester, and if the student chose to have their credit balance mailed to them, then Financial Aid Office will enter a request to the Business Office to mail a check to the student. It is Grace's policy to mail the excess funds check one week after the financial aid has arrived at the school.

TUITION REFUND + CHARGES

Undergraduate On-Campus Refund Guidelines

Tuition and Private Music Lessons

If courses are dropped, the following schedule of tuition refunds applies:

- During the first week of semester-100% refund on basis of preregistered hours.
- Within 1 week after registration - 75% refund.
- Within 2 weeks after registration - 50% refund.
- After the third week of school - no refund.
- If for disciplinary reasons - no refund.

Room & Food

If a student leaves the dorm and/or drops the meal plan, the following schedule of refunds apply:

- During the first week of the semester - 100 % refund less \$100
- During the second week of the semester - 75% refund.
- During the third week of the semester - 50% refund.
- During the fourth week of the semester - 25% refund.
- During the fifth week of the semester - 15% refund.
- During the sixth week of the semester - 10% refund.
- After the sixth week of the semester - no refund.
- If for disciplinary reasons - no refund.

Fees: No other fees are refundable.

Undergraduate Online Refund Guidelines

Attendance is defined by completing any assignment in Blackboard, such as submitting a paper or answering a discussion question.

A refund for a dropped course will be determined by your Last Date of Attendance (LDA) (See the Last Date of Attendance Policy).

The following schedule applies to dropped or withdrawn courses:

- If the student contacts a member of the Academic Advising Team after the class starts and posts nothing, the student will be charged 50% of the Book and Technology Fee and a processing fee of \$100.
- Attendance prior to the first day of class: 100% refund, no grade issued
- Attendance during the calendar week 1: 80% tuition refund, 50% Resource Fee refund, \$100 processing fee with a withdrawal (W) grade issued
- Attendance during the calendar week 2: 50% tuition refund, 50% Resource Fee refund, \$100 processing fee with a withdrawal (W) grade issued
- Week 3-5: No refund and the grade earned will be issued at the conclusion of the course
- Students withdrawn for disciplinary issues will not receive a refund

Graduate Online Refund Guidelines

Attendance is defined by completing any assignment in Blackboard, such as submitting a paper or answering a discussion question.

A refund for a dropped course will be determined by your Last Date of Attendance (LDA) (See the Last Date of Attendance Policy).

The following schedule applies to dropped or withdrawn courses:

- Week 1 or prior: 100% refund, no grade issued
- Week 2: 75% refund with a withdrawal (W) grade issued
- Week 3: 50% refund with a withdrawal (W) grade issued
- Week 4-6: No refund and the grade earned will be issued at the conclusion of the course
- Students withdrawn for disciplinary issues will not receive a refund

TUITION & FEES APPEAL

Click here for a link to the **Application for Tuition + Fees Refund** or contact the Registrar's Office (onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu).

Guidelines

Grace recognizes that on rare occasions students may need to request a refund of tuition of fees based on the occurrence of a special circumstance. The following verifiable reasons are acceptable for the refund request process:

- military deployment
- death of an immediate family member
- medical emergency
- university error
- other

The following reasons are NOT acceptable reasons to request a refund:

- incarceration or parole violation
- job change
- acceptance into another institution
- relocation
- unaware of policy
- issues between the student and instructor
- personal/family concerns
- unaware of Education Plan

Student Responsibility

The Application for Tuition and Fees Refund Form must be completed by the student and physically signed.

If the student receives financial aid (grants, loans, scholarships) to cover the cost of tuition, the student should discuss the implications of a tuition refund with a financial aid advisor.

The student is responsible for any current financial obligation to Grace Christian University while the Application for Tuition and Fees Refund is being reviewed.

Process

- After the form is completed and signed, the student must attach any appropriate supporting documentation.
- The completed application may be submitted via mail, email, fax, or in person.
- The appropriate administrator(s) will review the application and either approve, deny, or request additional information within 10 business days.
- The Registrar will notify the student and appropriate Grace staff of the final decision via the student's Grace email address.
- If approved, a refund will be made to the student's account within 10 business days.

Academic Accommodations

Grace Christian University will make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities or who may need accommodations in compliance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The purpose of academic accommodation is to provide equal access to educational opportunities to students with disabilities. Grace does not intend that academic standards be altered, nor that the essential elements of programs or courses are changed. Grace will adhere to the New 508 Compliance Rule, ensuring all content is accessible.

A student who has a documented disability may apply for accommodations by completing the **Accommodation Request Form**.

Accommodations are granted on the basis of determined need and appropriate documentation of disabilities. A student must complete the **Accommodation Request Form** and must provide documentation supporting the current need for the requested accommodation. This must include the most recent school record such as an individualized educational plan (IEP), and/or medical records detailing a diagnosed disability. If an IEP or 504 plan is more than 3 years old, the student should request a letter from his/her doctor detailing the current need for the accommodation being requested. To be deemed appropriate documentation, testing and assessment of a disability must have been completed no more than five years prior to the application for accommodations. The **Accommodation Request Form** and supporting documentation will be reviewed by the Accommodations Review Committee (ARC). The process of determining eligibility for accommodations may take several weeks, so a student desiring accommodations should complete an **Accommodation Request Form** and submit appropriate documentation well in advance of admission or the next term/semester in which accommodations are desired.

If the requested academic accommodation is approved, the student will be notified via an official verification letter sent to his or her student email account. The decision to use the available academic accommodation lies solely with the student for each course. Should the student desire to use the accommodation, it is his or her responsibility to inform each professor at the start of the course that he or she will be taking advantage of the accommodations available. Any questions about these accommodations should be directed to the Accommodation Review Committee via onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu or (616) 261-8586.

If a student's request for academic accommodations is denied by the Accommodation Review Committee, the committee will notify the student via an official letter in an email sent to the student email account.

In the event that a student has questions regarding whether he or she is eligible for accommodations, how he or she might provide appropriate documentation of disabilities, or how he or she might handle a disagreement with a professor over questions of accommodation, the student should contact his or her advisor or the Registrar's Office immediately. If a disagreement arises surrounding eligibility for services or the manner in which a specific accommodation is being implemented, the student has a right to informal and formal grievance procedures.

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism

All members of the Grace Christian University learning community are expected to honor the principles of truth, honesty, and maintaining academic integrity at Grace. In order for real learning to occur, one must put in the time and effort to create original thoughts. Dr. Tim Rumley, Associate Provost at Grace Christian, has summarized the impact of plagiarism as a barrier to learning. He writes, “One big reason to avoid plagiarism as a student is that plagiarism keeps you from learning. A student can use a computer to copy text from a source and paste it into a paper without ever learning anything from the material. On the other hand, when a student does the hard mental work to create a good paraphrase and disciplines himself to keep track of and cite where the paraphrase comes from, the student both learns the material cited and learns about the source. Good, appropriate use of sources promotes learning.”

Plagiarism or any misrepresentation of work, unsanctioned collaboration, use of prohibited materials, and participation in any form of dishonesty all constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy. A violation of this policy will result in the actions and consequences specified within this policy. Faculty will determine violations of integrity for academic coursework and report the instance to the Online Dean’s Office using the **Academic Dishonesty Report Form**. In the instance staff or administration determines a violation of integrity has occurred, the staff or administrator will also be required to report. Administration can overturn the decision by faculty based on the outlined appeal process below, or through an investigation and accumulation of evidence.

Examples of academic dishonesty that constitute a violation of this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Plagiarism (see definition below)
- Cheating on tests, quizzes, or any assignments
 - Including purchasing or obtaining and submitting pre-written assignments, homework, or examinations of any sort as your own work (or selling or providing such items to others)
 - Use of any paper generator tool
 - Copying another student’s homework, written assignments, examination answers, electronic media, or other data or items
 - Submitting work created for another course without the instructor’s approval
- Aiding and abetting dishonesty
- Falsification of records and official documents
- Misrepresenting oneself or one’s circumstances to gain an unfair advantage

Students are responsible for understanding and following:

- All provisions of this policy including, but not limited to, the examples above
- Specific course policies for academic work
- Other University policies as specified in the current Catalog
- Academic principles of honesty and integrity
- The Academic Appeal process which gives students the right to appeal any grade affected by a charge of academic dishonesty

PLAGIARISM DEFINITION

It is expected that all work submitted by the student will be that student's original, own work. The student's previous, own work may not be used in the submission of another assignment.

- Resubmitting a previously submitted assignment is self-plagiarism. Self-plagiarism is considered outright plagiarism unless the faculty has given prior approval for the student to re-submit an assignment or paper with the expectation that the student has improved upon the previously submitted assignment or paper.
- Although rare, limited quotation of personal work may be appropriate in some cases (requires proper citation).
- Re-submission of a chart or diagram that can't be revised for improvement is an exception.

Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional. A finding of a plagiarism issue does not necessarily indicate intentionality.

Failure to *either* cite in the text or list on the References page is a component of plagiarism.

- If a source is used in writing a paper and quoted verbatim, the source material must be in quotes, cited in the text, and listed on the References page.
- If a source is used in writing a paper and paraphrased or summarized, the paraphrased or summarized source material must be cited in the text, and listed on the References page.
- Whatever is cited in the paper, must be listed on the References page.
- Whatever is listed on the References page, must be cited in the paper.

If a source is used in writing a paper, and neither cited in the text nor listed on the References page, this is outright plagiarism. Outright plagiarism can range in size from a few words to paragraphs.

Attempting to use a paper or assignment written by another individual or online tool is a severe act of academic dishonesty.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY & PLAGIARISM REVIEW PROCEDURE

1. The faculty member will submit the **Academic Dishonesty Report Form**.
2. The Online Dean will receive the report form, review the presented information, and access the assignment in Blackboard, as applicable.
3. The Online Dean will respond to the reported violation within 2-3 business days with the plagiarism offense number and consequence.
4. The faculty member will explain the consequence of the plagiarism to the student in the assignment feedback and via email. This notification must take place within the 7-day faculty grading period as much as possible and before final course grades are submitted. In some instances, the student may not be granted an option to resubmit based due to the course completion. Faculty should clarify the following, where applicable and when appropriate with the student:
 - The nature of academic dishonesty that occurred
 - Expectations for homework, assignments, collaborative student efforts, research papers, exams, etc.
 - Any specific style/format requirements for assignments
5. The Online Dean will notify the student of the formal documentation of the offense (including the violation number), appropriate policy information, emphasize the ethical and professional standards of higher education, and explain any disciplinary action beyond the grading of the assignment (if applicable).
6. The Online Dean will maintain permanent records of academic dishonesty violations.
7. Academic Advising will contact the student for guidance, support, coaching, and resources for future improvement.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY CONSEQUENCES

Each component of plagiarism shall be assessed a 10% deduction from the assignment grade. Abuse of the use of components of plagiarism should be documented by the faculty and reported. Pervasive abuse of component plagiarism may result in enforcement of the below consequences as directed by the Online Dean.

The following are representative of possible levels of consequences for outright plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty. The University reserves the right to assess the appropriate level of consequence based on the severity of the violation. The following will be imposed in order unless otherwise directed by the Online Dean based on the severity of the offense. At any level, the student will be recommended (or required) to take the Plagiarism and/or APA writing lab OR other remediation as advised by the Online Dean or Academic Advisor.

1. The student will receive a zero on the plagiarized assignment. The student has the ability to revise and resubmit the assignment based on feedback from the faculty within 5 calendar days of the notification, provided the timing is before the end of the course. The revised assignment will be applied a 10-25% penalty off of the final grade as determined by the faculty.
2. The student will fail the assignment and is not allowed resubmission.
3. The student will fail the class. A grade of XF will be given to indicate failure due to academic dishonesty. A student may appeal the grade of XF to be replaced with an E after one year.
4. The student will be suspended or dismissed from Grace Christian University as directed by the Online Dean, Associate Provost, or Provost.

An Academic Dishonesty citation may be appealed by the student to the Associate Provost. A second appeal based upon procedural error or new evidence may be made to the Provost, whose ruling is final.

Note: An original discipline decision will remain in effect until the appeal has been completed and a final decision has been issued. Expelled or suspended students found on University premises will be considered trespassing. Such situations require the student to make appointments by phone or email during regular business hours when appropriate, with the appropriate University administrators.

For additional policy information go to the **Personal & Professional Conduct** section.

Academic Information

Unit of Credit

The unit of credit is the semester hour. A semester hour represents 2,250 minutes of coursework or its equivalent. Due to the program's online format, courses have been designed to total the requisite hours of study for each three-credit class.

The following table represents the minimum workload for each type of course. Workload includes student engagement in reading, research, online discussions, assignment preparation, and writing.

Type of Course	Minimum Work Load
All undergraduate three-credit courses (on-campus/hybrid/online)	112.5 hours
All undergraduate two credit courses (on-campus only)	75 hours
All undergraduate one-credit courses (on-campus only)	37.5 hours
All graduate three-credit courses (online only)	150 hours

Course Numbers

Courses numbered 100-299 are Lower Division courses and are generally for freshman and sophomore students. Courses numbered 300-499 are upper Division courses and are generally for junior and senior students.

Full-time Studies and Academic Overload

A full-time course load for Online students is 12 or more credit hours per semester with a single 3 credit course per 5-week term. Students may request permission to register for more than 3 credit hours per term by completing the **Credit Hour Overload Form**.

The student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, the prior semester GPA of 3.3 or higher, and 18 or more cumulative credits earned at Grace at the time of the request.

In order to continue taking more than three credits per term, the student must maintain the above criteria. The student will be monitored by advising and re-evaluated after each semester. A student may enroll in credit overload for 8 terms per year. If a student drops below the required criteria, he/she will no longer be permitted to double-up unless the criteria are met again. If a student withdraws from 1 or more courses in 2 or more doubled-up terms, he/she will not be permitted to continue doubling up unless an exception is made by the Director of Advising.

Assessment Activities

Because of its desire to improve the quality of education and services offered and a commitment to continuous improvement, the University regularly schedules assessment activities. These activities may include standardized tests, surveys, focus groups, interviews, etc. Students will receive prior notification of these activities so that they can plan accordingly.

Academic Resources

MICROSOFT OFFICE

As part of Grace Christian University's licensing agreement with Microsoft, all students of Grace Christian University may download MS Office for up to 5 devices for free.

Contact the Grace Christian Information Technology helpdesk if you do not know how to access the MS Office download.

Helpdesk@gracechristian.edu
(616) 261-8587

CHAPEL RECORDINGS AND LIVE STREAMING

Throughout the academic year, various speakers are invited to visit the Grace Christian University campus, where they address undergraduate students at Baker Chapel. Chapel recordings are available via Mixcloud (mixcloud.com/GraceChristianUniversity).

Tuesday (teaching) and Friday (worship/response) chapel sessions are available live on Grace's Facebook page ([@GraceChristianU](https://www.facebook.com/GraceChristianU)) from 9:45 AM – 10:30 AM EST!

GRACE ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE (A.C.E.) + THE WRITING CENTER ONLINE

Grace Christian University is committed to providing the tools and services needed to help students succeed in their studies. The Writing Center Online is an online service for students to submit papers to be reviewed by qualified tutors and to receive feedback to aid in the completion of assignments.

Visit the [writing center website](#) for more information regarding tutoring sessions, paper review, writing resources, writing podcasts, and study skill suggestions!

LIBRARY

The Library of Grace Christian University exists to augment, enhance and facilitate the academic pursuits of students and faculty. The Library is continuing to expand its resources to support the curriculum and promote student academic success. Library hours are posted on Grace's website. Grace provides access for its learners to electronic library resources, which gives students online access to multiple electronic materials such as articles in journals, magazines, and newspapers. Access to books and other materials available in the Library's collection is provided through the online catalog, which is accessible through a link on the university website. Renewals and requests for material can be made via the Internet. Students may supplement their Library needs through the use of local Libraries or through arrangements with Libraries located closer to the students.

Website: gracechristian.edu/library

Contact Information

Circulation Desk Phone: (616) 538-2332

ONLINE ACADEMIC ADVISING*

The Academic Advising Team works with students to create a positive, Christ-centered educational experience. The Academic Advising Team collaborates with the Registrar's Office to create a student-specific education plan to meet the program's degree requirements. The advisors maintain ongoing communication with students through text, talk, and email to provide each student with the assistance needed to be successful. Our advisors also offer to pray for students, build rapport, encourage, and help in overcoming challenges. The Academic Advising Team seeks to provide accurate information to create an excellent student experience.

Contact Information

Department E-mail address: academicadvising@gracechristian.edu

Department Phone Number: (616) 261-8585

- * On-Campus students: contact your assigned faculty advisor.
- Graduate Online students: contact Becca Shaffran (Zuber) at bzuber@gracechristian.edu.

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

The Registrar's Office serves to provide a consistent, academically challenging, quality degree program for students attending Grace. The Registrar's Office is instrumental in facilitating admissions processing, registration, student records, and degree auditing. The Registrar's Office staff also process transcript evaluations, credit by exam, grades, academic exception requests, re-entry applications, academic standing, graduation-related processes, and provide support for the Online Academic Advising Team and On-Campus Faculty Advisors.

Contact Information

Department Email: onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu

Department Phone: (616) 261-8586

Academic Standing

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

Official classifications are made by the Registrar's Office at the beginning of each academic semester (fall and spring). Transfer credit hours are included in the credits counted toward class standing once an official transcript has been received by the Registrar's Office and the credits have been applied to the student's transcript.

Student class standing and enrollment status are classified as indicated in the following tables:

Class Standing by Earned Credit Hours

Class Standing	Cumulative Earned Credit Hours
Freshman	<28
Sophomore	28-55
Junior	56-84
Senior	85+

Student Status by Enrolled Credit Hours per Semester

Status	Credit Hours per Semester
Full-time	12+
Part-time	<12
3/4 time	9-11
1/2 time	6-8
<1/2 time	3-5
Non-Degree Seeking	<9; not formally seeking a degree program; taking courses without the intention of pursuing a degree
Dual-Enrolled	<6; individuals currently in high school

ACADEMIC STANDING

Academic standing is based on the student's completed semester grade point average (GPA) and cumulative GPA. Academic standing is not the same as Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). The Registrar's Office staff will verify academic standing after the completion of each semester according to the table below. The Registrar will notify students on their academic standing upon the completion of each semester.

Due to the difference in the academic calendar/course schedule between Online and On-Campus undergraduate programs, the following distinctions apply to the academic standing policy:

- Online undergraduate students who attempt only 3 credit hours in a semester will continue on their previous academic standing and will be reviewed again after the subsequent semester. Online students who attempt 6 or more credits in a given semester will be evaluated according to the table below.
- On-Campus undergraduate students who are part-time (less than 12 credits attempted in a given semester) will be reviewed for suspension on a case-by-case basis and offered support services accordingly. Part-time on-campus students will not be evaluated for probation, good standing, Dean's List, or President's List.

Academic Standing by Cumulative Credits and GPA

Total Cumulative Credit Hours Attempted*	Semester GPA for Academic Probation	Cumulative GPA for Academic Suspension
12**-18	1.50	1.00
19-37	1.75	1.25
38-56	2.00	1.50
57-86	2.00	1.70
87+	2.00	1.85

* Applied transfer coursework will be counted toward total semester hours attempted.

** Students with less than 12 credits earned will be reviewed for probation and suspension on a case-by-case basis.

DEAN'S & PRESIDENT'S LIST

At the conclusion of each student's semester, the University will recognize those students who have successfully completed a minimum of 12 graded credits within a single semester (full time). Students who earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.50-3.99 will be named to the Dean's List, while those achieving a cumulative grade point average of 4.0 will be named to the President's List. The students who achieve the Dean's List or President's List criteria will receive a notification at the time of qualification. Spring semester recipients will be recognized in the Journey Magazine published by Grace Christian University once per year.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Online Undergraduate Students: A student who is not listed on academic probation for his/her semester GPA but was near the threshold for academic probation or suspension may be contacted by Academic Advising to notify the student that his/her academic progress is placing them on a trajectory to be on Academic Probation the following term should his/her grades decline further. Students are encouraged to utilize support resources to remain above academic probation.

On-Campus Undergraduate Students: Each student admitted to Grace Christian University is expected to have made satisfactory progress toward achieving his or her academic goal(s). Individuals whose previous preparation and experience prior to coming to Grace give an indication they may experience some difficulty with the academic program will be placed in the Academic Support Program during the first semester. The requirements for the Academic Support Program include being enrolled in GE 098 or 099, as well as being limited to no more than 14 credit hours (except with the permission of the Associate Provost). *Academic Support is not notated on the student's transcript.*

ACADEMIC PROBATION

The purpose of Academic Probation is not to punish, but rather to serve as an indication to the student that he/she is not progressing at a satisfactory rate toward graduation. A student will be released from Academic Probation upon obtaining the prescribed semester GPA.

Online Undergraduate Students: When a student is placed on Academic Probation, an Academic Advisor may contact the student to complete the Academic Assistance Questionnaire (AAQ) to assist with goal setting and accountability. Following the completion of the AAQ, an Academic Advisor will meet with the student (via phone or in person). Together, the Academic Advisor and the student will discuss opportunities for improvement and develop or revise an Academic Success Plan. A student will be released from academic probation upon achieving the prescribed semester GPA.

On-Campus Undergraduate Students: Any On-Campus student who is placed on Academic Probation will be required to enroll in the GE 098 or 099 Academic Success Program, as well as being limited to no more than 14 credit hours (except with the permission of the Associate Provost). The student's eligibility for extracurricular activities may be restricted as determined by the Associate Provost.

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION

Any student who fails to reach the cumulative GPA required to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress will be academically suspended for the next semester (Online: four five-week terms). A student who is academically suspended will not be allowed to enroll in any courses for the equivalent of one semester.

A student who is academically suspended for the first time may be re-entered into the desired program after one semester of absence by completing the Application for Re-Entry. If the application is approved by the Registrar and Dean or Admissions Committee, the student may be able to return on Academic Probation.

A student who is academically suspended for a second time must petition the Educational Policies Committee for re-entry after one semester of absence. The petition must include evidence that the difficulties previously encountered have been overcome and that completion of the degree requirements can reasonably be expected. The decision of the Educational Policies Committee is final, with no option to appeal.

A student who becomes academically suspended because of extenuating circumstances may appeal the decision to the Educational Policies Committee. A student's participation in academic support efforts (GE 098, GE 099 or an Academic Success Plan) will be considered when making this determination.

Athletic Eligibility

Grace Christian University offers intercollegiate athletic teams in men's soccer and basketball, and women's volleyball, soccer, and basketball. Grace also offers co-ed cross country, bowling, tennis, and track and field. Grace Christian University, although not presently a member of an athletic conference, is a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association, a 110-plus member organization which sponsors national tournaments in soccer, basketball, and volleyball.

To be eligible for competition in intercollegiate athletics, a player must be regularly enrolled for 12 hours of credit and have achieved a total of 24 hours of credit for the previous two semesters. Athletes who have achieved Junior standing must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA. Other NCCAA eligibility requirements affect how GPA is calculated and which courses count toward credit hours needed. The Athletic Director determines eligibility according to both the NCCAA and Grace Christian University rules. Grace Christian University may also restrict participation in intercollegiate athletics for students on academic or social probation.

Availability of Classes & Programs

The course offering schedule for each Grace Christian University program is created based on course capacity with specific student needs to be considered. There may be situations where a course is not offered during the specific term or semester a student needs it. An effort will be taken to avoid time off for the student; however, in certain instances, the student may be required to take a break due to course availability. It is the student's responsibility to review her or her schedule or education plan on a regular basis to be aware of any changes to his/her schedule due to the course offering.

In an effort to meet current church and job demands, the programs of Grace Christian University are in a constant process of assessment and revision. High demand for classes and limited resources may require some students to take more than the estimated minimum time to complete a program. A student may also be required to present special qualifications such as prerequisite courses, work experience, knowledge, or a particular grade point average in order to be authorized to take certain courses. For these reasons, students are urged to discuss such matters periodically with an Academic or Faculty Advisor. Programs are subject to change without notice.

Catalog Year Policy

The academic catalog is not a contract between Grace Christian University and the student. Grace makes every effort to include applicable academic and non-academic information available at the time of publishing the annual catalog. Web-based catalog content will continue to be updated as new information becomes available and represents the most accurate version of the catalog.

While all students must follow academic programs as listed in the catalog in effect at the time of entrance or re-entry to the university, any changes instituted by the faculty or administration become effective when official notification is published unless otherwise stated and may differ from the entering catalog.

Undergraduate Students are expected to satisfy the degree requirements of the respective entry year catalog within eight years. After a period of eight years or upon re-entry to the institution, a student will be expected to satisfy the degree requirements of an active catalog year, eight years old or less.

Graduate Students are expected to satisfy the degree requirements of the respective entry year catalog within five years. After a period of five years or upon re-entry to the institution, a student will be expected to satisfy the degree requirements of an active catalog year, five years old or less.

Change of Program Request

In order to request a program change, the student must fill out the **Degree Change Form**.

- The student's graduation date may be delayed when a new degree is selected.
- The student may lose applicable transfer credits when a new degree is selected.
- The student may be required to take additional credits at Grace when a new degree is selected; also, some previously taken credits may not be applicable to the new degree.
- When a new education plan is created, the student must approve the plan before the Registrar's Office will officially change the degree.

Online Students: The student is responsible for any rush shipping fees acquired if the form is not received a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the start of the next term impacted by the degree change.

Course Attendance & Participation

ATTENDANCE

For Online programs, learner attendance is defined by posting once per calendar week (not weekly content) in response to discussion questions or assignments (academic work). Emailing other course participants (including the faculty) does not count towards attendance.

LAST DATE OF ATTENDANCE

When a student drops or withdraws from a class, the last date of attendance (LDA) is to be reported as the last calendar date a student submitted academic work. Academic work could be a discussion board post or an assignment. If no academic work is submitted, the student's LDA is considered prior to the start of the class. The LDA determines the refund of tuition as well as any required return of financial aid funds.

PARTICIPATION

Participation differs from attendance. While a learner may be in attendance (having submitted academic work), the participation may not be exemplary. Participation in a class involves being interactive with fellow learners and faculty, whether in discussions, activities, or projects. Participation in each course will vary depending on the circumstances.

INACTIVITY

A student who is inactive in Week 1 and Week 2 may be administratively dropped from the course. A \$100 drop fee will apply.

A student who attends a course during Week 1 and/or Week 2 of the course and is then inactive in the course for two consecutive weeks may be administratively withdrawn from the course and issued a W grade. Whether the student's last date of attendance in the course is during Week 1 or Week 2 of the course will determine the refund and fees implications.

A student who is withdrawn or dropped from a course due to two consecutive weeks of inactivity and is inactive in his or her next course may be administratively withdrawn from the institution.

INABILITY TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE

In the event of a personal emergency, the student should contact their instructor and academic advisor as soon as safely possible. Accommodations for such emergency situations will be dealt with on a case by case basis at the approval of the faculty and/or administration.

INCLIMATE WEATHER

If Grace Christian University closes due to inclimate weather, Online courses will remain open and attendance will be expected.

Course Repeat Policy

Students are permitted to take a course in which an unsatisfactory grade was achieved during a previous period of enrollment for the purpose of earning a higher grade point average and improved learning. In such situations, registration for the course and payment of the related tuition and fees at the current tuition rates are required. The grade achieved by the repeated course supersedes the initial grade in relation to the cumulative GPA calculation, though the initial grade will remain on the permanent transcript record and marked with an “R” for repeated.

Procedure for Online Students:

Courses designated as foundational or a required competency for future success in the program will be required to be repeated before the student will be allowed to progress in the program. For Online students, examples of courses designated as foundational are GEN 122, BUS 115, ENG 105, and ENG 300.

A student will be permitted to repeat any course once (a second attempt). In order to be registered for a third attempt, the advisor will review the student’s ability to complete the course and understanding of the financial responsibilities. Any subsequent attempts must be requested by completing the **Course Repeat Request Form** and approved by the Online Dean. Students who receive approval for subsequent attempts will be required to complete an Academic Success Plan with their Academic Advisor. Students will not be registered for the requested class until the Course Repeat Request is approved. Successful completion of the conditions outlined within the Academic Success Plan is required for consideration of subsequent attempts. Review the table below for an explanation of the action required for each course attempt. *A withdraw (W) does not count as an attempt for academics or financial aid.

Course Repeat Procedure

Course Attempt	Action Required	Result
First Attempt	None (Automatically registered for course)	Earned passing grade or withdraw.
Second Attempt	Academic Advising will register the student for the repeat course.	Academic Advisor will submit registration for student and update the Education Plan. Earned passing grade or withdraw.
Third Attempt	Academic Advising will engage the student in support services, resources will be presented, an academic success plan will be drafted, and the student will be encouraged to accept Advising's support for the course.	Must successfully complete the Academic Success Plan. Earned passing grade or withdraw.
Fourth Attempt and beyond	The student will be required to take a mandatory break from the next term. Academic Advising will contact the student to request the Course Repeat Request Form to be completed by the student.	The Dean/Provost will review the request and approve/deny. Earned passing grade or withdraw.

Repeating a Passed Course

In certain instances, a student may wish to repeat a passed course to raise his/her grade point average (GPA) or to refresh knowledge of specific content. Financial aid may be available to help pay for a repeated course if the student's existing grade in the course is an F/E or W. If the student received a passing grade (D- or better), financial aid may be used to repeat the course only one time. Financial aid is not available for coursework completed in a previously earned certificate or degree program.

Directed & Independent Study Policy

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Grace will allow the use of an independent study when required to assist a student with the completion of the program degree requirements. An independent study is a way for a student to learn independently with the direction of a faculty who is a content expert in the student's approved area of the desired exploration. Students work with an instructor to design a set of learning activities necessary to achieve the course outcomes. The time commitment will be approximately the same as a standard course and follow the same course format as the program the student is enrolled in. An independent study is offered at the discretion of an advisor and must be approved by the Dean or Chair of the student's program. Independent or directed study courses are taken for credit and all regular tuition and fees will apply to courses taken in this format. A student who fails an independent study course may be required to repeat the course. An Independent Study Approval Form may be obtained from the Registrar's Office.

Guidelines for Independent Study:

1. The student and assigned faculty must meet prior to the first week of class (Online Students) or during the first week of class (On-Campus Students) to narrow the subject and establish a format for study.
2. A minimum of 4 meetings must occur with the instructor during the term, regardless of the amount of credit assigned to the course
3. The faculty member and student should decide on a suitable form of assessment for the articulation of the results of the studies.
4. The faculty member must document the independent study's Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) which must align with the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs).
5. The above agreements should be put in written form using the Independent Study Contract.
6. A completed copy of the Independent Study Contract must be given to the Registrar.
7. The Independent Study must be approved by the Dean of the school in which the independent study course is offered.
8. The general expectations for the student and faculty are the same as for all other courses.

DIRECTED STUDY

Grace will allow the use of a directed study when an unforeseen circumstance prevents a student from being able to take a required course as it is offered in the academic calendar. A directed study is a way for a student to learn independently through the use of current course curriculum directed by a faculty who is a content expert and who has previously taught the course material. A directed study is offered at the discretion of an advisor and must be approved by the Dean or Chair of the student's program in consultation with the Registrar. The time commitment will be approximately the same as a standard course and follow the same course format as the program the student is enrolled in. The course is required to have the same Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) as the course has when offered as a standard course. If the course content and the assessments must be altered for single student use, the altered assessments must align with the CLOs.

Independent and directed study courses are taken for credit and all regular tuition and fees will apply to courses taken in this format. A student who fails a directed study course will be required to repeat the course and may do so in a standard section or as a subsequent directed study, as approved.

Due Dates & Late Penalties

DUE DATES

Grace Online operates on a Tuesday to Monday school week. All assignments within a given week are due by 3 AM Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the Tuesday immediately following the week (which allows students in Western time zones to submit assignments later in the evening on Monday). All students are required to adhere to the EST time-zone requirement unless special permission has been granted by the instructor at the beginning of the course.

All initial posts within the discussion forum are due on Saturday at 3 AM EST (see Discussions rubric for details), but students are encouraged to post sooner. This is in order to ensure quality interaction throughout the week. As noted in the Discussion Rubric, response posts must be posted on separate days to promote interaction and earn the highest grades.

LATE PENALTIES

- 24 Hours Late – Assignments submitted within 24 hours past the due date will have a 10% late penalty of the final assignment grade.
- 48 Hours Late – Assignments submitted within 48 hours past the due date will have a 20% late penalty of the final assignment grade.
- 3-7 Days Late – Assignments submitted between 3-7 days late will receive a 50% late penalty of the final assignment grade.
- Beyond 7 Days Late – Assignments submitted beyond 7 days past the due date are not accepted and will receive a zero.
- All discussions must be completed by the due date of the Workshop each week. No credit will be given after the week has ended.
- Last Day of the Course – Facilitators are not required to accept assignments submitted after the last night of class.

Grading Scale

It is the responsibility of each student to meet the specific outcomes of each course as defined by the curriculum and upheld by the faculty, as well as to meet the general overall requirements for graduation which include a minimum cumulative GPA, total credit hours, and/or general education credits. If the student feels at any time that his/her performance is not on track to meet the specified requirements, the student should make an appointment with his/her instructor regarding an individual course, or an Academic Advisor if regarding the overall program. Grades are computed at the end of each course. Final grades are posted upon official grade submission from the instructor.

Students may view their official grades after the end of each term or semester by accessing the Student Portal and selecting “My Grades” and “Letter Grades.” The “My Grades” link in Blackboard is unofficial.

GRADES

Grading Scale + Grade Explanation

Percentage or Description	Letter Grade	Grade Points (multiply by course credit hours)	Explanation *A plus (+) or minus (-) grade indicates performance is at the upper or lower range defined by the letter grade.
95-100	A	4.0	Superior Work. Implies excellence in thinking and performance in a course. High-level work that is clear, precise, well-reasoned, and insightful.
90-94	A-	3.7	
87-89	B+	3.3	
83-86	B	3.0	Above Average. Implies sound thinking and performance in a course. B level work is clear, precise, and well-reasoned but does not have the depth of insight that A level work has.
80-82	B-	2.7	
77-79	C+	2.3	

Percentage or Description	Letter Grade	Grade Points (multiply by course credit hours)	Explanation *A plus (+) or minus (-) grade indicates performance is at the upper or lower range defined by the letter grade.
73-76	C	2.0	Average. Implies mixed thinking and performance in a course. C level work is inconsistently clear, precise, well-reasoned, and inconsistently demonstrates comprehension of basic concepts and principles.
70-72	C-	1.7	
67-69	D+	1.3	
63-66	D	1.0	Inferior but Passing. Implies poor thinking and performance in a course. D level work is inconsistently clear, precise, and well-reasoned. It does not display a depth of insight or consistent competence.
60-62	D-	.7	
0-59	E	0	Failure. Implies an attempt to get through a course by rote recall and reflects a mistaken comprehension of basic concepts and principles.
Incomplete	I	0	Incomplete. See the Incomplete Grade Policy below.
Withdrawal	W	Does not impact GPA	A W grade indicates the student has withdrawn (or been administratively withdrawn) from the course. A W grade does not impact the grade point average, but is considered an attempted course.
Withdrawal Failing	WF	0	On-Campus & Graduate Online students only: A WF grade indicates the student has withdrawn (or been administratively withdrawn) from the course with a failing grade at the time of course withdrawal.
Audit	AU	Does not impact GPA	Audit. No credit is earned. This grade is not used in computing the student's GPA.
Satisfactory	P	Does not impact GPA	Credit granted based on a pass/fail basis. Credit earned is equivalent to a C or better.
Unsatisfactory	U	0	Credit granted based on a pass/fail basis. No credit earned.
Academic Integrity Violation	XF	0	The grade of XF is given for plagiarizing, cheating on a test or assignment, or otherwise violating the academic integrity policy.
Repeat	R		The course has been repeated.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA is computed by dividing the total number of credits attempted into the total number of honor or quality points as outlined in the table above.

Incomplete Grade (I)

The following policy is to be applied to all Grace University students who receive a grade of an “I” for incomplete work in a course:

- All coursework is designed to be completed within the official date parameters set for the registered course.
- An Incomplete grade may be granted when a student is prevented from finishing coursework on time by extenuating circumstances.
- It is the student’s responsibility to request an “I” grade prior to the end of the class and the professor’s to determine whether the circumstances merit an incomplete grade. Faculty are encouraged to discuss incomplete grade opportunities with the student’s Academic Advisor or Registrar if applicable.
- A student who receives an incomplete grade for any course (some or all assigned work not turned in) will be required to turn in the completed work to the professor who taught the course unless other arrangements have been approved by the Dean or Provost.
- The work must be completed within the extension parameters set by the faculty:
 - On-Campus Courses: not to exceed 4 weeks from the last day of the original semester
 - Online Undergraduate Courses: not to exceed 5 weeks following the last day of the original term
 - Online Graduate Courses: not to exceed 2 weeks following the last day of the original term
- Failure to submit the incomplete work by the established deadline will result in earning zero points for incomplete work, and the final grade will be awarded accordingly.
- For Online Students: The student is advised to contact Tree of Life to arrange for an extension for the rented books and to discuss applicable charges.

AUDITING A COURSE

Auditing a course means taking a course for no credit or grade. Students may audit courses. Students are permitted to attend an audited course but is not required to submit assignments or take examinations. Audited courses do not include honor points (GPA) or credits toward graduation. Audit status does not count towards full-time enrollment. Audit status must be declared at the time of registration and confirmed with the instructor on the first day of class. Audit enrollments are based on class size availability. If at any point prior to the beginning of the course, the class size maximum is reached, any audit registrations will be canceled. Financial Aid is not available for audited courses. Changes from credit to audit and vice versa will not be permitted after the first week of the class. All tuition and schedule change fees apply accordingly (see applicable fee schedule).

Graduation & Commencement

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

In order to receive a degree and be invited to participate in the graduation banquet and the commencement ceremony, the student must apply to graduate by filling out the **Graduation Application Form**.

Each division awards degrees according to a prescribed schedule. Diplomas are ordered 6 weeks prior to each confer date. An application for graduation submitted less than 6 weeks before the next confer date will cause a delay in the order of the diploma.

Once the application for graduation is received by the Registrar's Office, the student will be charged a non-refundable graduation fee (this fee will be charged once per program level AA (\$100), BS (\$100), and MS (\$150)). The Registrar will audit the student's records for degree completion. If there are outstanding requirements that have not been addressed, the Registrar will notify the Academic Advisor and the student. If all degree requirements are either met or pending completion, the student will be notified of the pending confer date. Within 4 to 6 weeks after each confer date, the graduation applicants with a pending completion status will be audited a final time, followed by the conferral of the degrees. As long as there is not an outstanding balance on the student account, the diploma will be mailed to the address on the application for graduation or on file at Grace, whichever is more recent. If a student has not met the degree requirements at the final degree audit, the Registrar will notify the student and the advisor. The student will be required to reapply to graduate for the next confer date he/she is eligible for.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT

Candidates for degrees may participate in the commencement service in the spring of each academic year. Graduation is one of the few public celebrations of a student's entire educational process. While graduates occupy center stage, the annual commencement ceremony is about the success of the whole. Education at Grace is not an isolated or individualized experience. In order to be included in the annual commencement ceremony and program, the student must apply to graduate by January 15. If the deadline is not met, there is no guarantee that the student will be able to participate in the commencement ceremony or have his/her name printed in the commencement program.

Students who wish to participate in the commencement ceremony will be required to order their cap and gown regalia from our third-party vendor. The cost of the cap and gown will be added to the student's account at Grace. Students who choose to participate in the commencement ceremony and have met the requirements for the honors or high honors designation will be provided the honors cords at no cost.

GRADUATION HONORS

Undergraduate students participating in the Annual Commencement Ceremony will be honored for their achievement with the privilege of wearing a silver cord representing Honors (3.30 – 3.69) or a gold cord for High Honors (3.70 – 4.00). The graduation honors grade point average is based on the cumulative GPA for all completed coursework as of the final commencement program printing date (February). Only Grace Christian University credits will be used to determine academic honors.

A final audit will determine the graduation honors to be awarded at the time of degree conferral. Undergraduate students with a final cumulative grade point average of Honors (3.30 – 3.69) or High Honors (3.70 – 4.00) will receive the corresponding sticker affixed to their diploma and a notation on the official transcript.

GRADUATION AWARDS

Students may be selected for various graduation awards upon meeting the specific academic and/or character requirements. Graduation awards may be given at commencement or the banquet depending on the type of award.

BANQUET

In addition to the commencement ceremony, Grace hosts an annual graduation banquet for new graduates from all divisions of the university. The banquet is held at a local venue near Grand Rapids, Michigan on the Friday night prior to the commencement ceremony. This is a special time of celebration for students, families, and friends of Grace Christian University. Tickets must be purchased by the student. Each purchased ticket includes a plated dinner and dessert. An official RSVP will be required once the formal banquet invitation has been sent by the banquet committee.

DIPLOMA RE-ORDER

A diploma may be reordered at the request of the student. The cost for a replacement diploma is \$45, which must be paid prior to the order. The request for a reprint of a diploma dated more than one year from the request will have an additional \$45 fee assessed to cover an additional fee from the supplier. Contact the Registrar's Office to request a replacement diploma: onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu.

Graduation Requirements

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from an undergraduate program at Grace Christian University, the student must complete the following general education requirements:

- Earn a minimum of 60 credits for an Associate Degree and 120 credits for a Bachelor's Degree (overall credit requirements may vary);
- Earn a minimum of 25% of the required program from Grace Christian University (15 credits for AA, 30 credits for BS);
- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0;
- Complete the required Bible and Theology Core (BTC);
 - AA Degree: 12 credit hours
 - BS Degree Completion: 18 credit hours
 - BS Degree: 30 credit hours
- All transfer work (including non-traditional and credit by exam) must have been earned prior to the start of the student's last semester at Grace unless part of a dual-degree program or pre-approved by the Online Dean or Associate Provost;
- Dual-degree students must fulfill the degree requirements of both institutions;
- Official college transcripts must be received in order for transfer work to be posted on the student's academic record;
- All required coursework for the selected degree program must be completed satisfactorily.

MULTIPLE MAJOR POLICY

In order to earn multiple majors at Grace, the student must:

1. Complete the course requirements for both majors.
2. Complete a minimum of 18 unduplicated credit hours within each bachelor's degree major and 15 unduplicated credit hours within each associate degree major.
3. Complete all other degree requirements as stated.

MULTIPLE DEGREE POLICY

In order to earn multiple bachelor degrees at Grace, the student must:

1. Complete the course requirements for both majors.
2. Complete a minimum of 18 unduplicated credit hours within each major.
3. Complete all other degree requirements as stated.
4. Complete a minimum of 144 credits for a second bachelor's degree (24 credits beyond the first degree for a minimum total of 144 credits in total for both degrees).

POSTHUMOUS DEGREE

A posthumous degree may be awarded upon request of the student's family if the deceased student had met the requirements as set forth below. Posthumous degrees will be awarded in the name of a deceased or critically ill student, who according to the best available medical advice, has no significant probability of being able to resume studies toward an earned degree in their lifetime.

The deceased student is required to have been registered in the current or preceding semester, be in good academic standing with the university, and have completed at least 85% of the requirements for the specified degree. The Registrar will complete a degree audit as a verification of the requirements, and submit the request to the Dean. If the Dean approves, the Dean will submit the request to the Provost for final approval.

The final approval will be returned to the appropriate Registrar for processing. The Registrar will notate the academic transcript with: "Degree Granted Posthumously." A copy of the academic record will be released, if requested, to an attorney representing the estate of the deceased student. There will not be a graduation or transcript fee assessed.

Deceased students not meeting the above criteria may receive a "Certificate of Achievement," if requested by the family.

Generally, posthumous degrees are conferred on institutional confer dates; not at the annual graduation ceremony. The intent is to honor the student and to celebrate his or her accomplishments in a meaningful way while avoiding an awkward public event. If a student was in his or her last semester, the family may submit, in writing, a request to have one family member accept the posthumous degree during commencement as part of the normal proceedings. The reading of the name will include "awarded posthumously" in the announcement and in the printed program.

Personal & Professional Conduct

THE GRACE EXPERIENCE

Grace Christian University is committed to biblical higher education. First and foremost, this means we seek to engage our entire campus intentionally and pervasively in the study and application of the text of God's eternal Word, the Bible. As an institution of higher learning, we are also committed to the pursuit of knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and skills, not as an end entirely unto themselves, but as the means by which we can become better equipped to more effectively meet the needs of the church and society, both now and in the future.

The mission of Grace Christian University is Graduating Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society. As students work toward this end, it is expected that they will be people with **character** in who they are, **competence** in what they do, **compassion** as they relate to others and **commitment** to the gaining of knowledge and wisdom.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Grace Christian University is a community with a purpose. The University seeks to glorify God by fulfilling its mission: Graduating Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society. Members of the community include faculty, staff, and students. The broader Grace community includes alumni, constituents, churches, and the University Board. In order to fulfill the mission of the University, members of the community need to understand their responsibilities. If responsibilities are not met, the University will preserve the harmony of the community through redemptive discipline. We seek to create an environment of warmth in which confrontation and discipline, done with empathy and forgiveness, can be an effective part of the growth process. In order to achieve our institutional aims and objectives, we believe it necessary to ask faculty, staff, and student body members to observe limitations on conduct and to commit themselves firmly to these principles.

With the guidance and enabling of the Holy Spirit, the Administration and Faculty are responsible to:

1. Work toward the maximum attainment of institutional objectives, so as to make them steadily relevant to the lives of individual students.
2. Demonstrate in administration, instruction, and other activities Christian standards of competence, leadership, and encouragement for Christian maturity.
3. Demonstrate in their own personal lives a commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Provide maximum educational opportunities for the student in keeping with the aims and objectives of the university.

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, each student is responsible to:

1. Cooperate actively and constructively in the achievement of the aims and objectives of the university.
2. Practice Christian conduct based on biblical principles, extending the Lordship of Christ to every aspect of life.
3. Make full use of their God-given abilities so as to achieve maximum personal development by active participation in as many activities and learning experiences as is reasonable.
4. Respect with consideration the personal freedom, standards, and decisions of others.

The University recognizes that certain aspects of our culture are offensive to the Christian conscience and has therefore developed the following standard of conduct for the University family: Practices known to be morally wrong by biblical teaching (i.e., drunkenness, stealing, occult practices, adultery, gossip, pride, lust, bitterness, etc.) are not acceptable for members of the Grace Christian University community.

By virtue of enrollment, the student agrees to accept the responsibilities outlined above. The student who is found to be out of harmony with the aims and objectives of the University may be asked to withdraw from the Community whenever the general welfare to the University demands it even though there may be no serious special breach of conduct.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Grace Christian University is committed to providing an educational environment that gives the student the opportunity to obtain their academic goals. Accordingly, the University expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects its mission, purposes, ideals, and values.

All students are required to read, understand, and comply with the policies and responsibilities stated in this publication. Furthermore, the student will respect the rights of others and will treat fellow students, faculty, and staff with respect.

Each person has the right to study and learn in a quiet, comfortable environment without fear, without humiliation, and without destruction of self-esteem. Grace Christian expects student awareness and concern for all aspects of classroom interactions and strives to promote a cohesive and equitable environment where cultural and ethnic differences are respected. Institutional expectations, regulations and policies and practices are established to reflect the values to which the University subscribes. These expectations, regulations, policies, and practices promote the mission of the University, opportunities that facilitate the interactions of persons of different cultures, backgrounds, and persuasions, and respect for the rights of others.

Enrollment at Grace is a privilege, and it is expected that students will conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals, values, and educational aims of the University. Students will respect the rights of others and will treat fellow students, faculty, and staff with good manners and respect. Students will behave in such a way as to promote a positive learning environment. When a student's actions do not reflect these expectations, the University will take disciplinary measures, which may include disciplinary suspension or expulsion from the University and/or criminal prosecution.

Student instigation or participation in activities which develop to a degree that elicits panic, alarm, or disturbs the peace is prohibited. Students are expected to use language that promotes an educational environment in accordance with the University's mission. Use of language, gestures, or electronic media that are abusive or offensive in nature will result in disciplinary action, disciplinary suspension, or expulsion.

Students shall comply with all reasonable and lawful requests and instructions as well as disciplinary conditions imposed upon them by those in authority, including the University administrators, faculty, staff, or other employees acting in the performance of their official duties. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action, disciplinary suspension, or expulsion.

CODE OF ETHICS

The University seeks to glorify God by fulfilling its mission: Graduating Godly Individuals Prepared to Serve Christ in Church and Society. Members of the community include faculty, staff, and students. The broader Grace Christian University community includes alumni, constituents, churches and the University Board. In order to fulfill the mission of the University, members of the community need to understand their responsibilities. If responsibilities are not met, the University will preserve the harmony of the community through redemptive discipline. We seek to create an environment of warmth in which confrontation and discipline, done with empathy and forgiveness, can be an effective part of the growth process. In order to achieve our institutional aims and objectives, we believe it necessary to ask faculty, staff, and student body members to observe limitations on conduct and to commit themselves firmly to these principles.

As students, faculty, and staff, you acknowledge that Grace Christian University is an educational institution that values equality of opportunity, academic freedom, academic excellence, diversity, lifelong learning, and Christian principles. You will respect the mission and values of Grace Christian University, and recognize your obligations to fellow students, faculty, staff, the community, and God.

Students will treat peers and instructors with respect, honesty, and fairness, and uphold their rights to autonomy, privacy, and safety. We support the rights of others to express their views in the spirit of academic freedom and Christian principles, and will not ridicule, intimidate, or coerce students or instructors. We encourage academic and spiritual excellence and discourage academic misconduct. We are committed to learning, to our obligations as students, and to the highest standards of academic integrity and Christian principles.

As students, faculty, and staff, we read, understand, and comply with all Grace Christian University policies, rules, and regulations. We treat all members of the Grace Christian community with respect, honesty, and fairness. We are devoted to safeguarding the resources of Grace Christian, and to using those resources for the benefit of the University, its surrounding communities, and to God's glory.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY & PLAGIARISM

View the [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism](#) section of the catalog.

HARASSMENT & ANTI BULLYING

It is the policy of Grace Christian to provide a safe environment for its employees and students. This is intended to protect employees and students from bullying and/or aggressive behavior. Bullying is defined as repeated, abusive conduct that causes intentional physical or emotional harm to the target and often involves an imbalance of power between the bully and the victim. This may involve a gesture, or a written, verbal, social, graphic, or physical act.

Grace Christian University prohibits any form of harassment or bullying. This includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause, bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation. Bullying is not the same as teasing, but repeated, hurtful teasing is a form of bullying. Constant undue criticism, work sabotage, and glaring are all potential examples of bullying tactics.

Bullying fosters a climate of fear and disrespect that can seriously impair the physical and psychological health of its victims. Bullying or harassment creates conditions that undermine the ability of individuals to achieve their full potential.

Instances of bullying or harassment should be reported immediately to the Dean. An investigation of all complaints will be undertaken immediately. The investigation and results will remain confidential, to the extent possible. Any student found by the University to have bullied or harassed any employee or student may be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions ranging from a warning in his or her file, up to and including termination/expulsion.

The University recognizes that false accusations of bullying or harassment can have serious effects on innocent men and women. We trust that all member of the University Community will continue to act in a responsible and professional manner towards a discrimination-free environment.

Retaliation

Retaliation or discriminating against a student for notifying or complaining about a situation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to notification/complaints about bullying, harassment, grade disputes, or participating in an investigation.

ACADEMIC & STUDENT CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS PROCESS

Grace Christian has established an appeal process for students who have concerns regarding grades and the consistent application of both class requirements and policies as it pertains to grades among other concerns. If a student believes that the final course grade is based on a clerical or calculation error, capriciousness, arbitrariness, or is not in alignment with established grading criteria outlined in the course syllabus, the student may file an appeal and must offer evidence to support the claim.

To ensure prompt resolution of the student concern, the appeal process has a deadline for each stage. If the student does not initiate the appeal process (defined as beginning with Step 1) within 15 business days of the end of the course in which the concern occurred, the student forfeits the opportunity to appeal. Each deadline for the process must be met; otherwise, the appeal is no longer valid and the student has no further recourse. Communication regarding the appeal will be through written email communication using Grace Christian email accounts.

Step 1:

Within 10 business days of the end of the course, the student will email the instructor his/her concern and desired outcome. The instructor will respond within five business days. The student will indicate if the resolution is agreed to within three business days. If an agreeable outcome is reached the matter will be considered closed.

Step 2:

If the concern is not resolved with the instructor, and the student wishes to pursue the concern, the student will email an Academic Advisor or designee. The Academic Advisor or designee will provide the student with an Academic Appeal Form.

Within five business days of the form being sent, the student will complete the Appeal Form and submit a document detailing the facts and evidence from the student's point of view to the Academic Advisor. The appeal form and supporting documentation must be received by the established deadline. If any supporting material is not received by the stated deadline, the appeal will go forward without the additional material. Upon receipt of the appeal, the Online Dean or designee will send the appeal to the instructor.

The instructor will review the appeal and provide a written response to the student's concern. The instructor will return the response to the Online Dean or designee within five business days of receipt of the appeal. The Online Dean or designee will share the instructor's written response with the student. The student will indicate if the resolution is agreed to within three business days. If an agreeable outcome is reached the matter will be considered closed.

Step 3:

If the concern has still not been resolved, the Dean or designee will send the appeal form and all written documents to the Associate Provost (or Provost if the Associate Provost is not available to render a decision). The Associate Provost or Provost will have five business days to render a decision and return the appeal to the Dean or designee. The Dean or designee will inform the student of the decision. Upon the student's request, the Dean/Provost may review the decision with the student. Within three business days of notification, the student will indicate, in writing (which will be recorded on the appeal form), his/her acceptance of the decision. If an agreeable outcome is reached, the matter will be considered closed.

Step 4:

If the concern is not resolved in step 3, and the student chooses to pursue the concern further, the Online Dean or designee will contact the Provost to convene the Academic Affairs Committee and will forward all documentation. The Academic Affairs Committee will be convened within 10 business days of receipt of the appeal to resolve the concern.

The Academic Affairs Committee will be formed of the department heads, the Director of Online Teaching Effectiveness, and a Provost (one not involved in Step 3). The Academic Affairs Committee will be chaired by the Provost (one not involved in step 3). The Committee will select one reporter. Both the student and the instructor may appear before the Committee although no new

documentation may be presented at this time. A written report of the Committee’s decision will be completed by the reporter and will be placed in the student’s file. A copy of the report will be sent by the Reporter to the Dean who will respond to the student, Academic Advisor, and the instructor within five business days.

The decision of the Academic Affairs Committee is final. The student and the instructor may respond in writing to the Committee’s action, and these responses will be placed in the student’s academic file. No further appeal will be permitted.

Note: All documentation of the student complaint, appeal process, and decisions will be kept on file with the University. The Entire process may take up to 12 or more weeks.

ACADEMIC APPEAL TIMELINE

Phase	Timeline/ Deadline	Action
Step 1	10 days	Email communication with faculty
	5 days	Faculty response
	3 days	Accept resolution
Step 2	5 days	Submit Academic Appeal Form & documentation
	5 days	The instructor responds in writing and the response is shared with the student
	3 days	Accept resolution
Step 3	5 days	Dean/Provost will render a decision
	3 days	Accept resolution
Step 4	10 days	Academic Affairs Committee will convene
	5 days	The decision is shared in writing

Personal Information Changes

Grace Christian University expects that the student will keep their demographic information up to date with the university to ensure that the student can be reached by the university in a timely manner. Name, address, phone number, and personal email address changes should be initiated using the **Information Change Form**.

NAME CHANGE

A formal name change requires formal documentation. After submitting the name change request (**Information Change Form**), please submit an approved document to onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu or mail to Online Registrar, 1011 Aldon St SW, Wyoming, MI 49509.

Approved documents for name change verification: driver's license, passport, social security card, or a letter indicating that you have been approved for a new name from the social security administration.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Any request for an address change (**Information Change Form**) will be processed within 24 to 48 working hours from when the form response is received.

For Online Undergraduate Students

Tree of Life will be automatically notified of the address change as long as the text has not already shipped.

1. If an address is changed less than 3 weeks prior to a class start date, the student will be charged an expedited shipping fee.
2. If an address is changed less than 1 week prior to a class start date, the student may not receive his or her books on time. The student is responsible for requesting a PDF copy of any text that is needed until the physical text arrives.
3. If the text(s) are shipped to the incorrect address because of a lack of communication on the part of the student, the student will be charged the shipping fees to correct the error.
4. The student will pay for any books shipped to an incorrect address and not returned.

Privacy Policy

In order to release education records to a third-party, Grace Christian must receive a signed permission to release non-public information form. The form can be requested via email from the Grace Registrar's Office (onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu).

Link to: **[FERPA Permission to Release Non-Public Information Form](#)**

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Grace Christian University, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your education records. However, Grace Christian University may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised Grace Christian University to the contrary in accordance with Grace Christian University procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Grace Christian University to include information from your education records in certain school publications.

Examples include:

- The annual yearbook
- Honor roll and other recognition lists, including Merit Pages
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a student's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture graduation garb or publish diplomas.

If you do not want Grace Christian University to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Registrar's Office in writing.

Grace Christian University has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Dates of attendance
- Date and place of birth

- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of athletic team members
- Honors and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

ANNUAL FERPA NOTIFICATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a post-secondary institution at any age). These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days after the day Grace Christian University receives a request for access. A student should submit to the Registrar a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask Grace Christian University to amend a record should write the Registrar, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants to be changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If Grace Christian University decides not to amend the record as requested, Grace Christian University will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before Grace Christian University discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Grace Christian University discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official typically includes a person employed by Grace Christian University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of Grace Christian University who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent, or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for Grace Christian University.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Grace Christian University to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

See the list below of the disclosures that post-secondary institutions may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without the consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures.

A post-secondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining the prior written consent of the student:

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Grace Christian University whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))

- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State post-secondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university’s State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as “directory information” under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§ 99.31(a)(14))

To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15)).

Registration, Schedule Changes & Leave of Absence

CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION

A student's first term of registration is completed through the initial enrollment process. The Enrollment Advisor assists the applicant with understanding and access to program information and resources. Upon formal admission, the student is provided a student-specific degree program (an education plan) and registered for classes. The Registrar's Office staff will register the student for the upcoming semester. The student is not required to register him or herself each semester; however, any desired change in the education plan must be discussed with an academic advisor in a timely manner. Ultimately, the student will be enrolled each term for his or her entire program according to the student's education plan by completing the initial enrollment process.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

A drop or withdrawal from a course or program may require adjustments to a student's financial aid and/or account balance as required by the U.S. Department of Education, the State of Michigan, or other grant/scholarship issuers. The Financial Aid office makes determinations and necessary adjustments based upon the documentation of the course or program withdrawal. The student is responsible for any outstanding balance incurred as a result of this process. Students should also be aware that drops and withdrawals can affect the student's completion rate. The University will retain a withdrawal fee of \$100 for processing withdrawals or drops of any kind.

Students who wish to drop from a course should always make official contact via phone or email with an Academic Advisor.

Administratively-Initiated Schedule Changes

The University reserves the right to change a cohort's schedule and/or an individual's schedule including, but not limited to, combining cohorts or canceling any course, at any time. If the University cancels a course, students will be enrolled in another course, if possible. Cohort schedule changes should be rare but are done to maintain academic integrity, eliminate disruptions, or to maintain financial viability for the institution. The student is responsible to access his/her current education plan on a regular basis to remain aware of his or her course schedule. Academic Advising monitors weekly attendance for Online students. The following administrative actions may take place as a result of non-attendance:

- A student who does not participate in two consecutive weeks of a term may be administratively dropped from the course. A \$100 drop fee will apply.
- A student who attends a course during Week 1 and/or Week 2 of the course and is then inactive in the course for two consecutive weeks may be administratively withdrawn from the course

and issued a W grade. The student's last date of attendance in the course (during Week 1 or Week 2) will determine the refund and fee implications.

- A student who is withdrawn or dropped from a course due to two consecutive weeks of inactivity and is inactive in his or her next course may be administratively withdrawn from the institution.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)

In the online program, a student is considered to have withdrawn from a payment period or period of enrollment if the student is not scheduled to begin another course within a payment period or period of enrollment for more than 45 calendar days after the end of the module the student ceased attending, unless the student is on an approved leave of absence (from the federal aid handbook).

A leave of absence (LOA), for Return of Title IV funds purposes, is a temporary interruption in a student's program of study. LOA refers to the specific time period during a program when a student is not in attendance. A leave of absence is not required if a student is not in attendance for an institutionally scheduled break or for one, five-week term. However, a scheduled break may occur during a LOA.

A LOA must meet certain conditions to be counted as a temporary interruption in a student's education instead of being counted as a withdrawal requiring a school to perform a return-of-aid calculation. If an LOA does not meet the conditions in 34 CFR 668.22(d), the student is considered to have ceased attendance and to have withdrawn from the school, and the school is required to perform a return-of-aid calculation.

To qualify as an approved LOA:

- Grace must have a formal written policy regarding leaves of absence requiring that all requests for leaves of absence be submitted in writing and include the reason for the student's request;
- The student must follow the school's policy in requesting the LOA;
- There must be a reasonable expectation that the student will return from the LOA;
- Grace must approve the student's request for a LOA in accordance with our policy;
- Grace may not assess the student any additional institutional charges, the student's need may not increase, and therefore, the student is not eligible for any additional federal student aid;
- The LOA, together with any additional leaves of absence, must not exceed a total of 180 days in any 12-month period;
 - Except in a clock-hour or non-term credit-hour program, a student returning from an LOA must resume training at the same point in the academic program that he or she began the LOA, and
 - If the student is a Title IV loan recipient, the school must explain to the student, prior to granting the LOA, the effects that the student's failure to return from an LOA may have on the student's loan repayment terms, including the expiration of the student's grace period.

A student granted a LOA that meets the criteria in this section is not considered to have withdrawn, and no return-of-aid calculation is required. Upon the student's return from the leave, he or she continues to earn the federal student aid previously awarded for the period.

Grace will believe, before it grants a LOA, that there is a reasonable expectation that the student will return from the leave. Therefore, the reason for a student's leave request is included on the **Leave of Absence Application**.

A student should consult with an academic advisor and apply in advance for a LOA unless unforeseen circumstances prevent the student from doing so.

Program Withdrawal

If a student wishes to leave the program or institution permanently, they may begin the process by contacting their assigned academic advisor.

Course Drop

Students who wish to drop from a course should always make official contact via phone or email with Grace Online Academic Advising.

- Students who do not attend or participate in any sessions of a course within the first or second week can be administratively dropped from their course as initiated by the instructor, advisor, or other administrators. The course will not be transcribed on the student's record.
- Account implications include:
 - 100% tuition refund
 - 50% resource fee refund
 - \$100 processing fee
- If a student has already received textbooks for the courses it is recommended that the student contact TOL Bookstores to request a return shipping label to return the text(s) for credit. Many courses change books or update editions without notice. Books that are not returned are subject to additional fees.

Course Withdrawal

If a student needs or desires to withdraw from a course, the student should notify the Grace Online Academic Advising Team as soon as possible, preferably fifteen (15) days before class is scheduled to begin. If the student is withdrawn after the books have already been shipped, the student will be required to request a return shipping label and mail the books back to Tree of Life in order to avoid being charged.

If a student attends (attendance is satisfied when a learner posts a message or submits an assignment anywhere in the online classroom) the account implications are as follows:

- Attendance during week 1:
 - 80% tuition refund
 - 50% resource fee refund
 - \$100 processing fee
 - Issued a W on the official transcript
- Attendance during Week 2:
 - 50% tuition refund
 - 50% resource fee refund
 - \$100 processing fee
 - Issued a W on the official transcript
- Attendance during or after week 3:
 - 0% tuition refund
 - 0% resource fee refund
 - Issued the earned grade on the official transcript
 - Any student administratively withdrawn from a course due to plagiarism or other disciplinary reasons will receive a grade of an E without any tuition or fees refunded.

Other fees- No other fees are refundable.

Student Records

Student records are protected by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). See the **FERPA** section for more information.

TRANSCRIPT REQUEST

To request an official transcript, please download the **Transcript Request Form** and either fax the completed form to (616) 538-0599 or mail to Grace Christian University, 1011 Aldon St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509. Transcripts will be sent within 1 or 2 business days. Satisfactory financial status and a \$5 payment are required before transcripts are sent.

An unofficial transcript can be accessed by current students in the Student Portal. Past students may request an unofficial transcript by completing the **Transcript Request Form** and checking the appropriate box.

If you have additional questions about requesting a transcript, please contact the Registrar's Office at (616) 261-8586 or email onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu.

TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS

Grace Christian University does not guarantee that credits earned from Grace will transfer to another school. Typically, an institution will evaluate coursework from a regionally accredited institution in terms of transferability and applicability to the degree program. Grace is regionally (HLC) and nationally (ABHE) accredited.

Student Technology Policy

E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE

E-mail correspondence is increasingly used for distribution of information to members of the Grace community. Electronic forms of correspondence are timelier and more efficient than traditional paper correspondence and provide better service to the recipient and potential cost savings to the University.

Since all staff, faculty and registered students have email accounts created by virtue of their association with the University, electronic correspondence is one of the authorized means of communication from the University to its constituents. Notification by email is equivalent to a notification by letter or by phone. Email correspondence shall be made to the email address issued by the University (email address ending in @gracechristian.edu). Students have the option of forwarding their Grace email to a preferred personal email, however, the University cannot guarantee delivery of these messages to non-Grace addresses.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY SPECIFICATIONS

In order to provide a quality experience for all users accessing Grace Christian University resources; the suggested, not required, minimum and recommended computer specifications are listed below. Students and Faculty are encouraged to use computers meeting the recommended specifications for the best user experience. Grace Christian University is unable to provide troubleshooting support for systems which do not meet the minimum specifications.

NOTE: Wireless specification is required to access the on-campus wireless network.

Minimum and Recommended Computer Specifications

Component	Minimum Specifications	Recommended Specifications
Processor	Intel Core i3	Intel Core i5 or i7
Operating System	Windows 10 or Mac OS 10.12	Windows 10 or Mac OS 10.12
Memory	4GB	8GB - 16GB
Network and Wireless	Wireless 802.11g/n	Wireless 802.11a/c/n, Integrated Gigabit Ethernet
Display/Graphics	Largely personal preference depending upon your needs, but for those who use Apple computers, Retina displays are highly recommended	

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**Purpose**

Grace Christian University provides computing resources to support its mission of Christian higher education-particularly in the areas of instruction, research and independent study, and to encourage a responsible community of shared inquiry. Student use of these resources must be consistent with these intentions. As a responsible member of the Grace community, you are expected to act in accordance with the following guidelines which are based on common sense, common decency, civility, and Christian values as applied to the networked computing environment.

All students, faculty, staff, and guests of Grace Christian University using university network and computer resources must comply with the guidelines set forth in this policy and with federal, state and local laws. Improper use of university technology resources may result in disciplinary action.

Scope

This policy applies to all guests, faculty, staff, registered students in good standing, and vendors of Grace Christian University, identified as the Grace community.

Policy Statement

Sharing of passwords, PINs, tokens, or other authentication information is strictly prohibited. Each individual is responsible for his/her account(s), including the safeguarding of access to the account(s). Information residing on institutionally maintained systems, including, but not limited to, student, financial, and personnel records, is made available to users on an individual basis only, and only to such extent, as explicitly authorized by the department which has custodial responsibility for that data.

The use of Grace resources to access, further or otherwise participate in an activity which is inconsistent with the mission and Christian principles of the university is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to the following: illegal activity, sexually explicit material, hate speech, violent behavior & bullying, spam, hacking, etc. Individuals engaged in necessary educational related activities or research consistent with Grace's mission may be allowed to access sites.

Online learning tools are increasingly a part of higher education. In fact, the majority of Grace students are online students. In class students also utilize online learning tools. As a small step to enhance building the Grace learning community, we want to encourage Blackboard users to upload a personal image as their avatar.

Here are some guidelines:

- Avatars should be personal images. We want to see you, not a superhero.
- Avatars must be your own image which you have the rights to use (don't violate copyright law). Selfies or photos, showing shoulders and above are encouraged.
- Images must be a valid GIF/PNG/JPG formation, less than two megabytes, and small pixel size in dimension; 150 pixels by 150 pixels.
- The University reserves the right to remove avatars which may be deemed inappropriate.

If an inappropriate avatar is discovered, the following procedure will take place:

1. Faculty/staff who identifies an inappropriate avatar will share the avatar guidelines with the student and ask him/her to choose an alternate photo via email (copy onlineregistrar@gracechristian.edu).
2. A member of the Registrar's Office will check that an appropriate image has been selected within 2 business days of the initial notification.
3. If the image has not been changed, the staff member will submit a helpdesk ticket to have the avatar image removed.

In addition to standard electronic resources, members of the Grace community are expected to make appropriate use of the Grace Telephone/Voicemail system. Examples of inappropriate actions:

1. Unauthorized entry into a voice mailbox
2. Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and authorization code

3. Use of the University telephone system to send abusive, harassing, or obscene messages
4. The use of Grace resources to conduct business for personal financial gain is prohibited.

Anti-virus and anti-malware software must be installed on your computer, kept up to date, and currently enabled. If your software is not up to date or disabled, it may lead to an infection which may result in your network access being disabled.

Although Grace's Information Technology (IT) Department deploys Windows patches for university issued devices, employees are responsible for keeping their computer updated with all other security patches/fixes from the appropriate software update services. This includes updating applications, such as MS Office, Adobe, iTunes, Firefox, Chrome, etc. This also includes operating system patches for non-university devices. If your computer is not up to date, it could lead to malware infection which may result in your network access being disabled.

Grace faculty and staff are responsible for their computer, including its hardware, software, and any network traffic transmitted by it. Software licensed by the University or merely used on University equipment must be used in accordance with that license agreement. Violations of the terms of software license agreements are not within the scope of University employment; the University may seek repayment of fines or damages from employees who violate licensing terms and may take disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Please contact the IT Helpdesk if you have any questions about whether or not certain software/hardware might conflict with this acceptable use policy.

Copying or sharing copyrighted material, including through peer to peer file sharing, is illegal and immoral. We expect members of this Christian community will seek to uphold both the letter and spirit of the law regarding copyrighted material. Students found to have illegally downloaded files will have network privileges revoked.

The use of personal routers (wireless or wired) and/or DHCP servers is strictly prohibited. The IT Department will assist you if you require additional connectivity or have specific departmental needs.

Using the Grace network to provide any service that is visible off campus without prior IT approval, is prohibited. This applies to services such as, but not limited to, HTTP (Web), SSH, FTP, IRC, email, private VPN, etc.

Configuring your computer to provide Internet or Grace network system access to anyone who is not a Grace faculty, staff member, student, or vendor is prohibited.

Visitors may make use of the Internet and other resources with permission from the Director of Information Technologies or a University administrator.

Grace Christian University technology personnel may routinely monitor individual computer and network use. The University reserves the right to inspect personal computers and data files to investigate evidence of misuse.

The university email system is to be used for communication purposes.

The following are unacceptable uses of email:

1. Mass mailings or forwards to more than 15 recipients for anything other than approved university administrative purposes (spam).
2. Sending an email with falsified addresses (spoofing).
3. Using someone else's email account without their consent.
4. Sending harassing or abusive e-mail.
5. Unsolicited advertising is not acceptable.

Study Abroad

Grace Christian University seeks to graduate culturally intelligent leaders who are prepared to serve Christ in Church and society in an increasingly complex global marketplace. The opportunity to pursue an education in a cross-cultural context presents students with a unique learning experience that ties curriculum content to practical life experiences and fosters a sense of cultural awareness and partnership in God's work around the world. Grace has a Study Abroad Scholarship to support students desiring to participate in cross-cultural experiences. Scholarship information can be found at gracechristian.edu/studyabroad/student-faqs. Contact the Study Abroad Coordinator, Becca Schaffran (bschaffran@gracechristian.edu), to discuss how Study Abroad could work for you!

Even though participating in study abroad is not required, it is greatly encouraged in order that students can gain a greater understanding of the world around them and can be better prepared for the field they are entering. Don't need the credit? No problem! You can still join the trip as a guest and enjoy all the benefits without the course-work. Speak to the course facilitator for availability.

Study abroad options available at Grace include:

- Faculty-led Programs
- Semester Abroad
- International Internships
- Experiential and Mission Trips
- GAP Year
- Partnership Programs

Detailed information can be found at gracechristian.edu/studyabroad.

4+1 Plan Option

PLAN EXPLANATION

The 4+1 plan allow students in select bachelor degree programs to streamline the path directly into a master's program. By beginning graduate coursework during one's senior year, the student can earn both a bachelor and master's degree in just *five academic years! Contact your academic advisor to discuss enrollment in a graduate course as an undergraduate!

Other Possible Benefits Include:

- Greater Employment Opportunities
- Potential to Earn 25% More Income
- Career Advancement

Master of Arts Degrees Available:

- Ministry
- Organizational Leadership

4+1 courses are graduate courses which are cross-listed as 400 level courses for seniors pursuing a bachelor degree. Students who take these courses will receive advanced standing in the MAMin or MAOL program, depending on the courses taken. These courses may be transferable to other institutions at the bachelor level and will not count towards a Master's degree anywhere other than at Grace Christian University.

Students must formally apply to the graduate program prior to enrolling beyond the bachelor's program courses. Students must receive at least a 'B' (3.0) in the graduate course (cross-listed 400 level course) in order for it to count as advanced standing in the Master's programs.

*Students may elect to enroll in 1 to 4 graduate-level, cross-listed courses to count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree. The number of courses available is dependent upon the student's selected undergraduate and graduate degree program. The number of graduate courses taken and the course availability will impact the length of time to degree completion for both the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

ELIGIBILITY

An undergraduate student is eligible to take a 4+1 course if the student:

- Is in good academic standing
- Has earned at least a 3.0 GPA in their undergraduate coursework at Grace
- Is a senior (85+ credits earned)

Academic Schools

THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

As part of your path to a degree with purpose, the School of Arts and Sciences aims to stimulate a rich appreciation of and a thirst for knowledge. Overseen by the School of Arts and Sciences, the Arts & Sciences Core is designed to provide students with a breadth of knowledge in communication, humanities, behavior sciences, and natural sciences. Effective communication, critical thinking, and historical perspectives are taught from a biblical perspective preparing you for academic success. Faculty within the School of Arts and Sciences provide personal attention helping you meet the challenges of today so that you can thrive in our culturally diverse world.

THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The School of Business provides students with a foundation of business knowledge and the framework for a lifetime of continued learning. The School seeks to instill a Bible-centered focus with the concept of business as a mission and cultural intelligence into all programs both Online and On-Campus. Degrees include an Associate of Arts in Business, a Bachelor of Science in Business with a Concentration in Management, Marketing, or Information Technology and Business Analysis. On-Campus Undergraduate students may also pursue additional degrees and concentrations through our partnership with Davenport University.

Mission:

The mission of the business program at Grace Christian University is to provide a Biblically informed interdisciplinary education designed to take the natural talents, gifts, and abilities from a diverse group of students and prepare them to serve effectively and immediately in the workforce. The program will provide students with an interdisciplinary look at the field of business. Students will learn to utilize a variety of field experiences with businesses, real-world case studies, role-playing, and projects for developing business opportunities and ventures in society. The program is committed to leveraging the use of current technology in every discipline.

On-Campus Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Associate of Arts	Business
Bachelor of Science	Business*

* On-Campus Business majors may select one of the following 12-15 credit concentrations: Global Communication, Information Technology Business Analysis (ITBA), Management, or Marketing.

Online Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Associate of Arts	Business
Bachelor of Science	Business

Online Graduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Master of Arts	Organizational Leadership

THE SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

The School of Biblical Studies includes exists to equip every Grace student with a thorough understanding of the Bible and a deeply held Christian world-view. Courses in Bible, Theology, Ministry, Philosophy, and Ethics are essential to the education you will receive while a student at Grace. Our goal as the School of Biblical Studies is to provide for your needs as you fulfill your commitment to God, the church, and society.

Disciplines in the School of Biblical Studies include Leadership and Ministry, Old Testament, New Testament, Systematic Theology, Church History, Philosophy, and Ethics.

On-Campus Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Bachelor of Religious Education	*This is a dual degree program with Cornerstone University or Davenport University
Bachelor of Science	Biblical Studies (concentration options listed below)

On-Campus Concentrations (15+ credits)

The Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies concentration options include Pastoral Ministry, Youth Ministry, Women’s Ministry, General Ministry, Global Communication, New Testament Studies, Old Testament Studies, Criminal Justice, or Worship. See the Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies program requirements in the On-Campus Academic Catalog for more information.

Online Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Associate of Arts	Leadership and Ministry
Bachelor of Science	Leadership and Ministry (elective track options listed below)

Online Elective Tracks (12 credits)

The Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Ministry includes optional, 12-credit elective tracks in Adult Development & Aging, Social Sciences, Business, Criminal Justice, Women’s Ministry, Global Communications, Youth Ministry, and Pastoral Studies. Students may pick and choose 12 credits of electives if desired. See the [Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Ministry](#) page for the list of program requirements.

Online Graduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Master of Arts	Ministry

Master of Arts in Ministry with courses in Bible, Theology, Ministry, and Leadership; includes a ministry thesis or thesis project students can tailor to their own ministry calling and interests. See the Master of Arts in Ministry program requirements in the Graduate Online Academic Catalog.

THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMAN SERVICES

The School of Social Sciences and Human Services provides a comprehensive, Christ-centered understanding of helping and serving others, empowering graduates to serve individuals, families, and society with integrity, cultural intelligence, and compassion. The School of Social Sciences and Human Services prepares graduates for graduate school, and a variety of careers in private and public agencies, and the church. The School of Social Sciences and Human Services confers degrees in Human Services and Psychology, with optional concentrations in Adult Development and Aging, Criminal Justice, Global Communications, and Urban Studies.

On-Campus Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Associate of Arts	Human Services
Associate of Arts	Psychology
Associate of Arts	Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science	Human Services*
Bachelor of Science	Psychology
Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science	Interdisciplinary Studies

Online Undergraduate Program List:

Degree	Major
Associate of Arts	Human Services
Associate of Arts	Psychology
Associate of Arts	Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science	Human Services**
Bachelor of Science	Psychology**
Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice

* On-Campus Human Services majors may select one of the following 15 credit concentrations: Adult Development and Aging, Criminal Justice, Global Communication, or Urban Studies.

** Online Human Services or Psychology students may select 12 credits of electives or choose from one of the following elective tracks: Adult Development and Aging, Business, Criminal Justice, Global Communication, Leadership and Ministry, Social Sciences, Women's Ministry, or Youth Ministry.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, WORSHIP, AND TECHNOLOGY

Vision Statement

The School of Music, Worship, and Technology at Grace Christian University will transform students of diverse abilities into creative, multi-faceted artists who excel in producing music, worship, and media for the glory of God. Students will prepare to engage generations of people through professional training in music, worship, and technology along with a strong foundation in Bible, theology, and general education.

Mission Statement

The School of Music, Worship, and Technology seeks to equip students to fulfill their call to glorify God in producing Christ-honoring music, worship, and media. We are committed to helping student leaders impact modern culture – a culture deeply rooted in music and contemporary media. We strive to provide exceptional learning opportunities within first-rate facilities using the most current resources available. Students will benefit from caring and dedicated instructors who engage in life-on-life mentoring both inside and outside the classroom. Through meaningful evaluation and assessment, students will advance competently to graduation. Upon graduation, students will confidently serve as musicians, worship leaders, and media personnel in varied ministry and employment positions.

Program List (On-Campus only)

- Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Worship Arts with a concentration in Music
- Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Worship Arts with a concentration in Worship
- Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Worship Arts with a concentration in Technology

Core Degree Requirements

ARTS AND SCIENCES CORE

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Understanding of Humanity: the ability to understand humanity's social, emotional, historical, ethical, and physical development through a biblical world-view
2. Critical and Creative Thinking: the ability to understand, apply, and evaluate concepts and beliefs
3. Knowledge Acquisition: the ability to locate, analyze and benefit from information needed for personal and professional development
4. Communication Skills: the ability to understand and apply communication skills effectively in oral, written, and culturally relevant forms
5. Cultural Intelligence: the ability to evaluate and apply strategies for successful cross-cultural interactions

Program Requirements

All undergraduate students must complete the requirements of the Arts and Sciences Core, which is based upon the degree type. Students completing an Associate of Arts degree must complete 15 credit hours falling within the following Arts and Sciences categories: Written and Oral Communication, Humanities, Social/Behavioral Sciences, and Natural Science/Mathematics. Students completing a Bachelor of Science degree must complete 30 credit hours within the Arts and Sciences Core categories. Degree Completion students may satisfy the Arts and Sciences Core by completing 15 Arts and Sciences credits.

BIBLE AND THEOLOGY CORE

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Summarize at a basic level the content of the Bible, Christian world-view, and Grace theology, expressed in a working knowledge and deepening understanding of the Scriptures.
2. Analyze biblical texts based on recognized principles of biblical interpretation, in order to handle the word of God accurately (2 Tim. 2:15).
3. Demonstrate spiritual growth and maturity, evidenced in service, leadership, culturally-intelligent ministry, and practice of spiritual disciplines.

Program Requirements

All undergraduate students must complete the requirements of the Bible and Theology Core requirement, which is based upon the degree type (Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Science Degree Transfer). Credit hour requirements for the Bible and Theology Core are as follows:

- Associate of Arts: 12 credit hours
- Bachelor of Science: 30 credit hours
- Bachelor of Science Degree Completion (Online): 18 credit hours

Associate of Arts Degrees – Online

OVERVIEW

An Associate Degree is awarded upon the satisfactory completion of 60 credits (approximately two years) of prescribed academic work. The following program options are available Online: General Studies, Business, Criminal Justice, Human Services, and Psychology.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Associate of Arts in General Studies

1. Apply knowledge acquisition, communication, cultural intelligence, and critical thinking skills to expand self-efficacy and achieve college-level academic study.
2. Apply the Bible and doctrinal themes to life and learning to form a biblical world-view.
3. Understand the role that culture plays in serving others with their education.

Associate of Arts in Business

1. Integrate Christian principles in critical thinking and decision making.
2. Demonstrate awareness and improvement of thinking and learning strategies.
3. Apply management principles to work with people and processes within a profit or not-for-profit organization.
4. Evaluate operations and provide recommendations to improve performance.

Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice

1. Identify ethical factors in regard to issues of diversity and human rights in relation to the workings of the criminal justice system.
2. Describe ways in which oppression, privilege, discrimination, and social and economic disadvantage contribute to inequalities and injustices within criminal justice systems.
3. Explain the origins of criminal behavior, society's response to crime, and the consequences of crime to our society.
4. Recognize theoretical frameworks to understanding the causes and prevention of crime, the processes of criminalization, and crime enforcement.

Associate of Arts in Human Services

1. Integrate Christian principles in critical thinking and decision making.
2. Articulate a basic understanding of the principles related to Human Services.
3. Pursue a baccalaureate degree related to Human Services.

Associate of Arts in Psychology

1. Describe psychological concepts and theories as essential to understanding human behavior.
2. Summarize psychological research and demonstrate competence in academic writing.
3. Utilize cultural intelligence (CQ) in approaching behavioral understanding and responding to human diversity.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Associate of Arts in General Studies - 60 Credits total

Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BUS 110	Fundamentals of Business	3
THE 254	Foundations of Dispensational Theology	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
SOC 255	Introduction to Human Services	3
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
MIN 163	Sharing & Defending the Faith	3
CAP 298	Associate Degree Capstone	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Associate of Arts in Business - 60 Credits total**Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BUS 110	Fundamentals of Business	3
BUS 230	Introduction to Finance	3
PSY 205	Organizational & Industrial Psychology	3
BUS 245	Accounting I	3
BUS 255	Fundamentals of Business Law	3
BUS 260	Global Issues in Business	3
BUS 275	Business Case Study	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice - 60 Credits total**Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
CJS 251	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
SOC 255	Introduction to Human Services	3
PSY 205	Organizational and Industrial Psychology	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
CJS 298	Associate Degree Capstone	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Associate of Arts in Human Services - 60 Credits total**Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
CJS 251	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
SOC 255	Introduction to Human Services	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
HUS 298	Associate Degree Capstone	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Associate of Arts in Leadership & Ministry - 60 Credits total**Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
MIN 263	Teaching the Christian Faith	3
THE 254	Foundations of Dispensational Theology	3
LEA 273	Issues in Christian Leadership	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
MIN 163	Sharing & Defending the Christian Faith	3
LEA 279	Associate Level Capstone	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Associate of Arts in Psychology - 60 Credits total**Arts and Sciences Core - 27 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Bible and Theology Core - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3

Major Courses - 21 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
PSY 251	Psychology of Leadership	3
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
PSY 257	History of Psychology	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
PSY 298	Associate Degree Capstone	3

* English Placement is based on a student's ACT/SAT scores

Bachelor of Science in Business – Online

OVERVIEW

The mission of the business program at Grace Christian University is to provide a Biblically informed interdisciplinary education designed to take the natural talents, gifts, and abilities from a diverse group of students and prepare them to serve effectively and immediately in the workforce. The program will provide students with an interdisciplinary look at the field of business. Students will learn to utilize a variety of field experiences with businesses, real-world case studies, role-playing, and group projects for developing business opportunities and ventures in society. The program is committed to leveraging the use of current technology in every discipline.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who complete a Bachelor of Science in Business will achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. Business Acumen—Demonstrate a mastery of the use of business technology and management knowledge to impact firm profitability.
 - Skills include: Apply business principles to work with people and processes within a profit or not-for-profit organization. Perform basic analysis of the financial systems and statements of an organization, clearly writing reports that reflect the performance, financial condition, and management effectiveness of the organization being evaluated. Demonstrate the ability to increase profitability by utilizing and applying business technology. Work efficiently in teams, managing conflict, and communicating effectively in person and through the utilization of technology to meet deadlines. Summarize the various options available to organizations to finance operations and create attainable operating budgets.
2. Strategic—Demonstrate awareness and improvement of thinking and learning strategies. Demonstrate the ability to build business systems that impact productivity.
 - Skills include demonstrated ability to analyze, combine, and synthesize theories from various business disciplines to create a comprehensive business plan. Analyze and evaluate real-world business problems and opportunities from various disciplines to provide solutions that maximize profitability or sustainability. Evaluate operations and provide recommendations to improve performance in creating a competitive market advantage.

3. Business as Mission—Demonstrate a firm understanding of the Christian call to business as a ministry.
- Skills include: Integrate Christian principles in critical thinking and decision-making. Summarize references to scripture that shape the way Christians are called to operate and engage others in the workplace. Upon completion, students will be equipped to share their faith with various stakeholders in their business.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science in Business - 120 Credits total

Arts and Sciences Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Lower Level Electives (required to also receive the AA degree) - 9 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
PSY 205	Organizational & Industrial Psychology	3
BUS 260	Global Issues in Business	3
BUS 275	Business Case Study	3

Bible and Theology Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 51 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BUS 110	Fundamentals of Business	3
BUS 230	Introduction to Finance	3
BUS 245	Accounting I	3
BUS 255	Fundamentals of Business Law	3
LEA 374	Working in Teams	3
MKT 265	Social Media Marketing	3
BUS 430	Management of Marketing	3
BUS 470	Personnel Administration	3
ECO 305	Introduction to Economics	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
MKT 310	Information Technology for Marketers	3
BUS 465	Finance & Budgeting for Managers	3
MKT 315	Advertising and Promotions	3
BUS 445	Accounting II	3
BUS 475	Operations Management	3
BUS 485	Strategic Management	3
BUS 498	Program Capstone	3

Bachelor of Science in Business - Degree Completion Program - 60 Credits total

This program requires official proof of a conferred Associate of Arts or Science degree from an accredited institution, resulting in a block transfer of 60 credit hours to satisfy the lower 60 credits of the bachelor degree program.

Composition + Research - 3 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3

Bible and Theology Core - 18 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 39 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
LEA 374	Working in Teams	3
MKT 265	Social Media Marketing	3
BUS 430	Management of Marketing	3
BUS 470	Personnel Administration	3
ECO 305	Introduction to Economics	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
MKT 310	Information Technology for Marketers	3
BUS 465	Finance & Budgeting for Managers	3
MKT 315	Advertising and Promotions	3
BUS 445	Accounting II	3
BUS 475	Operations Management	3
BUS 485	Strategic Management	3
BUS 498	Program Capstone	3

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice – Online

OVERVIEW

Grace Christian University's Criminal Justice degree gives a broad overview of the field and the unique challenges of law enforcement and the criminal justice system. The mission of the Criminal Justice degree is to provide a biblically-informed, interdisciplinary education in the human services field, having theoretical knowledge and application for real-world Christian service.

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice has been constructed considering the need for a Christian bachelor degree program that dually meets the needs of preparing individuals to serve Christ and society within the context of the criminal justice system. The strategic vision of the degree provides multidisciplinary coursework (Bible, theology, psychology, sociology, criminal justice) as well as training in the Christian world-view and ethical decision-making. The criminal justice degree has been built upon this foundation based on core values and ideas shared through the advisory committee consisting of federal and local law enforcement, community leaders/ministers and academics from three institutions of higher learning.

A strength of Grace Christian University's criminal justice degree is that it prepares students for a variety of job opportunities following graduation, as well as preparing professionals who understand and can respond to people from diverse walks of life. The Criminal Justice degree will prepare law enforcement students for the postgraduate police academy and police career. Those seeking graduate school or other (non-sworn) criminal justice work such as probation will be prepared for graduate work in the areas of criminal justice, counseling or social work.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who graduate with a BS in Criminal Justice degree from Grace Christian University will be able to:

1. Evaluate ethical factors in regard to issues of diversity and human rights in relation to the workings of the criminal justice system and criminology.
2. Interpret ways in which oppression, privilege, discrimination, and social and economic disadvantage contribute to inequalities and injustices within criminal justice systems.
3. Develop an ability to integrate information on society's response to crime, and the consequences of crime to our society, utilizing multiple perspectives.
4. Apply theoretical frameworks to understand the causes and prevention of crime, the processes of criminalization, and criminal enforcement.
5. Develop problem-solving methods to address criminal justice issues currently facing the community and/or society.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice - 120 Credits total

Arts and Sciences Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Lower Level Electives (required to also receive the AA degree) - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
SOC 255	Introduction to Human Services	3
PSY 205	Organizational & Industrial Psychology	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
CJS 298	AA Degree Capstone	3

Bible and Theology Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 45 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
CJS 251	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
CJS 350	Criminology and Social Deviance	3
CJS 310	Criminal Law	3
CJS 315	Criminal Procedure	3
CJS 330	Law Enforcement and Corrections	3
CJS 370	Juvenile Law and Delinquency	3
CJS 380	Current Issues in Security	3
CJS 440	Culture, Crime, Ethics and Justice	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 325	Social Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
CJS 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Elective - 3 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice - Degree Completion Program - 60 Credits total

This program requires official proof of a conferred Associate of Arts or Science degree from an accredited institution, resulting in a block transfer of 60 credit hours to satisfy the lower 60 credits of the bachelor degree program.

Composition + Research - 3 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3

Bible and Theology Core - 18 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 36 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
CJS 350	Criminology and Social Deviance	3
CJS 310	Criminal Law	3
CJS 315	Criminal Procedure	3
CJS 330	Law Enforcement and Corrections	3
CJS 370	Juvenile Law and Delinquency	3
CJS 380	Current Issues in Security	3
CJS 440	Culture, Crim, Ethics and Justice	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 325	Social Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
CJS 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Elective - 3 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Human Services – Online

OVERVIEW

One of the fastest growing professions relates to the service industry, especially in response to the human condition. No one is more prepared to meet this need than the Christian who is able to apply the principles of the Word of God and the knowledge and skills gained in a Human Services program. The mission of the Human Services program at Grace Christian University is to provide a comprehensive understanding of helping and healing relationships that enable graduates to serve individuals, families, and society. Its purpose is to develop practitioners who are biblically-informed, ethical thinkers who can practically apply their knowledge to serve others. The program seeks to prepare professionals who can meet the needs of diverse communities with integrity and sensitivity, and be prepared for advanced training, graduate school, and life-long learning.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who graduate with a Human Services degree from Grace Christian University will be able to:

1. Develop a personal philosophy of human helping, emphasizing student strengths and potential growth areas.
2. Apply the principles and skills of ethical decision-making and respect for diversity.
3. Demonstrate interpersonal skills in helping relationships and group dynamics.
4. Recognize the social and psychological dimensions of human interactions in a variety of settings.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science in Human Services - 120 Credits total

Arts and Sciences Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Lower Level Electives (required to also receive the AA degree) - 9 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
PSY 298	AA Degree Capstone	3

Bible and Theology Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 39 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
CJS 251	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
SOC 255	Introduction to Human Services	3
SOC 254	Cultural Anthropology	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
SOC 356	Marriage & Family	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
PSY 349	Theories & Foundations in Counseling	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
HUS 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Elective (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Psychology - Degree Completion Program - 60 Credits total

This program requires official proof of a conferred Associate of Arts or Science degree from an accredited institution, resulting in a block transfer of 60 credit hours to satisfy the lower 60 credits of the bachelor degree program.

Composition + Research - 3 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3

Bible and Theology Core - 18 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 27 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
SOC 254	Cultural Anthropology	3
COM 330	Culture and Conflict Management	3
SOC 356	Marriage & Family	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
PSY 349	Theories & Foundations in Counseling	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
HUS 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Electives (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Leadership & Ministry – Online

OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Science in Leadership & Ministry degree is for adults involved in or preparing for ministry as a vocation. Students are challenged to think biblically about all aspects of life, develop spirituality in themselves and others, enhance their ministry skills and engage with the world. The curriculum mixes practical and theoretical knowledge through classroom work, research, and real-world experience.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1. Construct a comprehensive personal philosophy for ministry that is consistent with Scripture and proven leadership principles.
2. Apply practical principles and strategies for effective ministry practice in a team environment.
3. Analyze and interpret biblical texts and basic doctrinal themes from a dispensational perspective.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**Bachelor of Science in Leadership & Ministry - 120 Credits total****Arts and Sciences Core - 30 Credits**

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Lower Level Electives (required to also receive the AA degree) - 9 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
MIN 163	Sharing & Defending the Christian Faith	3
LEA 273	Issues in Christian Leadership	3
LEA 279	Leadership & Ministry Capstone	3

Bible and Theology Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 39 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
THE 254	Foundations of Dispensational Theology	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
MIN 263	Teaching the Christian Faith	3
LEA 374	Working in Teams	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
BIB 342	Life of Christ	3
LEA 472	Mobilization of Volunteers	3
MIN 362	Marketplace Ministry	3
THE 452	Studies in Dispensationalism	3
SOC 356	Marriage and Family	3
THE 348	Biblical Perspectives on Wealth and Poverty	3
LEA 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Elective (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Leadership & Ministry – Degree Completion Program - 60 Credits total

This program requires official proof of a conferred Associate of Arts or Science degree from an accredited institution, resulting in a block transfer of 60 credit hours to satisfy the lower 60 credits of the bachelor degree program.

Composition + Research - 3 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3

Bible and Theology Core - 18 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 27 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
LEA 374	Working in Teams	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
BIB 342	Life of Christ	3
LEA 472	Mobilization of Volunteers	3
MIN 362	Marketplace Ministry	3
THE 452	Studies in Dispensationalism	3
SOC 356	Marriage and Family	3
THE 348	Biblical Perspectives on Wealth and Poverty	3
LEA 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Electives (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Psychology - Online

OVERVIEW

The science of psychology goes beyond diagnosing and treating mental illness. Students majoring in the science of psychology learn how to ethically use research to improve people's lives with respect to the family, employment, and recreation. Psychology students embrace individuals holistically, taking a bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective. Further, approaching psychology from a biblical world-view empowers students to support psychological findings in God's general revelation with His special revelation, the Bible. Psychology majors at Grace Christian University will be equipped to meet the challenges of serving people living together in a diverse and ever-changing world. Experiential learning prepares psychology majors to enter a variety of vocations or continue on to graduate degree programs.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who graduate with a BS in Psychology degree from Grace Christian University will be able to:

1. Identify and apply psychological concepts, theories, and research to various behavior problems.
2. Interpret and illustrate skills in scientific inquiry and critical thinking.
3. Construct culturally appropriate, ethical behavior in response to an increasingly diverse world.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in writing and in oral and interpersonal communication skills.

(Adapted from the American Psychological Association's Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major, Version 2.0, 2013)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science in Psychology - 120 Credits total

Arts and Sciences Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours	Degree Requirement
GEN 122	Intro to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship	3	Academic Success
BUS 115	Introduction to Computers	3	Academic Success
ENG 105	Introduction to College Writing	3	Written and Oral Communication
SPE 200	Oral Communication	3	
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3	
HUM 231	World Civilization	3	Humanities
HUM 233	Cultural Diversity	3	
HUM 131	Introduction to Psychology	3	Social Sciences
FIN 105	Personal & Finance Management	6	Math and/or Science
GEN 221	Exploring God's World		

Lower Level Electives (required to also receive the AA degree) - 12 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
LEA 171	Introduction to Leadership	3
SOC 251	Principles of Sociology	3
MIN 261	Discipling & Mentoring in the Christian Faith	3
PSY 298	AA Degree Capstone	3

Bible and Theology Core - 30 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 141	Old Testament	3
BIB 143	New Testament	3
HUM 133	Philosophy and World-view	3
THE 256	Christian Theology I	3
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 36 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
PSY 251	Psychology of Leadership	3
PSY 245	Lifespan Psychology	3
PSY 257	History of Psychology	3
PSY 325	Social Psychology	3
PSY 461	Physiological Psychology	3
PSY 339	Health Psychology	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
PSY 349	Theories & Foundations in Counseling	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
PSY 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Elective (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Bachelor of Science in Psychology - Degree Completion Program - 60 Credits total

This program requires official proof of a conferred Associate of Arts or Science degree from an accredited institution, resulting in a block transfer of 60 credit hours to satisfy the lower 60 credits of the bachelor degree program.

Composition + Research - 3 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENG 300	College Writing and Research	3

Bible and Theology Core - 18 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIB 442	Letters of Paul	3
LEA 372	Organizational Leadership	3
MIN 370	Spiritual Formation	3
THE 454	Knowing God	3
HUM 332	Personal and Social Ethics	3
THE 453	Christian Theology II	3

Major Courses - 27 Credits

Course	Course Name	Credit Hours
PSY 325	Social Psychology	3
PSY 461	Physiological Psychology	3
PSY 339	Health Psychology	3
PSY 310	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 456	Survival Psychology	3
PSY 383	Studies in Research Statistics	3
PSY 349	Theories & Foundations in Counseling	3
MIN 467	Basic Counseling	3
PSY 498	Program Capstone	3

Undesignated Electives (or select an Elective Track) - 12 Credits

Online Elective Track Options

An elective track is a group of four courses grouped based on a single topic. Students may select a single elective track or select four individual electives. Choosing an elective track or single electives allows the student to tailor a selected degree to one's own personal interests or explore topics of interest. The following elective tracks can be added to the Bachelor of Science in Human Services, Leadership & Ministry, and Psychology. The Bachelor of Science in Business and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice do not require 12 elective credits.

Adult Development and Aging

- PSY 361: Psychology and Culture of Aging
- PSY 467: Memory Loss and Aging
- SOC 365: Long-Term Care System
- PSY 363: End-of-Life-Matters

Business

- MKT 265: Social Media Marketing
- BUS 430: Management of Marketing
- BUS 470: Personnel Development
- ECO 305: Introduction to Economics

Criminal Justice

- CJS 350: Criminology and Social Deviance
- CJS 330: Law Enforcement and Corrections
- CJS 330: Juvenile Law and Delinquency
- CJS 440: Culture, Crime, Ethics and Justice

Global Communication

- COM 220: Global Communication
- COM 250: Interpersonal Communication
- COM 330: Culture and Conflict Communication
- COM 400: Popular Culture and Communication

Leadership and Ministry

- BIB 342: Life of Christ
- THE 348: Biblical Perspectives on Wealth and Poverty
- MIN 362: Marketplace Ministry
- LEA 472: Mobilization of Volunteers

Pastoral Studies (Leadership and Ministry Students Only)

- MIN 415: Ministry of the Local Church
- THE 335: Principles and Practice of Worship
- MIN 462: Teaching and Preaching
- BIB 408: Genesis

Social Sciences

- PSY 361: Psychology and Culture of the Aging Process
- PSY 310: Abnormal Psychology
- CJS 440: Culture, Crime, Ethics and Justice
- PSY 325: Social Psychology

Women's Ministry

- WOM 300: The Role of Women in Church Administration & Leadership
- WOM 350: Leadership Development & Strategies for Women
- WOM 401: Women of the Bible and Church History
- WOM 451: Women's Ministry Today

Youth Ministry

- YTH 300: Philosophy and Theology of Youth Ministry
- YTH 351: Trends in Youth Ministry
- YTH 401: Biblical Patterns for Student Outreach
- YTH 451: Principles for Leading Youth Ministry

Create Your Own Elective Track

- Choose 4 elective courses from the lists above (or from another major) that are not duplicated within the degree program.

Course Descriptions

BIB 141 - Credit Hours: 3

Old Testament Survey

This course is a survey of Old Testament literature in its historical setting. Attention is given to outstanding persons, events, and theological emphases.

BIB 143 - Credit Hours: 3

New Testament Survey

This course is a survey of the background and content of the New Testament with an emphasis on learning to ask questions that will give the student a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. It is designed for students who desire to use the New Testament for the purposes intended by God both in their personal lives and in their teaching. The course is designed from a conservative, evangelical, and dispensational framework.

BIB 342 - Credit Hours: 3

Life of Christ

This course is a journey in the steps of Christ to experience authentic and transformative Christian living, which prepares students to follow the steps of Christ and serve the Church and society. Students will explore context, life examples, teachings, and theology inherent in the life of Christ in order to develop a personal theology. The four Gospels serve as the knowledge base.

BIB 408 - Credit Hours: 3

Genesis

This course reviews the overall scope of Genesis as the foundational book in the Pentateuch. This includes authorship, content framework, and purpose.

BIB 425 - Credit Hours: 3

Galatians & Romans

Explores Pauline theology by way of an in-depth study of the Apostle Paul's letters to the Galatians and Romans. Consideration will be given to theological questions generated by the New Perspective on Paul and relevant concerns of Dispensational Theology. (BIB 525 graduate level course cross-listed as BIB 425 for the 4+1 program.)

BIB 440 - Credit Hours: 3

Isaiah

Explores the historical circumstances, literary features and theology of the book of Isaiah. Attention will be given to contemporary approaches to the book and use of the book in the New Testament. (BIB 540 graduate level course cross-listed as BIB 440 for the 4+1 program.)

BIB 442 - Credit Hours: 3

Letters of Paul

This course examines the background and ministry of Paul, as well as the origin and purpose of each of the Pauline epistles in the context of the development of his ministry. The study will include an analysis and synthesis of major Pauline themes, including the Pauline concept of the church and its mission.

BUS 110 - Credit Hours: 3

Fundamentals of Business

This course provides an overview of the fundamental practices and issues involved in managing and operating a business in today's marketplace. Areas of business explored in this course include various management theories, economic concepts, management and organization, human resources, sales and marketing, and operations. The course also examines the challenges of operating in both domestic and global markets, business ethics and business strategy.

BUS 115 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Computers**

This course encourages online learners to use technology as an effective communication avenue to research and present information for life and learning. Learners will gain experience with technology tools, including Microsoft® Word and PowerPoint that can be used throughout the student's coursework to create documents and presentations and communicate those appropriately to academic and professional audiences.

BUS 230 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Finance**

This course will provide opportunity to learn basic finance principles linking financial markets, institutions and investors. An overview of the flow of capital will be explored from the corporate perspective, including topics such as interest rates, stocks, bonds, risk and return, the time value of money, and the cost of capital.

BUS 245 - Credit Hours: 3**Accounting I**

This course is an introduction to the field of accounting and the role that accounting plays in business. Students will be introduced to journals, ledgers, postings, and adjusting/closing of the books. The course emphasis is on understanding the complete accounting cycle and preparing financial statements, bank reconciliations, and payroll.

BUS 255 - Credit Hours: 3**Fundamentals of Business Law**

This course provides an overview of the law as it pertains to business organizations. It will introduce the student to the legal system in its various forms and its impact on the legal environment of business. Topics include the Constitution and its historical foundation, ethics, business decision-making, alternative dispute resolution, torts, intellectual property, criminal law and cybercrimes, contracts, sales and lease, and employment law.

BUS 260 - Credit Hours: 3**Global Issues in Business**

This course familiarizes students with important considerations in conducting business in an increasingly global economy. It will help prepare students for positions in organizations engaged in global business. Students will be exposed to some of the issues encountered in global business. Key topics will include cultural issues, ethical issues, and political and economic issues.

BUS 275 - Credit Hours: 3**Business Case Study**

This course requires the student to utilize much of what he or she has already learned in previous courses and gives them the opportunity to apply that knowledge to the solution of an actual business issue in an organization of his or her choice. The student will identify a significant business problem or issue in an organization that they know well. The student will examine the issue using the knowledge they gained in previous courses and examine the related business literature to identify and make appropriate recommendations to address the problem or issue. This course will culminate in a written case study exploring the identified problem, the relevant literature, and the proposed recommendations.

BUS 430 - Credit Hours: 3**Management of Marketing**

This course examines various aspects of the discipline of marketing as they relate to today's domestic and global marketplaces. Multiple marketing strategies will be analyzed and the behavior of consumers in various target markets will be explored. Information related to understanding and making advantageous marketing decisions related to product and service offerings, distribution, promotion, and pricing will also be examined.

BUS 445 - Credit Hours: 3**Accounting II**

This course will provide learners the opportunity to learn basic managerial accounting processes such as product and service costing, profit planning, capital investment analysis, flexible budgeting, and financial statement analysis. Special attention will be given to the use of computer applications to perform analysis and make decisions.

BUS 465 - Credit Hours: 3

Finance and Budgeting for Managers

This course will build upon basic finance concepts involving financial markets. An in depth review of the function and use of financial statements in capital markets will be surveyed. Managerial planning and decision making roles will be explored in topics such as capital budgeting, capital structure, leverage, and cash flow analysis.

BUS 470 - Credit Hours: 3

Personnel Development

This course will prepare the student to integrate the various theories of learning, leadership, and motivation into a practical application of different methodologies, including needs assessment, development, and execution. Other important aspects covered include job design, coaching, mentoring, and performance management techniques.

BUS 475 - Credit Hours: 3

Operations Management

This course is designed to provide an understanding of the foundations of the operations function from both manufacturing and services perspectives. The course will analyze operations from both the strategic and operational perspectives and highlight the competitive advantages that operations can provide for the organization. We will cover topics in the areas of process analysis, materials management, production scheduling, quality improvement, and product design.

BUS 485 - Credit Hours: 3

Strategic Management

This course examines the art and science of formulating, implementing, and evaluating cross-functional decisions that enable an organization to achieve its objectives. The course focuses on integrating management, marketing, finance/accounting, production/operations, research and development, and information systems to accomplish organizational success in a rapidly changing global economy.

BUS 498 - Credit Hours: 3**Program Capstone**

This course serves as a capstone course for Grace Online BS degrees. The purpose is for students to synthesize their learning and focus their ideas on a practical application of their ideas in a local community in the context of their degree program.

CJS 251 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Criminal Justice**

This course provides an introduction to the criminal justice system. The primary goal of this course is to develop a general understanding of the criminal justice system's response to crime in society. It is important to note that the general theme of this course involves the delicate balance between community interests and individual rights while also viewing the criminal justice system through the lens of a Christian world-view.

CJS 298 - Credit Hours: 3**AA Capstone**

The AA Capstone course is an integrative learning experience bringing together all of the learning presented in the degree program. Each student will work individually, using his/her focus of study (with the School of Human Services and Behavioral Sciences) to respond to assignments. Assignments include broad questions/concerns which students can answer with the use of learning from his/her focus of study, utilizing texts, peer reviewed articles, etc. This will also provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate to one another their ability to communicate ideas related to their field of study. Above all, the assignments will incorporate a biblical perspective as the overlying factor in any of these foci.

CJS 310 - Credit Hours: 3**Criminal Law**

This course reviews criminal law and specific offenses and applies constitutional restrictions on government's power. The course emphasizes basic criminal law, inchoate crimes, crimes against persons and property, contraband and regulatory offenses, public order crimes, operating while intoxicated, court functions and civil law and process. This course will also explore Biblical expressions of law and applications to modern laws and sanctions.

CJS 315 - Credit Hours: 3**Criminal Procedure**

The course focuses on the substantive criminal procedure and on the constitutional restrictions on government's power to search, seize and question. The course emphasizes basic police criminal procedure, laws of arrest, search and seizure, laws on suspect identification, admissions and confessions, use of force, and other related topics. This course will include an analysis from the Christian world-view of justice and on the topics studied.

CJS 330 - Credit Hours: 3**Law Enforcement and Corrections**

This course reviews contemporary institutional and community-based correctional systems including jails, prisons, probation, parole, and alternative sanctioning. The course examines how punishment justifications impact the policy and procedures in juvenile and adult correctional systems. Specific attention is given to identification of evidence-based practices and programs in all aspects of the corrections system.

CJS 350 - Credit Hours: 3**Criminology and Social Deviance**

This course examines why and how certain attributes and behaviors considered deviant in the United States. We will explore major types of deviant behavior and discuss how norms, values, and rules are made and enforced. This course includes sociological theories to explain deviant behaviors and is divided into the five areas of defining and explaining the deviant, creating deviance, maintaining deviance, controlling deviance, and justifying deviance.

CJS 370 - Credit Hours: 3**Juvenile Law & Delinquency**

Juvenile Law & Delinquency focuses on the unique challenges of working with youth within the criminal justice system. Theories that seek to explain juvenile delinquency, including the nature and extent of illegal behavior will be explored, while also considering the significant role of media violence. The justice process for juveniles will be critiqued, highlighting the structure and function of juvenile justice, probation, detention, parole, diversion for child offenders and the roles of family and social institutions in addressing illegal juvenile behavior. A biblical world-view will be promoted in responding to juvenile delinquency.

CJS 380 - Credit Hours: 3**Current Issues in Security**

Current Issues in Security discusses topics related to personal, building and corporate security. Security knowledge in the workforce is extremely valuable and this course will help students understand the foundations of security. Furthermore it will teach how to defend and react against potential threats. The course will review legal issues, identifying suspicious behavior, technology in security, personal and structural security. Similarly internal and external threats, and other related topics will be discussed.

CJS 440 - Credit Hours: 3**Culture, Crime, Ethics and Justice**

An exploration of the relationships between culture, crime and social justice, with a special emphasis on ethical considerations in light of a Biblical world-view. The course seeks to develop learner's cultural intelligence and foster compassion and greater understanding of diverse groups who are affected by the criminal justice system.

CJS 498 - Credit Hours: 3**Program Capstone**

This course serves as a capstone course for Grace Online BS degrees. The purpose is for students to synthesize their learning and focus their ideas on a practical application of their ideas in a local community in the context of their degree program.

COM 220 - Credit Hours: 3**Global Communication**

This course introduces students to global communication by exploring issues related to intercultural communication practices from a biblical perspective. It examines the important role of social, cultural, and historical context in human interactions.

COM 250 - Credit Hours: 3**Interpersonal Communication**

This course focuses on the importance of interpersonal communication and the common barriers that confound relationships such as culture, conflict, gender, and perception of differences. Students will evaluate current connections from a Christian world-view and from that foundation identify strategies for strengthening personal and professional influences for mission/vision-minded goals.

COM 330 - Credit Hours: 3**Culture and Conflict Management**

This course provides students with a basic overview of conflict resolution. The history, methods, and theory of conflict resolution will be explored. In addition, strategies in competitive versus collaborative negotiation will be examined in the context of culture and a Christian world-view.

COM 400 - Credit Hours: 3**Popular Culture and Communication**

This course explores ways that differing cultural forms (e.g. music, television, and film) communicate ideas about the world in which we live. These cultural forms are often dismissed as simply “mere entertainment” but this course assumes that these forms communicate meaning and values. The course will utilize a number of communication theories (such as cultural theory) by which students will learn to evaluate emerging meanings articulated by pop culture mediums. The course will explore various questions including: What is popular culture? What does it say about the meaning of life? What does it say about God? What does it say about Christianity? How does popular culture help Christians understand the world?

ECO 305 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Economics**

This course is an introduction to the study of economics and its impact upon society. Key historical economic theories are introduced along with fundamental economic concepts. Key microeconomic topics covered include the concept of scarcity, supply and demand function, production, monopoly, oligopoly, monopolistic competition, and perfect competition market structures. Macroeconomic topics include classical macroeconomic theories, basic fiscal and monetary policy and the instruments used to implement them, the economic cycle, inflation, and unemployment.

ENG 105 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to College Writing**

Writing is an important skill for academic, ministry, and vocational success. This course focuses on developing writing skills, providing students opportunities to break down the writing process. Students will learn how to create strong thesis statements to drive an academic paper. They will learn how to craft introductory and concluding paragraphs, build the body of a paper, consider their audience, and improve writing skills to communicate more effectively. They will develop basic skills in APA formatting and citations. Students will also work on refreshing grammar skills.

ENG 300 - Credit Hours: 3**College Writing and Research**

Students will learn the importance of using credible sources and building strong arguments. Students will develop thesis statements, introductions and conclusions, consider audience and purpose, and integrate credible and scholarly sources using APA formatting. They will develop writing skills to help in academic courses, business pursuits, ministry, as well as other career positions.

FIN 105 - Credit Hours: 3**Personal Financial Management**

This course will provide a practical introduction to personal finance management and assist the student in being a good steward of God-given resources. It addresses realistic ways to manage personal assets effectively. Topics include the development of personal financial goals, planning and budgeting; avoiding fraud and swindles; buying, insuring and financing major assets; consumer credit; banking services; investments; insurance; retirement and estate planning; and income tax. (Replaced LEA 271 Financial Stewardship)

GEN 122 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Online Studies and Personal Discipleship**

This course focuses on the foundational knowledge, skills, and character development required to succeed in the digital classroom and as a follower of Jesus Christ. The digital age of online learning has transformed higher education. The pervasive reach of the Internet has expanded the boundaries of the traditional classroom and created new opportunities for students to realize their goal of attaining a college degree. In addition to the practical skills and knowledge required to succeed in the online learning environment, the need for graduates who live out the values consistent with a Christlike character, in their homes, workplaces, and society has never been more necessary than today. (Replaced GEN 121)

GEN 221 - Credit Hours: 3**Exploring God's World**

This course is designed to provide a general overview of environmental science, with an emphasis on sound science, stewardship, and sustainability. Topics include basic concepts of environmental science, relationships between living and nonliving things, human impact upon the environment, and care of earth's resources to support future generations of living things. Critical thinking skills will be utilized throughout this course, as these skills underlie one's ability to carefully consider scientific concepts and their effects upon human interactions. The study of environmental science is approached with an understanding of the grave responsibilities of human beings to practice wise stewardship of God's creation.

HUM 131 - Credit Hours: 3**Introduction to Psychology**

This course is a general survey of the discipline of psychology. Topics covered will include thinking critically, neuroscience, life span development, sensation and perception, learning, memory, thinking/language/intelligence, personality, psychological disorders, and social psychology. Attention will be given to the relationship between Psychology and Christianity with selected application for life and ministry.

HUM 133 - Credit Hours: 3**Philosophy and World-view**

This course addresses the fact that our culture is confronted with a vast assortment of differing philosophies and world-views; each claiming to be true. Focus is provided to understand and evaluate these various belief systems in an increasingly pluralistic society. Main ideas of eight different world-views will be explored while the student develops and expresses a personal world-view. Topics will center around the nature of God, reality, nature of man, death, truth, morality, and the meaning of life. The primary purpose of this course is to challenge students to examine the timeless truths of Christianity.

HUM 231 - Credit Hours: 3**World Civilizations**

This course will provide students with skills in historical research and analysis, a chronological understanding and factual knowledge spanning from the dawn of civilization to 1700. Emphasis is placed on the origins and achievements of the core civilizations of Asia, Africa, America, and Greco-Roman civilizations. In addition, Christian, Islamic and Byzantine cultures will be studied. The ultimate focus will be to provide students with a historical, factual, cultural, and geographical knowledge of ancient history and its relationship to the Bible. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments up to the early modern world civilizations within the interrelations of societies and cultures.

HUM 233 - Credit Hours: 3**Cultural Diversity**

This course is an exploration of cultural diversity and multiculturalism from a Christian faith perspective. This course provides a process to understand and practice cultural diversity competence. It is designed to initiate and provide ongoing preparation for effective interaction with everyone in our culturally diverse world. Growth in these skills equips individuals with the social graces needed to form bonds of mutual trust that will bridge the differences that ordinarily divide people.

HUM 332 - Credit Hours: 3**Personal and Social Ethics**

This course lays the foundation for a Christian response to ethical issues arising in 21st Century Western culture. Attention is given to the biblical foundation of Christian personal and social ethics, the history of ethics, ethical decision-making, and personal character development. Application of these topics will be made to a range of contemporary issues.

HUM 405 - Credit Hours: 3**Organizational Ethics**

An analysis of the foundation of ethical behavior in business, including an introduction to social graces and the importance of professional image. Emphasis is placed on a comparison between Judeo-Christian and secular ethical paradigms, as well as the social responsibility of organizations to contribute to the common good. (HUM 505 graduate-level course cross-listed as HUM 405 for the 4+1 program.)

HUM 415 - Credit Hours: 3**Coaching and Communication Strategies**

This course teaches practical skills of personal and professional coaching necessary for moving organizations forward to achieve strategic goals and objectives. Students will practice fundamental coaching skills in the context of direct coaching relationships, with applications to team leadership, conflict management, and strategic planning. (HUM 515 graduate-level course is cross-listed as HUM 415 for students in the 4+1 program).

HUS 298 - Credit Hours: 3**AA Program Capstone**

The AA Capstone course is an integrative learning experience bringing together all of the learning presented in the degree program. Each student will work individually, using his/her focus of study (with the School of Human Services and Behavioral Sciences) to respond to assignments. Assignments include broad questions/concerns which students can answer with the use of learning from his/her focus of study, utilizing texts, peer reviewed articles, etc. This will also provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate to one another their ability to communicate ideas related to their field of study. Above all, the assignments will incorporate a biblical perspective as the overlying factor in any of these foci.

HUS 498 - Credit Hours: 3

Program Capstone

This course serves as a capstone course for Grace Online BS degrees. The purpose is for students to synthesize their learning and focus their ideas on a practical application of their ideas in a local community in the context of their degree program.

LEA 171 - Credit Hours: 3

Introduction to Leadership

This course provides an overview of the basics of leadership with application in both a personal and organizational context. Creating and communicating the vision, empowering others and recognizing their contributions, challenging the status quo and leading change, and celebrating team and organizational success are all key ideas addressed in this course. Moreover, students will be asked to evaluate their own personal leadership practices according to these concepts.

LEA 273 - Credit Hours: 3

Issues in Christian Leadership

Issues in Christian Leadership addresses the seminal issues in Christian leadership in both the church and para-church settings, including the foundational issues of each of the five following areas: integrity, communication, leadership development, conflict management and self-care.

LEA 279 - Credit Hours: 3

Leadership and Ministry Capstone

This capstone course is a culmination of various aspects involved in developing an effective leader within a ministry setting. There is a focus on identifying potential leaders and then providing practical methods for training, coaching, and equipping those leaders to reach their full potential. Areas of discussion include integrity, vision-casting, servant-leadership, modeling, as well as current leadership principles utilized in today's local church. This course provides practical and proven guidelines for any individual involved in ministry who feels called to "equip the saints for ministry."

LEA 372 - Credit Hours: 3**Organizational Leadership**

This course will provide an understanding of organizational leadership from a biblical, theoretical and practical point of view. The topic of leadership will be discussed in four contexts that include intrapersonal, interpersonal relationships, organizational structure and processes, and organizational culture. A biblical approach will be used as a unifying theme for leadership best practices within each of these contexts.

LEA 374 - Credit Hours: 3**Working with Teams**

This course emphasizes the importance of teamwork in organizational or professional settings. In addition to reviewing the components of effective teams, the dysfunctions of teams, accountability within teams, and values will also be discussed. Success in organizations is largely dependent on teamwork. Students will become more effective team members as well as equipping them to improve team relationships. Characteristics of dynamic and thriving teams will be explored, with a special emphasis on the common dysfunctions of teams and how to avoid them.

LEA 430 - Credit Hours: 3**Foundations of Organizational Leadership**

This course develops a foundational framework of knowledge and critical thinking skills essential to organizational leadership. Students will examine leadership theories, leadership formation, developing mission/vision, implementing change, organizational structures, dealing with organizational conflicts, the art of listening/reflecting, and leadership ethics. The course will be delivered through an on-line format using guided readings, multiple writing assignments, case study development and analysis, on-line threaded discussion, and experiential learning. (LEA 530 graduate-level course cross-listed as LEA 430 for the 4+1 program.)

LEA 440 - Credit Hours: 3**Organizational Behavior**

The study of the behavior of individuals and teams within for-profit and nonprofit organizations based on current management theory. Emphasis is given to understanding, predicting, motivating and changing work-related behaviors in organizations. Key topics include managerial and leadership career paths, decision making, organizational change, leading and mentoring teams, conflict and negotiation, and cultural intelligence. (LEA 540 graduate-level course cross-listed as LEA 440 for the 4+1 program.)

LEA 445 - Credit Hours: 3**Leading with Cultural Intelligence**

Cultural Intelligence (CQ) is the capability to function effectively in a variety of cultural contexts. Students will examine literature and perspectives from the fields of anthropology, sociology, and organizational leadership as well as study cultural engagement in light of the biblical narrative. (LEA 545 graduate-level course is cross-listed as LEA 445 for students in the 4+1 program.)

LEA 450 - Credit Hours: 3**Leveraging Innovation**

This course introduces students to the complex relationship of management, technology, and leadership in a variety of industries. Students will analyze how technology has been utilized in various fields, and develop strategies for the most effective application of technology in their own organizational context. (LEA 550 graduate-level course cross-listed for students in the 4+1 program.)

LEA 472 - Credit Hours: 3**Mobilization of Volunteers**

This course will investigate ways to mobilize and engage volunteers. It will defend the value of volunteers and their relationship within an organization. The topics examined will include: types of recruitment methods, importance of background checks, communicating organizational mission statements, goals and values, training, retention, volunteer tasks and expectations, motivation, reward systems and performance improvement for both volunteers and staff. Throughout the course, you will develop a practice scenario of organizing volunteers and staff for a specific event.

LEA 498 - Credit Hours: 3**Program Capstone**

This course serves as a capstone course for Grace Online BS degrees. The purpose is for students to synthesize their learning and focus their ideas on a practical application of their ideas in a local community in the context of their degree program.

MIN 163 - Credit Hours: 3**Sharing and Defending the Faith**

This course will define faith in Christ (the gospel), and will explore ways to share the gospel. Students will consider the various hindrances to the effective communication of the gospel, as well as develop strategies for answering objections to the gospel in a way that points individuals to Jesus Christ.

MIN 261 - Credit Hours: 3**Discipling and Mentoring in the Christian Faith**

This course is a study in discipleship and mentoring focusing on effective discipleship models from the life of Christ and the First Century Church. Those principles will be applied into an effective design for Twenty-First Century disciple-making, with special attention given to the foundations of Christian discipleship and mentoring. This foundation includes modeling Christ-like character and leadership and building healthy relationships for personal accountability paradigms.

MIN 263 - Credit Hours: 3**Teaching the Christian Faith**

This course is intended to equip Christian leaders with an understanding of the principles and practices of teaching the Word of God. The course will include biblical perspectives on teaching, as well as practical methods for teaching effectively. The focus will be on teaching the Christian faith, yet learned skills will apply to other fields as well.

MIN 362 - Credit Hours: 3**Marketplace Ministry**

The purpose of this course is to learn and live the foundational tenets of biblical Christianity in the marketplace of life; at home, at work, and in the school; in short, in the public arena. Attention will be given to the lifestyle of the believer as a statement to the non-Christian, relationship building, lifestyle evangelism, spiritual conversation with the non-Christian, and the biblical elements of conversion.

MIN 370 - Credit Hours: 3**Spiritual Formation**

This course focuses on the practical outworking of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. Special consideration will be given to how the Holy Spirit equips God's people for service, a development of a plan for lifelong spiritual growth, and appreciation for the historic spiritual disciplines.

MIN 415 - Credit Hours: 3**Ministry of the Local Church**

This course provides a foundation for leading staff, boards, and committees, as well as development of programming. Included is an understanding of proper oversight of Church finances and overall stewardship of the ministry. All of this with the goal of preparing the student for leading in the midst of change and maintaining church health.

MIN 462 - Credit Hours: 3**Teaching and Preaching**

This course reviews the method and impact of gospel communicators, both from Scripture as well as those of historical note. It also stresses the fundamentals of gospel communication, including content, which involves study; delivery, which involves mechanics; and anointing, which involves dependence upon the Holy Spirit. This course will also stress a balance of both theory and practices in gospel communication.

MIN 467 - Credit Hours: 3**Basic Counseling**

This course will provide an overview of basic counseling skills, integrating these skills with biblical concepts. We will learn how the Bible and the basic counseling skills can be used together to effectively help others in overcoming some of the challenges one faces in life.

MKT 265 - Credit Hours: 3**Social Media Marketing**

This course will use a biblical framework to determine and guide the identification and use of this rapidly changes media. Students will develop engagement strategies using social media to advance the mission and vision of the organization by creating customer profiles in social media marketing. In addition to the identification of alternative social media platforms, this class will explore various engagement options to ensure cultural awareness in advancing a marketing strategy.

MKT 310 - Credit Hours: 3**Information Technology for Marketers**

This course explores how marketers use PC to enterprise level computer systems to develop marketing plans to create sound marketing solutions in the eCommerce environment. Focus on the rapidly changing business climate will from a biblical perspective evaluate best practices that IT systems proved to the life cycle of the system application. The course will explore career and mission opportunities with various information systems.

MKT 315 - Credit Hours: 3

Advertising and Promotions

This course will focus on using major marketing communication tools: advertising, direct marketing, the Internet, interactive media, sales promotion, public relations, personal selling, as well as social and consumer-driven media. Students will be expected to research and evaluate a company's marketing and promotional plan to create an effective communication plan.

PS 361 - Credit Hours: 3

Psychology and Culture of the Aging Process

A review of the biological, sociological, and psychological aspects of age-related changes in respect to perception, memory, cognition, and personality. Major developmental theories and research will be studied. Study of aging from the perspective of prominent sociological theories in Western society with an emphasis on culture.

PSY 205 - Credit Hours: 3

Organizational & Industrial Psychology

This course will involve the study and application of the science and theory behind particular cognitions, attitudes, and techniques that are used to predict and manage human behavior within an organizational setting. The core methodologies covered include theories of motivation, cognitive psychology, leadership theories, ethics, performance management, team management, and organizational development.

PSY 215 - Credit Hours: 3

Psychology of Leadership

This course looks at the psychological and social processes that characterize effective leaders. We will learn about leadership in relationship to psychological exchanges between leaders and followers, and situations/behaviors that make some people more effective leaders than others. Some key factors that will be studied include psychological theories related to leadership, importance of teamwork, role of power, motivation, role of emotional intelligence, expectations of leaders, and various factors affecting future leadership in the 21st century. All of this will be studied from a Christian perspective of servant leadership.

PSY 245 - Credit Hours: 3**Life-Span Psychology**

This course is designed to explore human development from conception through death, looking at human development using the bio-psycho-social model from a Christian world-view. It will be explored how we as humans share developmental similarities, yet are unique due to various factors such as temperament, personality, etc. Most importantly, new information will be learned on what students already know, confirming how we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” as image bearers of God. (Previously PSY 236 Developmental Psychology.)

PSY 257 - Credit Hours: 3**History of Psychology**

The History of Psychology offers a foundation for understanding modern psychological science and for understanding human nature. By exploring psychology’s cultural, philosophical and theoretical roots, learners will consider how Christian values inform psychological science as it continues to develop, especially as discoveries are made about how fearfully and wonderfully we have been created. Topics will include psychology as science and philosophy, culture, structuralism and functionalism, theoretical and applied psychological research, and various theories that have developed to explain human nature and experience.

PSY 298 - Credit Hours: 3**AA Program Capstone**

The AA Capstone course is an integrative learning experience bringing together all of the learning presented in the degree program. Each student will work individually, using his/her focus of study (with the School of Human Services and Behavioral Sciences) to respond to assignments. Assignments include broad questions/concerns which students can answer with the use of learning from his/her focus of study, utilizing texts, peer reviewed articles, etc. This will also provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate to one another their ability to communicate ideas related to their field of study. Above all, the assignments will incorporate a biblical perspective as the overlying factor in any of these foci.

PSY 310 - Credit Hours: 3**Abnormal Psychology**

Abnormal Psychology is designed to introduce students to models of thinking concerning mental health, mental disorders, and classification of mental disorders. The general goals are to expose students to the range of thinking within the field of mental health and to help students understand the complexities of modern day classification of various mental disorders. The students will be challenged to define what is considered “normal” and “abnormal.” They will become familiar with the bio-psycho-social-spiritual model of abnormal psychology, including the various theories developed and used to explain causes and treatments for mental disorders. Emphasis in this undergraduate class will focus on symptoms and causes, although treatment will certainly be included. All information will be compared and contrasted with a Christian world-view of the various theories and concepts of Abnormal Psychology.

PSY 325 - Credit Hours: 3**Social Psychology**

This course examines individual behaviors within the context of one’s society. It is a study of how people think, influence, and relate to one another. Components of these behaviors studied in this course include attitudes, beliefs, prejudices, aggression, leadership, altruism, conformity, attraction, persuasion, and stereotypes.

PSY 339 - Credit Hours: 3**Health Psychology**

Health Psychology examines psychological influences on health, well-being and longevity. This course evaluates the interplay between emotions, cognitions and behavioral factors that affect the onset, duration, recovery and prevention of chronic illness and disease over the life span. Topics will include depression and illness, traumatic injuries, neuromuscular diseases, cancer and chronic pain. Psychological treatment involving wellness behaviors, smoking cessation, substance abuse, proper nutrition and exercise are studied from the biopsychosocial model. Students will be encouraged to apply all course learning through a critical, biblical world-view.

PSY 349 - Credit Hours: 3**Theories and Foundations in Counseling**

This course has three main purposes, which include analysis of several psychological theories regarding personality, simulated theory application, and personal application of theoretical concepts to their own lives. In this way, students should begin to develop a solid foundation for his/her own counseling skills and increase their self-understanding. Integrated with the understanding of theories will be compatibility of scriptural teaching.

PSY 363 - Credit Hours: 3**End-of-Life Matters**

Broad overview of death and dying topics including choices an aging population needs to make; ethics and Christian perspective of those choices; and the experience of grief and mourning.

PSY 383 - Credit Hours: 3**Studies in Research Statistics**

This course is an introduction to fundamental constructs of statistics as they are applied to research. Learners are introduced to core concepts, including: sampling, reliability and validity, descriptive and inferred statistics, hypothesis formulation, statistical significance, confidence intervals, interpretation of research, common statistical tests, and ANOVA computations. Learners will also become familiar with software for statistical computing and graphics.

PSY 456 - Credit Hours: 3**Survival Psychology**

This course focuses on the traits responsible for surviving in high-stress environments, including responding directly to high-threat encounters. Pro-survival behaviors are presented, including “the gift of fear” and balancing independence and leadership versus the need for teamwork collaboration in responding to stressful events. Organizational and professional psychological traits present in law enforcement, paramilitary organizations and high stress organizations are explored, as well as healthy lifestyle factors that lead to career effectiveness and avoiding burnout, such as managing vicarious trauma and promoting self-care.

PSY 461 - Credit Hours: 3**Physiological Psychology**

An introduction to physiological psychology in which students explore basic principles of brain structure and functional mechanisms, including the role of neurons and neurochemistry. The interrelationship between observable physiological function and psychological behavior will be explored, including the behavioral consequences of damage to the physiological systems of the nervous system.

PSY 467 - Credit Hours: 3

Memory Loss and Aging

This course contrasts normal age-related changes in the brain with the effects of diseases that cause cognitive impairment. Prevalence, incidence, symptoms, causes, treatment, and care-giving issues are discussed, with emphasis on the history and personal, social, cultural, political, and economic impacts of Alzheimer's disease are explored.

PSY 498 - Credit Hours: 3

Program Capstone

This course serves as a capstone course for Grace Online BS degrees. The purpose is for students to synthesize their learning and focus their ideas on a practical application of their ideas in a local community in the context of their degree program.

SOC 251 - Credit Hours: 3

Principles of Sociology

This course is a study of contemporary Western society. The emphasis is on culture, socialization, group life, social processes and social change.

SOC 255 - Credit Hours: 3

Introduction to Human Services

This course explores the historical context and the current structure of the Human Services field. Students will be exposed to case management and group facilitation as well as the primary intervention strategies used in human services. The arenas involving special populations served in the Human Services profession will be examined, such as addictions, mental health, developmentally disabled, and the homeless. Topics include values and ethical dilemmas, the social welfare system, diversity, program planning, organizing and changing systems, legal issues and the need to stay current as a human services professional.

SOC 356 - Credit Hours: 3

Marriage and Family

This course is designed to lay foundational principles for an understanding of biblical manhood, biblical womanhood, biblical marriage, and the nurture of children. Along with this will be a review of the stages of life involved within marriage and family.

SOC 365 - Credit Hours: 3

Long-Term Care System

This course explores the components of long-term care administration. Students will examine the similarities and differences among the many long-term care service providers, how long-term care segments work together, forming an overall system, issues that individually or collectively affect them, and the skills that administrators will need to succeed in that system.

SPE 200 - Credit Hours: 3

Oral Communication

This course provides instruction and experience in preparing, delivering, and evaluating a self-introduction speech, an informative speech, and a persuasive speech. Emphasis is on gaining skills and confidence in public speaking in academic, workplace, ministry, and community contexts.

THE 254 - Credit Hours: 3

Foundations of Dispensational Theology

This course is an overview of the basic tenets of Dispensational Theology. Included is a study of foundational passages in the Bible, a review of the historical development, as well as how a dispensational perspective shapes the study of Scripture. Special consideration will be given to the mid-Acts dispensational views of Grace Christian University.

THE 256 - Credit Hours: 3

Christian Theology I

This course is a survey of foundational doctrines of systematic theology including Bibliology, Theology Proper (God), Christology (Christ) and Pneumatology (Holy Spirit). It will include an overview of the mid-Acts dispensational perspective of theology held by the institution. The course also encourages the practical integration of these doctrines in the life and service of the Christian.

THE 335 - Credit Hours: 3

Principles and Practice of Worship

This course examines the biblical foundations for corporate worship and how those are applied today. Included is a study of key biblical texts, review of common misperceptions, and development of an overall philosophy for corporate worship.

THE 348 - Credit Hours: 3**Biblical Perspectives on Wealth and Poverty**

This course explores a biblical foundation for understanding wealth and poverty in the modern world. These issues impact ministry at a local level and beyond, including the support of international missions efforts. In addition, students will examine appropriate responses for Christians and churches as they seek to care for the “least, the last, and the lost.”

THE 440 - Credit Hours: 3**Contemporary Theology Perspectives**

This course is designed to equip the student to respond biblically to a range of theological issues facing the 21st-century church. Issues include (but are not limited to): soteriology, biblical interpretation & authority, and the emergent/missional church, as well as differing theological perspectives that are influential in culture today. (THE 540 graduate-level course cross-listed as THE 440 for the 4+1 program.)

THE 452 - Credit Hours: 3**Studies in Dispensationalism**

This course emphasizes the essential elements of Dispensational theology, as well as a survey of dispensational problems, the literature of modern and contemporary Dispensational theology, and its historical roots. Topics include the significance of Dispensational theology in developing a biblical world-view and practice.

THE 453 - Credit Hours: 3**Christian Theology II**

This course is an in-depth study of the doctrines of systematic theology, including Anthropology (Man), Hamartiology (Sin), Soteriology (Salvation and the Atonement), Angelology (Angels), Ecclesiology (Church) and Eschatology (End Times). These doctrines will be considered from the mid-Acts dispensational view of theology held by Grace Bible College. The course also encourages the practical integration of these doctrines in the life and service of the Christian.

THE 454 - Credit Hours: 3**Knowing God**

This course provides an in-depth study of Theology Proper, the study of God the Father. Included with this will be understanding the Trinity doctrine, with an emphasis on biblical, historical and theological dimensions of knowing God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The course supports not only knowing more about God, but actually knowing God better through the application of Christian doctrine to life, worship and mission.

THE 460 - Credit Hours: 3**Studies in Dispensational Theology**

Presents the student with an intensive summary of the historic theological position of Grace Christian University, including critical examination and evaluation of the biblical, theological, and practical interests of dispensational theology. (THE 560 graduate-level course cross-listed as THE 460 for the 4+1 program.)

WOM 300 - Credit Hours: 3**The Role of Women in Church Administration and Leadership**

This course is designed to explore the role women play in church leadership and help students reflect on their own leadership style. In that context, students are to develop their mission, passion, and confidence to lead within the church.

WOM 350 - Credit Hours: 3**Leadership Development & Strategies for Women**

This course is designed to provide an in-depth analysis of the history, roles, responsibilities, calling, and challenges of women called to lead in diverse contexts. Emphasis is on to leadership development along with strategies for ensuring one's spiritual, emotional, relational, physical health and wellness formation.

WOM 401 - Credit Hours: 3**Women of the Bible and Church History**

This course is designed to explore women of significance in the Bible and Christian history, as well as their cultural contexts. Emphasis will be placed on understanding how these women worked within their cultures to make a positive difference and applying principles learned from their examples into today's culture.

WOM 451 - Credit Hours: 3

Women's Ministry Today

This course is designed to explore the many different styles of women's ministries in today's culture. Emphasis is placed on administrative functions, development, leadership training, promotion, and other aspects of leading an effective Women's Ministry.

YTH 300 - Credit Hours: 3

Philosophy and Theology of Youth Ministry

This course is designed to provide an overview of youth ministry philosophy, models, and theology. Emphasis is on evaluating ministry models and developing a philosophy of youth ministry.

YTH 351 - Credit Hours: 3

Trends in Youth Ministry

This course gives an overview of the characteristics and trends of the current youth culture. Emphasis will be given to biblically evaluating these characteristics and trends as well as developing a ministry response to them. 3 semester credit hours.

YTH 401 - Credit Hours: 3

Biblical Patterns for Student Outreach

This course is designed to explore evangelism in the ministry of Paul in the book of Acts, and his epistles, with a view to applying these patterns in current youth culture. Students will develop a biblical plan for evangelism and outreach focused on youth.

YTH 451 - Credit Hours: 3

Principles for Leading Youth Ministry

This course is designed to examine guidelines and principles for effectively leading a Youth Ministry. Topics will include training and managing volunteers, communicating with parents, preparing students for leadership, administrative tasks, youth meeting and event planning, and other aspects of effective leadership.