



CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The Christian Studies program at John Witherspoon College is instrumental in the lives of students, foundation in forming mature Christian character and effective Kingdom leadership by way of thorough grounding in biblical, theological, and ministerial studies. Students will have the opportunity to develop interpretive skills for “rightly handling the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

The Objectives of Christian Studies Degree Achievement Enables the Graduate to:

- 1) Explain and summarize the nature and contents of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, the origin of the Bible, models of Scripture, key themes of major biblical books, and the progressive nature of redemptive history.
- 2) Comprehend and analyze influential controversies in systemic theology, exegetical theology, and the history of Christian thought.
- 3) Think critically about the relationship of the Bible’s teachings to other academic disciplines and to classic works in the Western Tradition and to apply biblical principles and narratives to contemporary situations.
- 4) Gain a reading knowledge of one or more of the biblical languages, translate Scripture, and identify fundamental challenges in translation and interpretation.
- 5) Become more Christ-like as manifested in love for God and others through a mature heart that is superbly suited to fulfill various Kingdom functions.



JWC Core Curriculum for Christian Studies Degree Program



All Associate and Bachelor degree-seeking students are required to complete JWC's core coursework. This coursework is designed to ensure a broad understanding of the humanities and provide a base for further critical study. This core curriculum consists of 15 courses as follows:

Core JWC Courses (15):

BIB 111	Old Testament Survey
BIB 112	New Testament Survey
COM 111	Rhetoric I: Principles & Foundations
COM 112	Rhetoric II: Oral Communications
ENG 101	College Composition I
ENG 121	Ancient Literature
ENG 201	English Composition II
ENG 221	Renaissance & Baroque Literature
HIS 111	The Ancient World
HIS 112	The Medieval World to the Renaissance
LDR 101	Leadership Foundations I: Personal Development

MAT 102	College Algebra I [or higher math course]
PHL 101	Introduction to Philosophy
SCI 111	Physical Science with Lab [3 hours + 1 lab credit]
SCI 112	Life Science with Lab [3 hours + 1 lab credit]

Core Christian Studies Courses (6):

BIB 101	Origin of the Bible
BIB 201	Biblical Interpretation
THE 231	Systematic Theology I
THE 232	Systematic Theology II
GRK 211	Greek I
GRK 212	Greek II

Post-Graduation Career Opportunities: Graduate theological studies, legal studies and professions, various church leadership positions and para-church ministries, the non-profit sector, the medical field, education — home, church, and community, Bible translation, and the mission field.

The **Associate of Arts** degree is a 66-credit hour course of study designed to establish the fundamentals of a liberal arts education and the foundations of the student's area of study. The Associate degree can be completed in two years of studies.

The **Bachelor of Arts** degree is a 120-credit hour course of study that provides a more comprehensive base of knowledge and concentrated studies in the program area. The Bachelor degree equips students for leadership in society or future graduate studies and is designed to be completed in four years.



Associate of Arts in Christian Studies

(66 credit hours)

The Associate of Arts Degree in Christian Studies incorporates the 15 JWC core courses, plus the six courses forming the Christian Studies core courses and a student-selected elective. This program is excellent preparation for leadership, problem-solving, logic, and written or oral expression in the classical tradition and grounded in biblical truth.

Associate of Arts Degree in Christian Studies Sample Schedule Below

<p>Fall Semester Courses FRESHMAN Year:</p> <p>MAT 102 College Algebra I</p> <p>COM 111 Rhetoric I: Principles & Foundations</p> <p>HIS 111 The Ancient World</p> <p>BIB 101 The Origin of the Bible</p> <p>BIB 111 Old Testament Survey</p> <p>SCI 111 Physical Science with Lab</p> <p><i>(6 courses, 19 credit hours)</i></p>	<p>Spring Semester Courses FRESHMAN Year:</p> <p>LDR 101 Leadership Foundations I</p> <p>COM 112 Rhetoric II: Oral Communications</p> <p>HIS 112 Medieval World to Renaissance</p> <p>BIB 112 New Testament Survey</p> <p>MIN 204 Foundations of Christian Ministry</p> <p>PHL 101 Introduction to Philosophy</p> <p><i>(6 courses, 18 credit hours)</i></p>
<p>Fall Semester Courses SOPHOMORE Year:</p> <p>ENG 101 College Composition I</p> <p>ENG 121 Ancient Literature</p> <p>BIB 201 Biblical Interpretation</p> <p>THE 231 Systematic Theology I</p> <p>GRK 211 Greek I</p> <p><i>(5 courses, 15 credit hours)</i></p>	<p>Spring Semester Courses SOPHOMORE Year</p> <p>ENG 201 College Composition II</p> <p>ENG 221 Renaissance & Baroque Literature</p> <p>THE 232 Systematic Theology II</p> <p>GRK 212 Greek II</p> <p>SCI 112 Life Science with Lab</p> <p><i>(5 courses, 16 credit hours)</i></p>
	<p><i>Total of 68 credit hours</i></p>



Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies

(120 credit hours)

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. Critical studies in the classical liberal arts tradition are interpreted through and integrated into a world and life view, formed by biblical truth and transferable across disciplines and cultural contexts.

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies includes completion of 15 JWC College core courses and six Christian Studies core courses. The student will also select nine courses in a concentration area (Bible, ministry, & theology). The final five courses guide the thesis work, internship, and approach to cross-cultural ministry.

Sample Schedule Below

Fall Semester Courses JUNIOR Year:	Spring Semester Courses JUNIOR Year:
<p>THE 335 Historical Theology</p> <p>GRK 311 Greek III</p> <p>BIB 331 Biblical Backgrounds & Archaeology</p> <p>MIN 301 Theology of Practical Ministry</p> <p>PHL 349 World Religions</p> <p>HEB 311 Hebrew I</p>	<p>MIN 304 Biblical Counseling</p> <p>CHR 395 Special Topics in Christian Studies</p> <p>GRK 312 Greek IV</p> <p>BIB 411 Pentateuch</p> <p>BIB 421 Synoptic Gospels & Acts</p> <p>HEB 312 Hebrew II</p>
Fall Semester Courses SENIOR Year:	Spring Semester Courses SENIOR Year
<p>BIB 413 Poetry & Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament</p> <p>MIN 304 Biblical Counseling</p> <p>PHL 306 Christian Apologetics</p> <p>HBR 411 Hebrew III</p> <p>BIB 422 The Pauline Epistles</p>	<p>CHR 498 Senior Thesis Project</p> <p>CHR 499 Senior Internship</p> <p>LDR 200 Cross Cultural Ministry</p> <p>HBR 412 Hebrew IV</p> <p>As needed:</p> <p>Two Courses ~ Program or Electives (6 hours)</p>

Career Opportunities for the Christian Studies graduate:

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 advanced theological studies — Master or Doctorate of Divinity
- Pursue legal studies and professions — Attorney at Law, Economics
- Serve in various church leadership capacities — Pastoral, lay-leadership
- Serve in para-church ministries — Bible translation, Church planting
- Serve in the non-profit sector — Partnership with local missions and homeless care
- Serve in the medical field — Medical doctor, nursing, physicians assistant, EMT
- Teach at primary through secondary levels — Home, church, and community
- Teach and research at the college level — Languages, history, communication
- Serve and teach on the mission field — missionary aviation, the English language

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

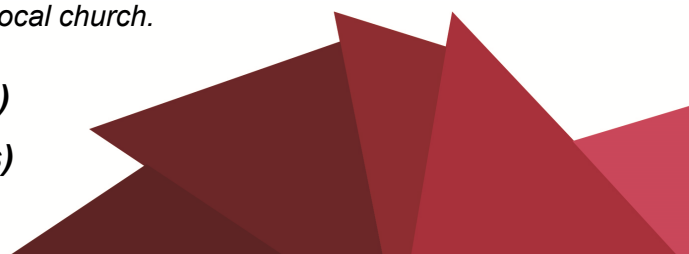
College is wonderful for human growth. It is a unique season in life when a student asks lots of questions and focuses on learning for the sake of developing a vision for life. Christian students are uniquely positioned to develop a Christian vision for life arising out of study of Scripture, theology, 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.

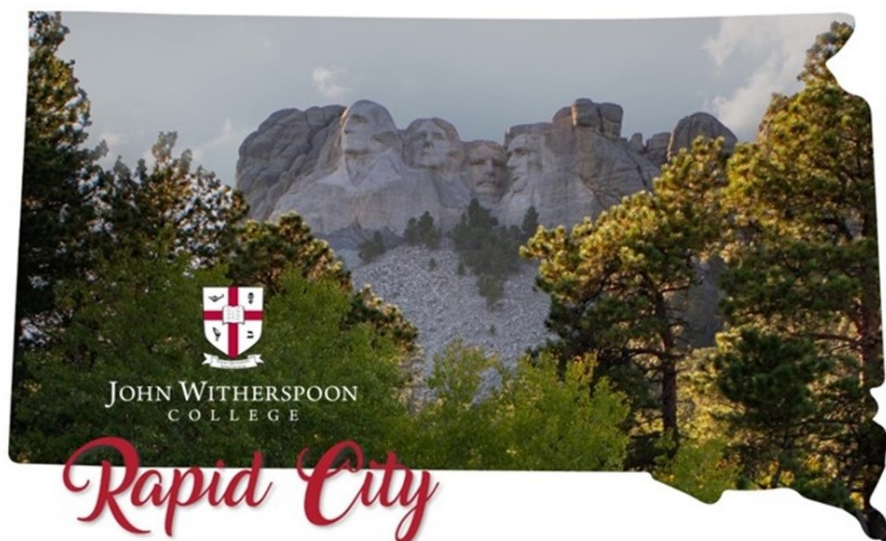
About the Program Director

Justin McGeary is the Director and Professor of Christian Studies. He earned his Master of Divinity from Westminster Seminary, California and his Master of Theology in American Religious History at Union School of Theology in Wales, UK. He worked for five years as Director of Programs in Campus Ministry at Chesterton House, a Christian study center at Cornell University. He has also served for two years as an assistant pastor in the Presbyterian Church of America in Ithaca, NY. Originally, Justin is from Pittsburgh, PA and is 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.

Associate of Arts in Christian Studies (66 credits)

Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies (120 credits)





- ✓ **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