



CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The Christian Studies program at John Witherspoon College centers on biblical, theological, and historical training that equips students to serve God and pursue their callings in the church, family, and wider civic communities.

Diploma in Christian Ministry

The diploma program provides unique opportunities for those already serving in the church to grow in their study of Scripture, theology, and church history. It is a wonderful introductory track to Christian studies for traditional and non-traditional students.

Associate of Arts in Christian Studies Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

Our programs aim to provide students with a well-rounded grasp of Scripture, biblical languages, theological studies, and Christian history. Students will gain knowledge of approaches to Scripture, major themes of biblical books, models of interpretation, key issues in Christian theology, and so much more, including important skills in reading, researching, and writing. Our aim is not merely increased knowledge, but also spiritual formation.

Our faculty has both academic and pastoral training and experience. They provide students with mentoring through internships in ministry. We desire that our students will take these skills not only into the workforce, but also into their local churches.





Career Opportunities

What sort of careers or vocations can a student pursue with a Christian studies degree? Almost anything! Students with a B.A. in Christian Studies often:

- Pursue theological studies
- Pursue legal studies and professions
- Serve in various church leadership capacities
- Serve in para-church ministries
- Serve in the non-profit sector
- Serve in the medical field
- Teach at primary through secondary levels
- Teach and research at the college level
- Serve and teach on the mission field

Students who complete a degree in Christian studies have many vocations and fields open to them. Students will gain skills such as researching, writing, thinking, and communicating that many employers or vocations require. This well-rounded education provides a foundation for learning any job.

Personal Vision for Students

College is wonderful for human growth. It is a unique season in life when a student asks lots of questions and focuses on learning for the sake of developing a vision for life. Christian students are uniquely positioned to develop a Christian vision for life arising out of study of Scripture, theology, and history. Christian studies especially foster such development. I want students to learn God's word, to love it, and to apply it. I also want them to meet Augustine, Luther, and others who will enrich their knowledge of the Christian life, discipleship, and service. The opportunity to talk about the big questions of life with Scripture in hand and learn the tools of theological reflection is a privilege. The endeavor is an honor that I enjoy with students.

About the Program Director

Justin McGeary is the Director and Professor of Christian Studies. He earned his B.A. in English Literature from Geneva College and his M.Div. from Westminster Seminary California. He worked for five year in campus ministry at Chesterton House, a Christian study center at Cornell University, as Director of Programs. He has also served for two years as an assistant pastor in the Presbyterian Church of America in Ithaca, NY. Originally, he is from Pittsburgh, PA and the oldest of five. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and son, often talking theology, reading, playing various sports, gathering with friends, and participating in the life of his local church.

Diploma in Christian Studies (30 credits)

Associate of Arts in Christian Studies (62 credits)

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (120 credits)



Diploma in Christian Ministry

(30 credits)

The Diploma in Christian Ministry program is designed primarily for students who have not had opportunity for college or seminary training in ministry or biblical studies, including those who may have entered vocational ministry in later years, laypersons seeking formal training to equip them for local church ministry, and others desiring Bible, theology, and ministry training. The program incorporates an exposure to the classic liberal arts.

Diploma in Christian Ministry Program Requirements (30 credits)

The Diploma in Christian Ministry consists of all the courses for the first year of the A. A. in Christian Studies:

MAT 102	College Algebra I	
	or MAT 100 Mathematical Thought for the Liberal Arts	
ENG/COM 111	Classical Rhetoric I	
HIS 111	Ancient World	
CHR 101	The Origin of the Bible	
CHR 111	The Old Testament Story	
LDR 101	Leadership Foundations I: Spiritual Formation	
ENG/COM 112	Classical Rhetoric II	
HIS 112	Medieval World to Renaissance	
CHR 303	Missions and Evangelism	
CHR 112	The New Testament Story	



Associate of Arts in Christian Studies

(62 credits)

The program of study leading to the Associate of Arts Degree in Christian Studies is designed to prepare students for leadership in the church and the world by way of studies in the classical liberal arts, all interpreted through and integrated into a world and life view formed by biblical truth.

The requirements for the A. A. in Christian Studies include completion of the following courses:

Fall Semester Courses FRESHMAN Year:	Spring Semester Courses FRESHMAN Year:
MAT 102 College Algebra I (or MAT 100	LDR 101 Leadership Foundations I:
Mathematical Thought for the Liberal Arts)	Spiritual Formation
ENG/COM 111 Classical Rhetoric I	ENG/COM 112 Classical Rhetoric II
HIS 111 Ancient World	HIS 112 Medieval World to Renaissance
CHR 101 The Origin of the Bible	CHR 303 Missions and Evangelism
CHR 111 The Old Testament Story	CHR 112 The New Testament Story
Fall Semester Courses SOPHOMORE Year:	Spring Semester Courses SOPHOMORE Year
PHL 243 Ethics/Moral Decision Making	MAT 208 Intro to Statistics and Probability
HIS 211 American History I	HIS 212 American History II
CHR 304 Biblical Counseling	CHR 335 The History of Theology
SCI 111 Physical Science w/Lab (4)	SCI 112 Life Science w/Lab (4)
GRK 211 Greek I (or HBR 311 Hebrew I)	GRK 212 Greek II (or HBR 312 Hebrew II)



Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

(120 credits)

The program of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Christian Studies is designed to prepare students for leadership in the church and the world by way of studies in the classical liberal arts, all interpreted through and integrated into a world and life view formed by biblical truth.

The requirements for the B. A. in Christian Studies includes completion of the A.A. in Christian Studies curriculum plus the following courses for the third and fourth year:

Fall Semester Courses JUNIOR Year:

CHR 331 Theologia Principia I:

Method, God, and Creation

GRK 311 Greek III (or GRK 211 Greek I, LAT 211

Latin I , HBR 311 Hebrew I , Christian Studies Elective)

CHR 301 Biblical Interpretation

PHL 349 World Religions

LDR 201 Leadership Foundations II:

Becoming an Effective Leader

Spring Semester Courses JUNIOR Year:

CHR 332 Theologia Principia II:

Christ, Church, and Eschatology

GRK 312 **Greek IV** (*or* GRK 212 Greek II, LAT 212

Latin II, HBR 312 Hebrew II, Christian Studies Elective)

CHR 422 The Pauline Epistles

CHR 421 The Gospels

Christian Studies Elective

Fall Semester Courses SENIOR Year:

CHR 413 Poetry and Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament

CHR 499 *Imitatio Christi*

ECO 201 Intro to Economics

Christian Studies Elective

Christian Studies Elective

Spring Semester Courses SENIOR Year

CHR/HUM 498 Senior Thesis Project

(**or** General Elective)

LDR 200 Basileia (Kingdom) Mission (1)

HUM/POL 313 Government and Politics

General Elective

General Elective



- Christ-centered programs
- ✓ Outstanding Faculty
- ✓ Affordable Tuition
- ✓ Graduate Debt Free!

If you are thinking about where to attend college or earn dual enrollment credits, we invite you to check out **John Witherspoon College**--a Christian, classical liberal arts college, located in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. JWC offers excellent, Christ-centered programs in **Humanities** and **Christian Studies**. Read what alumni have to say about JWC. . .



"I can't begin to describe to you how much and how valuable my education was at John Witherspoon College. Honestly, the study of the classical languages like Latin and Greek, the literature instruction, the history instruction

and everything else that comes with a classical education has just made seminary so much easier. I can't even begin to describe how much easier it is to be a good student of the Bible when you have that kind of a foundation undergirding everything that you're doing."

Levi, Class of 2019
BA in Christian Studies
Theology Professor at Reformation Bible College,
Ligonier Ministries



"I didn't plan to be a teacher, but I can definitely see how JWC prepared me to be one. For example, the Humanities program, which is very broad, ensures that there is no fifth grade topic that I am unfamiliar with. But JWC also prepared me at a spiritual level. In the students and the staff, I

could see an example of what it meant to bring Christ into everything we do. And I want to do that in my job. Thankfully, my students make this very easy as they're so curious about the things of the world, especially the things of God. And so when they ask those questions, I feel that JWC has prepared me to give an answer for the hope that I have. "

Becca, Class of 2020
BA in Humanities

5th Grade Teacher in Lower Brule Sioux tribe reservation