PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE GENERAL CATALOG



2024-2026

143RD ACADEMIC YEAR

MAILING ADDRESS:
ONE ANGWIN AVENUE
ANGWIN, CA 94508-9707
(707) 965-6313
WWW.PUC.EDU

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

Pacific Union College

Is accredited by:*

The WASC Senior College and University Commission 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, California, 94501 (510) 748-9001, www.wscuc.org

Adventist Accrediting Association General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 (301) 680-6000, www.education.gc.adventist.org

Offers programs accredited by:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
(Baccalaureate and Associate Degree Programs)
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Council on Social Work Education (Baccalaureate)
International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education
National Association of Schools of Music (Baccalaureate)
Seventh-day Adventist North American Division Commission
on Accreditation

Is a member of:

American Association of Presidents of
Independent Colleges and Universities
Association of American Colleges and Universities
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges
Association of Independent California Colleges
and Universities
California Council on the Education of Teachers
College Placement Council

Council of Independent Colleges Independent Colleges of Northern California National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

National League for Nursing North American Association of Summer Sessions Western Association of Graduate Schools

Is approved by:

The Attorney General of the United States for nonimmigrant students California Board of Registered Nursing California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Equal Opportunity Commitment

Pacific Union College is committed to equal opportunity for qualified men and women of any handicap, race, color, national or ethnic origin. It extends to them all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to members of the college community. It does not discriminate against qualified persons on the basis of handicap, sex, race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational and admissions policies, financial affairs, employment programs, student life and services, or any other college administered program.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE GENERAL CATALOG © 2024-2025, Pacific Union College.

Printed in USA.

^{*}Accreditation documents may be viewed in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Administration.

Contents

Calendar, 2024-2025	6
The College	
The Mission of the College	
Student Life and Services	
Admission to the College	
Academic Information and Policies	
Degree Requirements and General Education	
Course Information	
General Courses	
Aviation	
Biology	
Business Administration & Economics	69
Chemistry	85
Communication	
Data Science	
Education	
EMS Paramedics option	
English	
Global Health	
History	123
Honors Program	
Kinesiology	133
Mathematics & Physics	
Music	149
Nursing & Health Sciences	157
Psychology & Social Work	183
Theology	191
Visual Arts	201
World Languages & Cultures	215
Financial Information	221
College Personnel	235
Appendix A: Code of Academic Integrity	
Appendix B: Student Rights Under FERPA	249
Appendix C: Title IX	
Appendix D: Discrimination Policy	252
Index	257
Campus Directory & Map	261

Areas of Study

Denotes an Emphasis or Concentration

Baccalaureate Degree Programs

Aviation B.S., p. 53 Biochemistry B.S. p. 86 Biology B.A. or B.S., p. 60, 59 Biomathematics B.S., p. 142 Biotechnology B.S., p. 60

Business Administration B.A. or B.S., p. 72 Business Administration B.B.A., p. 70

- * Accounting
- * Finance
- * Healthcare Management
- * International Business
- * Management
- * Marketing

Chemistry B.A. or B.S., p. 86, 85 Communication B.A. or B.S, p. 89, 90 Conservation Technology B.S., p. 60 Data Science B.S., p. 142 Early Childhood Education B.S., p. 98 Emergency Management B.S., p. 159

* Paramedic Emphasis English B.A., p. 117

- * British and American Literature
- * English Education
- * Writing

Engineering A.S., p. 143 Environmental Studies B.S., p. 61 Exercise Science B.S., p. 134 Film B.A. or B.F.A., p. 204, 202 Fine Art B.A. or B.F.A., p. 202, 203 Global Health B.A or B.S. p. 160 Graphic Design B.A. or B.F.A., p. 203 Health Communication B.S., p. 90 Health Sciences B.S., p. 162 History B.A., p. 123

History, Political Studies, and Ethics B.S., p. 124 Language & Culture Studies B.A., p. 215

- * Arabic
- * French
- * German
- * Italian
- * Portuguese
- * Spanish

Liberal Studies B.S., p. 99

Management Information Systems B.S., p. 73 Management for Medical Professionals B.S., p. 73 Mathamatics, B.A., p. 141

Multimedia Communication, B.S. p. 90

Music B.S., p. 150

- * Composition
- * Pre-Teaching

Nursing B.S.N., p. 167

Physical Education B.S., p. 133

* Teacher Education Psychology B.A. or B.S., p. 183, 184 Religion B.A., p. 192

- * Biblical Studies
- * Health Professions

Social Studies B.S., p. 124

Social Work B.S.W., p. 184

Strategic Communication, B.S. p. 91

Theology B.A., p. 191

Associate Degree Programs

Aviation A.S., p. 54

Early Childhood Education A.S., p. 98 Emergency Services A.S., p. 158

Engineering, A.S., p. 143 Film, A.S., p. 204

- * Production
- * Writing

Graphic Design A.S., p. 204

Health Sciences A.S., p. 162

Music A.S., p. 150

Nursing A.S., p. 162

Personal Training A.S., p. 134

Master Degree Programs

Master of Arts in Teaching, p. 100

- * Multiple Subject
- * Single Subject

Master of Business Administration, p. 74

- * Healthcare Management
- * Management

Master of Education, p. 103

Master of Nursing, p. 169

Credential Programs

California Child Development Permit, p. 94 California Multiple Subject Credential, p. 96 California Single Subject Credential, p. 98 SDA Elementary Teaching Certificate, p. 96 SDA Secondary Teaching Certificate, p. 98

Minors

Art History, p. 205 Aviation, p. 54 Biology, p. 62 Business Administration, p. 73 Chemistry, p. 86 Communication (various emphases), p. 91,92 Data Science, p. 143 Early Childhood Education, p. 98 English, p. 118 Environmental Studies, p. 62

Film, p. 205

Fine Art, p. 205

Graphic Design, p. 206 History, p. 125 Languages (various emphases), p. 216, 217 Mathematics, p. 143 Physical Education, p. 134 Photography, p. 206 Pre-Law, p. 125 Psychology, p. 184 Religious and Theological Studies (various emphases), p. 193, 194 Writing, p. 118

Preprofessional Curricula

Art Therapy Cardiac Electrophysiology Technology Clinical Laboratory Science Communication Sciences & Disorders Dental Hygiene Dentistry Diagnostic Medical Sonography Health Information Administration Medical Radiography & Radiation Sciences Medicine Nuclear Medicine Nutrition & Dietetics Occupational Therapy Optometry

Orthotics & Prosthetics Pathologists' Assistant Pharmacy

Physical Therapist Assistant Physical Therapy

Physician Assistant

Public Health Respiratory Care

Veterinary Medicine

Message From the President

We are a distinctively Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Christian college that includes people from all faith backgrounds. We welcome you to participate in our community of faith and learning, a community that is nestled among giant trees and well-watered gardens, breathtaking mountain ranges, and the nearby cooling waters of the Pacific Ocean. We offer a warm-hearted, supportive community of students, faculty, and staff dedicated to serve the mission set forth by God.

Ellen G. White, a key founding member of our College, provided a ringing endorsement for our chosen location and the type of college that PUC should be: "I believe that as you walk through these grounds, you will come to the same decision – that the Lord designed this place for us." (Walter Utt, A Mountain, A Pickax, A College).

PUC's mission summarizes what we do:

Pacific Union College is a Seventh-day Adventist learning community offering an excellent Christ-centered education that prepares its students for productive lives of useful human service with uncompromising personal integrity.

You will appreciate how we carry out our mission!

Learn with Purpose

Rise in Faith

Serve with Love

To Learn with Purpose involves your academic pursuits, one of the major reasons you would choose to study at PUC. Perhaps



Dr. Ralph Trecartin

you have asked the question, "Why am I here?" The more superficial answer may include: to get a job so you can make money. However, as God promised Solomon: Seek wisdom first, and all these other blessings will be added to you. We offer you an education that is not haphazard, but intentional. We do prepare you for a rewarding career, and our ultimate academic goal is to help prepare you for careers, those you currently seek, and careers that may not yet exist. We also want our students to learn how to be "thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other people's thoughts." (E.G. White, True Education).

Rise in Faith: What differentiates PUC from a typical secular college or university is our em-

phasis on the development of the *whole* person, including your spiritual and faith journey. We want you to Rise in Faith. As part of our faith-based community, we want you to walk with God, right into a joyous eternity.

Serve with Love: To achieve true, lasting joy, we need to learn how to serve others with love. This is where we extend beyond mere inward-looking meditation and self-evaluation. PUC takes the idea seriously that Jesus did not call us to static holiness, but rather to service for others. For you to find true meaning in life, you must find an outward focus that brings joy to others.

We ask you to join our mountain-top community with this mission in mind: Learn with Purpose, Rise in Faith, and Serve with Love.

Calendar, 2024-2025

September 2024

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14

 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21

 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

 29
 30

October 2024

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5

 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12

 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19

 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26

 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

November 2024

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2

 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16

 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23

 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 30

December 2024

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14

 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21

 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

 29
 30
 31

January 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4

 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11

 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18

 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

 26
 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

February 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8

 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22

 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

March 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8

 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22

 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29

 30
 31

April 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12

 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19

 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26

 27
 28
 29
 30
 4
 25
 26

May 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10

 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17

 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24

 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

June 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14

 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21

 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

 29
 30

July 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5

 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12

 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19

 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26

 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

August 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2

 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16

 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23

 2⁴/₃₁
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 30

September 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6

 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13

 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20

 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27

 28
 29
 30
 "
 "
 "
 "

October 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4

 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11

 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18

 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

 26
 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

November 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8

 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22

 23/30
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29

December 2025

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6

 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13

 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20

 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27

 28
 29
 30
 31

January 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10

 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17

 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24

 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

February 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14

 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21

 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

March 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7

 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14

 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21

 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28

 29
 30
 31
 31

April 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4

 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11

 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18

 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

 26
 27
 28
 29
 30

May 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16

 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23

 2⁴/₃₁
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 30

June 2026

 Su
 MoTuWeTh
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6

 7
 8
 9
 10
 11
 12
 13

 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19
 20

 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27

 28
 29
 30

July 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4

 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10
 11

 12
 13
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18

 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

 26
 27
 28
 29
 30
 31

August 2026

 Su
 Mo
 Tu
 We
 Th
 Fr
 Sa

 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8

 9
 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15

 16
 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22

 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29

 30
 31

2024-2025

Fall	Quarter	(2024)
I all	L uai lei	(EVET/

W-Su	Sept	15	New Student Orientation
M		23	Instruction begins
Th		26	Last day to enter or delete courses
M-Sa	Oct	7-12	Week of Prayer
M	Nov	18	Last day to withdraw from courses
F		22	Thanksgiving recess begins (4 p.m.)
Su	Dec	1	Thanksgiving recess ends (10 p.m.)
M-Th		9-12	Final examinations

Winter Quarter (2025)

Su	Jan	5	New Student Orientation
M		6	Instruction begins
Th		9	Last day to enter or delete courses
M		20	Martin Luther King Day; no classes
Tu-Sa		21-25	Week of Prayer
F	Feb	7	Mid-quarter vacation; no classes
M	Mar	3	Last day to withdraw from courses
M-Th		17-20	Final examinations

Spring Quarter (2025)

Su	Mar	30	New Student Orientation
M		31	Instruction begins
Th	Apr	3	Last day to enter or delete courses
M		14	2025-2026 registration begins/Seniors
M-Sa		14-19	Week of Prayer
F-Su		18-19	Alumni Weekend
M		21	2025-26 registration begins/
			All students
M	May	26	Memorial Day; no classes
T		27	Last day to withdraw from courses
M-Th	Jun	9-12	Final examinations
F-Su		13-15	Commencement

2025-2026

Fall Quarter (2025)

W-Su	Sept	17-21	New Student Orientation
M		22	Instruction begins
Th		25	Last day to enter or delete courses
M-Sa	Oct	13-17	Week of Prayer
M	Nov	17	Last day to withdraw from courses
F		21	Thanksgiving recess begins (4 p.m.)
Su			Thanksgiving recess ends (10 p.m.)
M-Th	Dec	8-11	Final examinations

Winter Quarter (2026)

Su	Jan	4	New Student Orientation
M		5	Instruction begins
Th		8	Last day to enter or delete courses
M		19	Martin Luther King Day; no classes
Tu-Sa		19-23	Week of Prayer
F	Feb	6	Mid-quarter vacation; no classes
M	Mar	2	Last day to withdraw from courses
M-Th		16-19	Final examinations

Spring Quarter (2026)

Su	Mar	29	New Student Orientation
	iviai		
M		30	Instruction begins
Th	Apr	2	Last day to enter or delete courses
M		13	2025-2026 registration begins/Seniors
M-Sa		13-17	Week of Prayer
F-Su		17-18	Alumni Weekend
M		20	2025-26 registration begins/
			All students
M	May	25	Memorial Day; no classes
T		26	Last day to withdraw from courses
M-Th	Jun	8-11	Final examinations
F-Su		12-14	Commencement

Using this Catalog

You should become acquainted with this catalog before you begin your studies at Pacific Union College and you should continue to consult it throughout your college career. It is an important resource that describes the policies you must follow and the requirements you must meet in order to achieve your academic goals.

You should use this catalog to find information regarding the academic program that you have selected. Even if you have not yet decided on a major, you should become familiar with the general education program and plan a schedule of courses based on its requirements. Though an academic advisor is provided to offer guidance and advice, you have the ultimate responsibility for meeting the requirements of the program you choose.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this catalog is correct at the time of publication. Altered circumstances and policy changes, however, may affect the accuracy of the information it contains. Consequently, should any regulations or program requirements be in conflict with information in this catalog, current regulations and requirements govern.

The catalog presents only an overview of college policies and regulations. Other existing requirements are equally binding, though not published in this catalog.



History

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a heritage of strong commitment to education. Its members expressed this commitment during the late 1800s and early 1900s by establishing schools and colleges near major population centers across North America. In 1874 the Church founded its first college in Battle Creek, Michigan. A few years later, the rapidly growing California church began looking for a good location for a school in Northern California.

In the vineyards of Healdsburg, fifteen miles north of Santa Rosa, the searchers found an ideal property. Total cost of the imposing brick structure and its furnishings, just off Healdsburg's main street, was thirty gold coins. The new school, to which Pacific Union College traces its roots, opened April 11, 1882, with two teachers and twenty-six students. In 1899, to reflect more accurately the school's purpose and its expanding curriculum, the school's name was changed to Healdsburg College; it became Pacific Union College in 1906.

When the Angwin Resort on Howell Mountain above Napa Valley's St. Helena became available, the College Board sensed the opportunity to secure more adequate space for the growing school and the associated businesses that had been established to provide student employment. They bought the buildings and land for \$60,000. On September 29, 1909, Pacific Union College was dedicated at its present Angwin site. The resort's hotel, bowling alleys, and cottages became dormitories, classrooms, and faculty homes. Students and faculty worked together building other structures, often using lumber harvested from college property.

The Campus

Today the institution occupies a 200-acre main campus surrounded by approximately 1800 acres of college-owned agricultural and forested land. The school's estate includes 60 major structures as well as employee homes, necessary utilities, and other buildings. Fifteen academic buildings house the library, classrooms, laboratories, and offices. West Hall, the oldest, dates from 1917. The newest, Chan Shun Hall, is a modern science complex, in use since 1986. It includes 55,000 square feet of classroom, laboratory, and office space. Two women's residence halls and two men's residence halls that can accommodate approximately 900 students on campus.

The Area

The college is located on Rancho La Jota, whose title is based on an old Mexican land grant. It is surrounded by places of historic significance in the development of the American West: Sonoma, the northernmost Spanish mission in California and the scene of the Bear Flag Revolution; Fort Ross, the southernmost Russian outpost on the continent; Sutter's Fort and the California gold diggings; and the routes of early explorers, traders, and immigrant groups.

Howell Mountain, the school's site, is a junction point for the life zones of north and south, coast and interior, and is recognized as an unusually rich area for studying plant and animal life. About one hundred miles from the campus, at Albion in Mendocino County, the college owns fourteen acres where it operates the Albion Field Station. This primitive region, where the Albion River empties into the Pacific Ocean, presents unusual opportunities to study marine biology and botany.

The San Francisco, Oakland, and Sacramento International Airports are within a two-hour drive from the campus. Bus service from St. Helena to Napa, Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco, and other cities brings the cultural opportunities of large urban communities within reach of the student body.

Institutional Student Learning Outcomes

The outcomes for the Academic Program* and for General Education**, together with the Institutional Student Learning Outcomes below, comprise a Christian liberal arts education at Pacific Union College.

"Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding." — Proverbs 3:13 (NLT)

> Wholeness

PUC graduates will make mature, independent choices integrating the needs of body, mind, and spirit.

> Integrity

PUC graduates will live lives based on the highest ethical standards.

> Service and Stewardship

PUC graduates will practice the Biblical imperatives to serve humanity, resist injustice, and care for the created world.

> Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

PUC graduates will display intercultural competence and understanding as informed members of a dynamic global church and world community.

> Our Adventist Heritage

PUC graduates will understand and value the major tenets of Seventh-day Adventist Christian thought, including the blessing and significance of the Sabbath.

> Maintaining Lifelong Learning

PUC graduates will continue to practice the intellectual skills, curiosity, and creativity necessary to live lives of useful human service, both personally and professionally.

- * The Academic Program Student Learning Outcomes can be found online at puc.edu/academics/degrees-programs.
- ** The General Education Student Learning Outcomes can be found in the section entitled "General Education" in this catalog.



The Mission of the College

Pacific Union College is a Christian liberal arts college sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Its mission is to prepare its students for fellowship with God and service to Him through service to humanity. To achieve its mission, the college offers an excellent education, informed by a distinctive Seventh-day Adventist Christian point of view, to all who appreciate the school's unique values and its integration of faith and learning. Paying special attention to Christianity's role in civilization, the college considers liberal

Pacific Union College is a Seventhday Adventist learning community offering an excellent Christcentered education that prepares its students for productive lives of useful human service and uncompromising personal integrity.

arts study with a Christian perspective to be uniquely valuable not only for its own sake, but also as a basis for career training and professional life.

Christian Liberal Education

Liberal arts education with a Christian perspective prepares one to live in responsible human freedom. Such study promotes a balanced self-development. It frees one from the confines of personal experience and immediate interests and encourages entering with understanding into the experience of others. It advocates at once a tolerance of differing views, the respect those views deserve, and vigorous engagement with them. It fosters those lifelong habits of curiosity and serious inquiry that sustain the growth of the human spirit. It develops creative self-expression, including the ability to speak and write articulately. It provides breadth and flexibility for coping and adapting in a changing world.

The Major

As an essential part of their liberal arts education, students choose majors for specialized study in harmony with their personal interests and as preparation for successful entry into their chosen careers or into graduate study. The college regularly reviews all programs to maintain their quality and to ensure that they respond to current student demand and to the changing needs of the Church and the larger community.

General Education Core

The structured general-education core gives scope of knowledge. The liberal arts emphasis in both the major and the general-education core promotes quality of understanding. The graduate should therefore have

a growing knowledge and an enlightened appreciation of the major areas and modes of learning. A personally appropriated Christian view of the origin and purpose of human life should give this knowledge coherence for each student.

Independent, Critical Thinking

Beyond giving information, the disciplines of the liberal arts create the environment for students to develop their abilities to think analytically, critically, and independently. Students are challenged to find original solutions for a variety of problems. Such study teaches not only the different modes of inquiry and their valid uses, but also their limitations.

Faith and Learning

In a church-related college, tensions may sometimes occur between the claims of a religious belief system and those of academic pursuits. But because faith without thought is not an acceptable alternative to thought without faith, such unresolved tensions should never force the sacrifice of one to protect the other. Ideally, they should energize creative study of the valid claims of both faith and learning and of their interrelationships. A foundation of knowledge and understanding strengthens faith.

The Mission of the College

Because the challenge of resolving ambiguities and uncertainties often produces the most valuable new insights, such study should both preserve intellectual honesty and enhance a faith worth holding. Knowing truth does indeed bring freedom.

Responsible Freedom

Students are urged through their total college experience to evaluate their own convictions and to infuse them with enduring cultural values and essential Christian principles. They are invited to recognize that changing times require a fresh statement of this heritage, but not its compromise. They are challenged to blend these timeless values and principles in a distinctive lifestyle that includes responding helpfully to human need, wherever encountered, in a natural expression of their own Christian calling. As Jesus showed, the finest incarnation of responsible freedom is in compassionate human service.

The Mission Realized

The mission of the college is therefore partly realized when its students leave the campus well prepared for advanced study and for selfless service to humanity in productive careers marked by uncompromising personal integrity. The mission is more perfectly realized when these same students are set on their way free to approach their potential as persons restored in the image of God and as agents of His grace in the world.