

2015-2016 Student Right-to-Know Information

Retention Rate for First-time Degree-seeking Undergraduates

	2012	2013	2014	2015	4-Year Average
first-to-second-year retention rate	68%	68%	69%	55%	65%

6-Year Graduation Rates for First-time, Full-time Cohort

Gender	2006	2007	2008	2009
Men	46%	24%	58%	24%
Women	56%	66%	67%	49%
Pell				
		2007	2008	2009
Pell Grant Recipient		56%	50%	40%
Non-Pell Grant Recipient		47%	65%	37%
Race/Ethnicity				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Nonresident Alien	—	—	—	100%
Hispanic/Latino	33%	0%	50%	50%
American Indian or Alaska Native	100%	0%	100%	—
Asian	—	100%	100%	—
Black or African American	—	0%	50%	50%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island	—	—	—	—
White	53%	49%	61%	35%
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Race or ethnicity unknown	—	—	—	—
Overall Rate	51%	47%	61%	38%
4-Year Average = 49%				

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Associate of Arts Degree

An associate degree is a two-year degree designed for students who desire to complete two years of university study in the context of a Christian worldview. An associate degree consists of a required Core: Christian liberal arts courses and Bible courses that are foundational to a Christian education. Many of these courses are courses all university students must take; however, at ACU they are taught from a distinctly Christian perspective. In addition, the associate degree provides students with ample opportunity to take elective courses allowing for greater flexibility and more choices for students. Therefore, an associate degree is ideal preparation for a bachelor's degree, especially a Christian liberal arts degree. In addition to this, an associate degree can prepare students for a variety of employment opportunities by providing the requisite skills to communicate persuasively in both written and oral contexts and to think critically in the professional workplace.

Program Objectives

The student who completes the Associate of Arts Degree will be able to:

- describe and explain basic elements of the Christian faith
- apply a Christian worldview to their lives
- communicate persuasively in both written and oral contexts
- demonstrate critical thinking skills

Bachelor Degrees

Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees at Arizona Christian University are offered in eight (8) departments. There are three main aspects of academic study required for a student to graduate from Arizona Christian University (ACU) with a Bachelor degree. First, students are required to take general education courses. At ACU, general education courses constitute our CORE: Christian liberal arts curriculum. Next, ACU avows that biblical studies are foundational to any program of study. Therefore, the biblical studies culminate in a Bible minor for every student. Finally, all students fulfill courses within a program major. This aspect of academic study, the program major, provides essential knowledge and the requisite skills necessary to succeed in a chosen career or in preparation for graduate studies. In most cases, students will also have the opportunity to take additional classes. These additional or elective courses afford students with opportunities to explore different fields of study, obtain dual degrees, receive multiple minors, and take courses within a pre-professional track (e.g., pre-law, pre-med). The path to graduate will be unique for each student, but an ACU education will contain aspects of all of the following.

Summary of Departments and Programs

Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

- Behavioral Health
- Family Studies
- Psychology

Department of Biblical Studies

- Biblical Studies
- Christian Ministries

Department of Business

- Business Administration

Department of Communication and English

- Communication

Department of Education

- Elementary
- Secondary
- Music

Department of Government, History and Philosophy

- Political Science

Department of Music

- Music

Department of Science and Math

- Biology

Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

The department of behavioral and social sciences offers three majors: behavioral health, family studies and psychology. These are programs that allow students to better understand what constitutes psychological, emotional, and behavioral well-being for both individuals and families. Their coursework also gives them skills to intervene and facilitate behavioral health and family functioning in a variety of ways. The behavioral and social sciences majors are taught from a distinctly biblical perspective and include 18 credits of Bible.

Our curriculum will challenge you academically, but more importantly, it will stretch you spiritually. At Arizona Christian University, we prepare you to work in the mental health field as a professional with utmost Christian character. Advanced degrees may be required for clinical positions. For example, in the state of Arizona, licensure as a professional counselor, social worker, marriage and family therapist, or psychologist all require masters or doctoral degrees.

Behavioral Health

The behavioral health-counseling emphasis major is a program of study within the department of behavioral and social sciences. This program has adopted the five (5) major learning objectives recommended by the American Psychological Association (August, 2013). The sixth objective supports the mission of Arizona Christian University to train students with a Christian worldview as students consistently practice integration of psychology and Christianity.

Mission Statement: Arizona Christian University's behavioral health programs prepare students to assist individuals through service and research by framing relevant knowledge and skills with a biblical worldview.

Vision Statement: The vision of ACU's Behavioral Health programs is to equip graduates for continuing studies in various fields and to function as Christ-like agents of change in the lives of individuals.

What can I do with a major in Behavioral Health?

A large number of our graduates have gone on to achieve master's degrees in counseling or social work, or have extended their studies by pursuing advanced psychology degrees. Their ACU Behavioral Health degree has given them good preparation for advanced training. In addition to preparing students for graduate studies, the Behavioral Health-Counseling Emphasis program is constructed to qualify graduates to work in a variety of mental health organizations such as residential treatment programs, social service agencies, and inpatient psychiatric units. They work as intake counselors, case managers, behavioral health technicians, etc.

Behavioral Health Program Objectives

- Students will describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology and counseling; develop knowledge of content domains, and describe applications of counseling theories.
- Students will use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena, demonstrate psychology information literacy, interpret design, and conduct basic psychological research.
- Students will apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice; apply psychology-based principles to ethical living, counseling practices and community welfare, privileging scientific inquiry over popular and political agendas.
- Students will demonstrate effective writing and presentation skills for different purposes and demonstrate an understanding of influences of cultural differences on communication.
- Students will apply psychological content and skills to career goals, exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation, and refine project-management skills.

- Students will evaluate psychological theories and processes in light of a biblical worldview.

Family Studies

The Family Studies Major is a program of study within the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. In addition to the program-specific outcomes and assessments listed below, students in the Family Studies program are assessed for communication skills using the Behavioral and Social Sciences APA Style rubric. Students graduating from ACU with a degree in Family Studies will receive provisional certification as family life educators (CFLE) from the National Council on Family Relations.

Mission Statement: Arizona Christian University's Family Studies program prepares students to assist families through service and research by framing relevant knowledge and skills with a biblical worldview.

Vision Statement: The vision of ACU's Family Studies Major program is to graduate superior evaluators of family studies research and theory, Christ-like practitioners, and agents of change in the lives of families.

What can I do with a major in Family Studies?

Students who select the Family Studies major can immediately receive provisional certification as Family Life Educators.* Family Life Educators provide support and information to help families establish and enrich their relationships and teach the skills necessary to negotiate typical family transitions. Family Life Educators work in a variety of settings including human services, community education and county extension, parenting education, healthcare, caregiver support and long-term care programs, churches, the military, premarital and marriage education programs, family law, mediation, adoption support, colleges and universities, curriculum development, administration, grant-writing and public policy. Many of our family studies students have gone on to pursue advanced degrees in marriage and family therapy.

Family Studies Program Objectives

- Students will be able to identify and evaluate psychological, spiritual, physical, and social contributors to optimal human development.
- Using research and systemic theories, students will be able to analyze processes of formation of healthy relationships and evaluate families and their functioning.
- Students will be able to design, implement and evaluate family life education programs.
- Students will explore societal issues that impact families including religious, economic, political and cultural issues while integrating a biblical worldview.
- Students will examine and experience career opportunities to prepare them for future employment.

**The designation "Certified Family Life Educator" is granted by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). The Behavioral Studies Program at Arizona Christian University is the only school in the state of Arizona that has been recognized by NCFR as providing appropriate training for this certification. Upon graduation, students who have completed these requirements will automatically be granted provisional certification when they apply. They will be fully certified upon completion of required supervised experience.*

Psychology

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology is a program of study within the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The Psychology program has adopted the five (5) major learning objectives recommended by the American Psychological Association (August, 2013). The sixth objective supports the mission of Arizona Christian University to train students with a Christian worldview as students consistently practice integration of Psychology and Christianity.

Mission Statement: Arizona Christian University's Psychology program prepares students as psychological research consumers and practitioners within a distinctive biblical worldview.

Vision Statement: The vision of ACU's Psychology program is to equip graduates for continuing studies in various fields, and as researchers dedicated to seeking, articulating, and disseminating truth.

What can I do with a major in Psychology?

An undergraduate psychology degree prepares students for jobs in the field of psychology such as research assistant, mental or behavioral health technician, behavior analyst, child development specialist, caseworker, and career counselor. Additionally, according to the American Psychological Association, a degree in psychology can prepare graduates to be competitive in other job markets, such as human services, sales and marketing, university admissions, law enforcement, and a variety of other fields requiring the skills and knowledge obtained through completing a psychology degree. The psychology program at ACU also places a strong emphasis on preparing students for graduate school with a broad exposure to the latest trends in the field and through practical research experience.

Note: Students who wish to become licensed practitioners, or research psychologists, will require education beyond the baccalaureate degree.

Psychology Program Objectives

- Students will describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, develop knowledge of content domains, and describe applications of psychology.
- Students will use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena, demonstrate psychology information literacy interpret design and conduct basic psychological research.
- Students will apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice; apply psychology-based principles to ethical living, and community welfare, privileging scientific inquiry over popular and political inquiries.
- Students will demonstrate effective writing and presentation skills for different purposes and demonstrate an understanding of influences of cultural differences on communication.
- Students will apply psychological content and skills to career goals, exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation, and refine project-management skills.
- Students will evaluate psychological theories and processes in light of a biblical worldview.

Department of Biblical Studies

The Department of Biblical Studies functions to support the CORE: Christian Liberal Arts program. In addition to this the department of biblical studies houses both a biblical studies major as well as a Christian ministries major. To be accepted as a Bible major the student must have an overall GPA of 2.5 and a 3.0 GPA in Bible Courses. All faculty members are evangelical Christians but realize that intellectual honesty demands exposing the students to differing points of view in order to prepare them for contemporary life.

Mission Statement: The Biblical Studies Department fulfills its vision through a three-fold mission: knowledge, character, and action.

Vision statement: The Biblical Studies Department at ACU exists to transform culture with truth by raising up the next generation of Christian leaders and Bible teachers.

What can I do with a major in Biblical Studies?

The study of the Bible requires the student to deal with complex and sometimes contentious issues that can function as excellent preparation for many professions as well as vocational ministry. According to surveys of our graduates, while some students obtain additional degrees and pursue careers in ministry, many others have gone to law school, enrolled in other graduate programs, and have pursued varied professional occupations. Clearly, this illustrates that a major in Biblical Studies prepares students for many diverse careers.

Biblical Studies Program Objectives

- Knowledge: demonstrate a working knowledge of the historical, literary, and theological content of the Bible so that the student can competently articulate a biblical worldview.
- Character: learn to encounter God through the Scriptures so that the student's soul is shaped by its teaching.
- Action: empower students not only with the ability to know and be changed by the Scriptures but to bring them to bear in the church and in the world to teach and change others.

Admittance to the Biblical Studies Degree Program

In order to become a candidate for the Biblical Studies degree, students must satisfy the following requirements. Students may apply during the semester they complete the requirements and reach a total of at least 45 semester credits.

1. Minimum overall GPA of 2.5.
2. Completion of ENG 101 and ENG 102 with a grade of "C" or higher (A=4.0) at ACU or an approved regionally-accredited institution of higher learning.
3. Minimum GPA of 3.0 in Bible Classes.

Students must submit the completed application to the department chair before 5:00 p.m. on the third Friday of the semester prior to the semester in which the student wishes to be admitted to this major. Students will be notified about the outcome of their application by email during the fifth week of the semester in which they apply. Students are encouraged to contact their faculty advisor for assistance. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the required paperwork.

Admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the Biblical Studies Program.

Christian Ministries

The Christian Ministries major is designed for students who desire to minister in the local church or in church-related ministries. The Christian Ministries major core includes the philosophical and theological bases of ministry and focuses also on the practical aspects of putting theory into practice in the real world.

In addition to the core courses, students in the Christian Ministries major may choose an eighteen to twenty-one credit minor in business, behavioral studies, music, or youth ministry. A Christian Ministries major without a minor may take a variety of professional courses to fulfill the required program of study.

What can I do with a major in Christian Ministries?

As a Christian Ministries major, students are trained in every dimension of life academically, socially, and doctrinally. But the overriding influence of an Arizona Christian University education is the person of Christ and your service to Him. Our Christian Ministries graduates currently serve in virtually every facet of ministry as youth pastors, associate pastors, musicians, and missionaries. Others serve in the secular world as business professionals, counselors, and music/worship leaders.

Christian Ministries Major Objectives:

The Christian Ministries major is designed for those who desire to minister in the church or in other related ministries. The core of the Christian Ministries major includes:

- Emphasis on being a passionate sold-out follower of Christ
- Understanding the history, philosophy, and theology of ministry
- Experiencing the practical aspects of ministry

Department of Business Administration

The Business Administration major at Arizona Christian University is designed for individuals who want to serve companies and non-profit organizations in leadership roles. Coursework in the program is designed to develop business skills such as planning, leadership, marketing, and interpreting financial results. The program is taught through the framework of a Christian worldview, designed to help students integrate their faith with their personal and professional lives.

Mission Statement: To fervently pursue biblically integrated academic excellence in preparing principled qualified leaders, to engage in, and advance the work of God, in the church, business and society throughout the world.

Vision Statement: Arizona Christian University's Department of Business Administration aspires to be recognized as a

premier Christian business administration program in the nation; developing Biblically grounded, entrepreneurial spirited, competent graduates, equipped for a lifetime of productive contribution to their families, the church, business community and society.

What can I do with a major in Business Administration?

Demand for business administration graduates remains strong, and overall salaries are high. With a degree in business administration, graduates can pursue careers in:

- human resource management
- sales and marketing
- retail management
- financial planning
- investment advisory and stock brokerage
- banking
- management and administration of non-profit agencies
- government service
- and many other areas

Personal traits needed for success in a business career include quantitative skills, human relations skills, analytical and problem-solving skills, and a large dose of good judgment and common sense.

Business Administration Program Objectives

- **Ethics:** Our graduating students should have the ability to be ethical decision makers
- **Global/Multicultural Perspective:** Our graduating students should have a global perspective.
- **Communication:** Our graduating students should be effective communicators both in writing and in speaking.
- **Critical-Thinking:** Our graduating students should be critical thinkers who are able to draw meaning from information.
- **Managerial:** Our graduating students will be prepared managers; who have an understanding of the economic, political, regulatory, legal, technological, and social contexts of organizations in a global society.
- **Leadership:** Our graduating students should have demonstrated their understanding of leadership skills and leader characteristics. They should also think through dilemmas facing leaders as depicted in classroom examples or case studies. They should demonstrate leadership behavior in team assignments

Department of Communication and English

The Department of Communication and English is home to the Communication major as well as multiple courses from the university's CORE curriculum such as English Composition, Public Speaking, and Literature.

Communication Major

Arizona Christian University's Bachelor of Science in Communication degree offers students the opportunity to explore and understand today's mediated world and how the Christian faith can inform one's response to it. The program of study is comprised of 39 academic credits (24 credits in a common core plus 15 credits in one of three individual areas of study, or emphases: Broadcasting, Journalism, or Film).

In the core, students learn the social function of modern media and how to faithfully use contemporary communication technologies. Students also learn human communication theories and how to grow in community. In the individual emphases, students get practical training in broadcasting, journalism, or filmmaking while also learning how their chosen medium can be used to craft culturally redemptive and transformative messages. All students are required to complete an internship related to their personal interests to deepen their learning experience.

The Communication major curriculum advances several key principles: human communication is most effective when faithfully grounded in Christian principles of stewardship, service, and community; every communicator must understand the complex dynamics of the communication process and apply theoretical principles to improve one's own

communication practice; communication technologies carry particularly potent power to influence and shape social norms and values; an educated comprehension of communication involves rigorous academic study; a liberal arts education in media does not limit student learning to technical skills; communication majors must understand the professional standards of their industries; and modern media can be used for redemptive purposes.

Mission Statement: The mission of Arizona Christian University's Communication program is to teach students to "Read, Think, Create." In the program, students *read* diverse opinions about media and communication; they *think* and reflect upon what they have read; and they respond to these ideas *creatively*, either through *speaking* and making public presentations, *writing* formal essays or blog entries, or *producing* multi-media projects, such as short films.

Vision Statement: The vision of Arizona Christian University's Communication major is to train students to be faithful stewards of communication as well as wise and discerning media consumers and creators, growing in technological literacy and effectively engaging diverse audiences in redemptive messages.

What can I do with a major in Communication?

Students graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication will be equipped to pursue diverse career areas such as journalism, public relations, film producing, advertising, or broadcasting. Graduates can work as news reporters, screenwriters, radio talk show hosts, play-by-play announcers, news anchors, film editors, directors, copywriters, spokespersons, campaign consultants, event planners, film reviewers or writers. The program also prepares the student for potential graduate-level work in communication study.

Communication Program Principles and Objectives

At the conclusion of the Communication major program, students will be able to:

- Excel at public communication, delivering professional presentations, while integrating advanced use of technology.
- Demonstrate expertise and versatility with communication technology, being able to communicate creatively using multi-media tools, including non-linear audio and video software.
- Articulate the tenets of multiple communication theories and theorists and explain their utility for communication.
- Apply ethical approaches and reasoning skills to help foster mature decision making.
- Identify and apply techniques of persuasion.
- Demonstrate excellence in content creation in their chosen field.

Department of Education

The field of education is the only profession that trains those who will serve in all other professions. The education major at Arizona Christian University is designed with this idea in mind. God's Word and His Truths are foundational in all course work and the Arizona Professional Teaching Standards are addressed throughout the program of study. ACU Education graduates leave the institution ready to teach in their area of specialty and are in great demand locally and abroad.

Arizona Christian University's Education Program trains students in the art and science of teaching. They are given the information and training necessary to develop into skillful educators. Each education student is provided with foundational courses upon which the educational process is developed. The expectation is that students will develop into practicing teachers who are able to fully develop the students they will teach in the future.

The Education Program is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, endorsed by the State of Arizona Department of Education, and a member school of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Mission statement: The mission of the Education department at Arizona Christian University is to equip students to become highly qualified, principled Christian educators who make a positive difference in public, private, charter, missionary, and home schools by framing their teaching through a biblical worldview.

Vision statement: The vision of the Education department at Arizona Christian University is to equip highly competent, Christian educators to utilize the gifts they have been given to impact the world for Christ through the education of students, contributions to the field, and as lifelong learners who strive for excellence.

What can I do with a Major in Education?

Graduates with a degree in Elementary, Secondary Education, or Music Education who complete all other requirements for an Arizona Teaching Certificate can expect to find employment in the State in any of a number of educational environments. The State offers opportunities for graduates to teach in a traditional public, charter, or private school. Additionally, graduates receive an ACSI teaching certificate that qualifies them to teach in Christian schools in the U. S. and around the world. School systems regularly inquire about the availability of ACU graduates for immediate employment upon graduation from the program. Graduates with a degree in music education compete for careers teaching music in elementary and secondary schools.

Career/job opportunities:

A degree in Elementary, Secondary Education, or Music Education is a practical degree. Graduates can get a job as a teacher in a charter or a private school after graduation and in a public school after completing state requirements. Graduates are also well prepared to use their education on the mission field and many have chosen to do so either full-time or during summers. The Bible minor combined with the degree in education also prepares graduates for the many education positions within church, parachurch, and nonprofit organizations. Additionally, the ACU Elementary or Secondary Education degree provides good preparation for advanced training to obtain in master's degrees in leadership, curriculum, administration, special education, or in their content area.

Education Department Objectives:

- Recognize how history, trends, diversity, and philosophies of education have evolved and formulate a personal, Christian philosophy of education.
- Create developmentally appropriate, engaging lessons to teach content area to diverse students based on Arizona State Standards and InTASC standards.
- Assess learning resulting from instruction and develop a plan for ongoing monitoring and growth.
- Based on learned essential elements of instruction, the students will evaluate an outside classroom to determine overall instructional effectiveness.
- Demonstrate professional development including self-assessment and the ability to collaborate effectively with professional colleagues, parents, and community leaders.

Admittance to the Education Degree Program

In order to become a candidate for the Education degree, students must satisfy the following requirements. Students may apply during the semester they complete the requirements and reach a total of at least 45 semester credits.

1. Minimum overall GPA of 2.5
2. GPA of 3.0 in education (EDU) courses. **This is also a requirement for Student Teaching. No grade below a C in the student's professional education courses will be accepted. Any course below a C must be retaken and a grade of C or higher must be earned.*
3. Completion of ENG 101 and ENG 102 with a grade of "C" or higher (A = 4.0) at ACU or an approved regionally-accredited institution of higher learning.
4. Identity Verified Prints (IVP) Clearance Card Application must be submitted prior to enrollment in classes with field experiences. Once the information is submitted it can take months for the card to arrive.
5. Three (3) letters of recommendation with dispositions (forms can be found online)
6. Successful completion of an Interview.
7. Passage of Arizona Educator Content Area Exam (secondary education certification majors).

Admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the Education Program.

Department of Government, History, and Philosophy

The Department of Government, History, and Philosophy functions to support the CORE: Christian Liberal Arts. The Department of Government, History, and Philosophy also houses five academic disciplines: political science, criminal justice, history, philosophy, and foreign languages. The department offers one major, a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. Two additional emphases within the major are available to students wishing to focus specifically in the areas of Criminal Justice or Health Care Policy. All courses in the department are taught from a distinctly biblical perspective and strategically integrate the biblical worldview.

Political Science Major

Arizona Christian University's Political Science degree, one of the university's newest degrees established in 2013, strategically equips students for significant Christian influence through the study of the political ideas and governmental institutions that powerfully shape their world, and through an understanding of the importance of faith in the public square. The major emphasizes four distinctive: a biblical worldview understanding of government and politics; an appreciation for the American political system and the U.S. Constitution; understanding the intersection of faith and politics; and strategic, practical equipping for significant Christian influence

Mission Statement: Students in the ACU Political Science major consider politics from two perspectives: First, the political science core grounds students in the history of faith and politics, as well as the ideas, values, and institutions of the American system of government. Second, courses provide opportunities for students to explore the intersection of politics and faith in the real world. By integrating faith and scholarship, political science graduates will translate their passion for politics into significant Christian influence in their communities, their nation, and the world.

Vision Statement: Arizona Christian University's Bachelor's Degree in Political Science seeks to be a nationally recognized political science program that prepares and positions students for significant Christian influence in government and politics, by challenging students to integrate the biblical worldview with a deep understanding of government and politics, so that they can thoughtfully and strategically address the challenges and opportunities of the world in which they live.

What can I do with a major in Political Science?

The ACU Political Science major strategically equips students for significant Christian influence through effective citizenship, public-minded service, and a variety of careers in law, government, public policy, and related areas. The rigor of the Political Science curriculum also prepares students for further academic pursuits, such as law school and other graduate programs. The degree prepares students for careers in areas such as government, law, politics, public service, public administration, organizational leadership, non-profit administration, policy research and analysis, issue advocacy, education and others.

The Political Science Major is based on eight key principles:

- A biblical worldview provides the foundation for a person of faith to understand, engage in, and significantly influence the world of politics.
- Different worldviews have significant consequences for the formation, establishment, and operation of political institutions.
- Political institutions powerfully shape and affect the quality of our individual lives, as well as that of our families, our communities, our nation and the world.
- Civic participation, being informed about government and politics, and public-minded service are fundamental obligations for a person of faith in a free society.
- A thorough understanding of the history of faith and politics is essential to addressing current political problems from a faith perspective, and in determining the most effective means of political engagement and influence.
- An appreciation of American exceptionalism, i.e., the unique political history, ideas, values, and institutions of the American system of government and the U.S. Constitution, is essential to civic participation, engagement, and influence.
- An educated comprehension of political science involves rigorous academic study.

Political Science program objectives

ACU Political Science students will:

1. Develop, formalize, and integrate the biblical worldview in the study of political science.

2. Articulate multiple perspectives on how faith and politics intersect from a historical perspective and make application to modern politics.
3. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the uniqueness of the American system of government and the U.S. Constitution, and incorporate that foundational understanding in scholarship, public policy analysis, political communication, civic participation, and other avenues of political engagement and influence.
4. Apply core knowledge to contemporary political issues and debates.
5. Integrate an understanding of the role of media and new technology in American politics, specifically in the electoral process, political communication, the political process, and other areas of government.
6. Select important questions for study, accurately assess and persuasively apply relevant evidence, and construct compelling Scriptural and public arguments in support of a particular position both in written and oral form.
7. Identify the theoretical traditions, debates, and approaches used in the study of political science.
8. Utilize effectively a variety of sources, including primary documents, theoretical works, and relevant secondary scholarship to produce a thorough bibliography of quality resources related to a political science topic of their interest.

Political Science Major / Emphasis in Criminal Justice

Students who are interested in criminal justice studies can choose to pursue a Political Science major with an emphasis in Criminal Justice. In addition to a core of 24 credits of political science courses, students must complete an additional 15 credits of criminal justice courses to complete requirements for Bachelor's degree in Political Science with an Emphasis in Criminal Justice (pending approval of the CRJ courses). The Criminal Justice emphasis provides the fundamentals of the criminal justice system, American juvenile justice, crime, and criminal behavior and policing. In ACU's Christian context, the curriculum integrates faith and the biblical worldview with the criminal justice coursework, exploring critical issues of free will, justice, redemption and the nature of man.

What can I do with a major in Political Science with an emphasis in Criminal Justice?

The required 15-credits of criminal justice courses provide a standard core of criminal justice courses for students who are interested in pursuing a career or further studies in criminal Justice, law enforcement, and other related areas.

Students who complete the 15 credits in Criminal Justice will fulfill the following program objectives:

1. Understand how laws are created, the history of law enforcement, the court system, and the changing philosophies of the American correctional system.
2. Identify and describe the major components of the criminal justice process.
3. Describe governmental structure and its relationship to the criminal justice system.
4. Identify and describe the basic provisions of Amendments I, II, IV, V, VI, VIII, and XIV of the U.S. Constitution.
5. Describe the interrelationships and missions of the federal (including the Department of Homeland Security), state, and local law enforcement systems.
6. Use critical thinking, creative and logical analysis, strategies, techniques, and the application of theory to solve complex problems related to police officer responsibilities.
7. Discuss the ideals of justice and apply standards of ethical behavior to situations common to the profession of criminal justice.

Political Science Major / Emphasis in Healthcare Policy

Students who are interested in careers in healthcare policy research, analysis and development, can choose to pursue a Political Science major with an emphasis in Healthcare Policy. This emphasis combines a solid understanding of the mechanics of government and public policy development, with a science and healthcare background. In addition to a core of 24 credits of political science courses, students must complete a minimum of 16 additional credits in the areas of science and healthcare policy, as indicated on the major check sheet.

What can I do with a major in Political Science with an Emphasis in Healthcare Policy?

This interdisciplinary major prepares students for careers in healthcare policy, public policy analysis or development, or further study of healthcare policy and administration at the graduate level.

In ACU's Christian context, the curriculum integrates faith and the biblical worldview with the healthcare policy coursework, exploring critical issues of life, equity and personal responsibility, and the nature of man. Students who complete the minimum 16 credits in science and healthcare policy will fulfill the following program objectives:

1. Examine the organization and systems framework of health services in the United States, from both a policy and scientific perspective.
2. Analyze problems and current issues related to health and health care in the United States and derive potential solutions.
3. Explain how individuals, interest groups and legislative members interact to establish government health policy and regulation.

Department of Music

"Trained and skilled in music for the Lord," 1 Chronicles 25:7

The Arizona Christian University Music Department, grounded in biblical principles and rooted in classical training, provides students high quality musical education in preparation for professional careers in music. The Music Department offers a Bachelor of Science Music, and three Bachelor of Science degrees in Music with an Emphasis. The Emphases choices are Modern Worship, Music Ministry, and Vocal Performance. All music majors take the same core music courses in Music Theory, Sight Singing, Music History, Applied Lessons, and Class Piano. Core music content is then applied to specialized coursework in emphases areas. Performance requirements vary for each degree, with the Music Department offering choral/vocal, guitar, instrumental, praise band and musical theatre performance opportunities. Music faculty brings extensive experience to their respective disciplines. Church organizations and school systems regularly inquire about the availability of ACU music graduates and future graduates for employment opportunities.

Mission Statement: To provide high quality biblically integrated music education in preparation for careers in Modern Worship, Music Ministry, and Vocal Performance.

Vision Statement: The Arizona Christian University Music Department aspires to become a rigorous academic department developing Christ-centered musicians equipped to perform, teach and minister in professional and ministerial settings.

What can I do with a Major in Music?

Students graduating with an ACU Music Degree will be prepared for career choices in worship leading, worship technology; public, private and Christian education; as performers in opera, musical theatre, jazz, contemporary bands and Christian bands; and to pursue graduate degrees.

The Bachelor of Science in Music with Emphasis in Modern Worship prepares students to lead worship, with focused training in leading modern worship bands. Many of the graduates from this program work in the local church prior to graduation and have a high employment rate after graduation.

The Bachelor of Science in Music with Emphasis in Ministry prepares students for a career in church music leadership, where worship may include choral and/or instrumental ensembles. With study in conducting a part of the program, students are also prepared for an entry-level conducting experience in charter or Christian schools or performance organizations.

The Bachelor of Science in Music with Emphasis in Vocal Performance prepares individuals as professional vocalists, as private studio teachers, and for entrance into graduate music programs. Recent graduates have been accepted into professional opera organizations, as members of summer opera companies, as directors and performers in musical theatre programs, and at graduate schools. Enrolled students have also been signed by professional artist management and winners of vocal competitions.

The Bachelor of Science in Music, without an Emphasis, is a professionally rounded degree specifically designed to prepare for graduate school. Career opportunities include a Post-Baccalaureate Teaching Certification, and studies in Music Therapy, Ethnomusicology, Music History, Music Theory, Conducting, or a similar field.

Music Program Objectives

- Students will demonstrate musicianship mastery in:
 - Theory (reading, singing, analyzing, composing)

- History (events and style characteristics by time period)
- Literature (genre, composer and representative works)
- Students will exhibit career specific music technology skills to write music, produce live or recorded music, and share music.
- Students will present excellent solo and ensemble performances that are self-committed audience-communicative, and collaborative. Excellence applies to all performance arenas in music.
- Students will express a biblically oriented philosophy of music and its application in chosen participation areas of church, ministry and education.
- Students will apply training to determine career goals, take steps into selected field, and establish a life-long learning plan.

Admission: Audition

All incoming and transfer undergraduate music major and minor students must perform an audition for the music faculty and take the Music Literacy Exam. Please note that admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the Music Program.

- Students who complete a successful performance audition will be accepted into the Music Program and immediately begin a course of music study in the desired major.
- Students who complete an audition that show promise but are not yet acceptable may be given a Provisional Status and will be encouraged to attend Arizona Christian University to start a course of study in music in preparation for a re-audition. Re-audition will occur at the second semester Applied Lesson Jury. Students who complete an acceptable re-audition will be accepted into the Music Program and continue their studies. Students who do not successfully re-audition will be encouraged to transfer to the Music Minor.

Students are strongly encouraged to prepare well for the audition. Audition requirements are explained on the ACU Music webpage.

Department of Science and Math

Biology at Arizona Christian University

The Department of Science and Math functions to support the CORE: Christian Liberal Arts as well as the biology program major. A major in biology spans the disciplines of Biology, Zoology, and Botany. The department seeks to produce in students the ability to carefully analyze any area of knowledge that intersects these disciplines. The department strives to instill in students the desire to be professionally competent, to develop lifelong patterns of intellectual growth and to be uncompromising in their faith. This is accomplished by a consideration of historically tested facts and current perspectives in the various scientific disciplines in addition to the Word of God. The internally consistent outcome of these studies form a basis for the accurate evaluation of science past, present and yet future. To be accepted as biology major the student must have an overall GPA of 3.0. All faculty members are Christians who realize that intellectual honesty demands exposing the students to differing points of view in order to prepare them for contemporary life.

Mission Statement: The Department of Science and Math's mission is to cultivate our students' appreciation and care of the living world, including human life. To this end, we facilitate students' growth in the knowledge of the biological sciences, the ability to carry out and communicate scientific research, and the understanding of issues involving the interaction of biology with other academic disciplines and Christian faith.

Vision Statement: The Department of Science and Math strives to graduate students with the competencies of life science scholars who excel in written and oral communication, as well as technology and research. Graduates who will engage questions that are both complex and controversial, displaying astute critical thinking and interpersonal skills. All the while maintaining personal and professional ethics as they engage scientific and religious communities as well as the relationship between scientific thought and religious faith in general.

What can I do with a major in Biology?

The Bachelors of Biology and Pre-Med emphasis is designed for undergraduate students with a serious interest in health care and health sciences taught from a Christian perspective. The program offers a rigorous curriculum with opportunities

for hands-on learning. For those seeking careers in the health professions or graduate school, it provides an outstanding perspective and foundation.

In addition to practicing in the allied health fields, a biology degree can prepare you to work in education as a professor at the collegiate level or as a high school teacher, or to work for a museum or other organization devoted to educating people about science. A biology degree is also the first step in working for a private drug company or for the state or federal government to work on a variety of life-related issues like pollution or extinction. By combining medical training with personal passions, there's almost no limit to what you can do with a biology degree. A biology major can lead to a career as a zoologist or wildlife biologist with specialties in other areas of interest. Another option is biochemistry, which focuses on the chemical composition of organisms and how those combinations and relationships change over time and through reproduction. There's also microbiology, aquatic biology, and botany. These are just a few suggestions, but the goal is to see that biology is the study of all life, and that can be combined with your own interests or pursuits to form a variety of interesting career choices.

Biology Objectives

- Students in the Biology major grow in their understanding of life processes at different levels of structural organization.
- Students will collaborate with faculty in research and will grow in their ability to carry out scientific investigation of living systems beyond what is possible in regular courses.
- Biology students will be able to present the findings and implications of scientific research through written research reports, oral presentations and scientific posters.
- Students will be able to identify and describe a wide range of controversies, positions and approaches to the interdisciplinary and theological implications of biological theory.

Admittance to the Biology Degree Program

In order to become a candidate for the Biology degree, students must satisfy the following requirements. Students may apply during the semester they complete the requirements and reach a total of at least 45 semester credits.

1. Minimum overall GPA of 3.0.
2. Completion of ENG 101 and ENG 102 with a grade of "C" or higher (A=4.0) at ACU or an approved regionally-accredited institution of higher learning.

Admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the Biology Program.

Tuition, Fees & Housing Refund Policy

Refund of Tuition Policy

Refunds are available only to students who officially reduce their course load or withdraw from the university in accordance with the procedures specified in this catalog. The amount of refund will be based on the date on which the Change of Load form or Withdrawal form is completed and will be computed according to the schedule below. Payments to student accounts that result in a credit balance will be refunded ten days after a request has been received. Refund requests will not be processed until a credit balance appears on the student's monthly statement.

Refunds of Tuition Schedule

During the 1st week of class 90%
During the 2nd week of class..... 80%
During the 3rd week of class 70%
During the 4th week of class 60%
During the 5th week of class 50%
No refund will be issued after the 5th week

Refund of Fees Policy

All fees, except music, are non-refundable. Music fees are refunded based upon the number of lessons scheduled.

Refund of Housing Policy

The term of the housing contract is for the entire academic year, commencing with the opening of the living areas by the university or the date the student is permitted to move in, whichever comes first. The student will be required to fulfill the financial obligations of the housing contract, even if the student physically moves out of the assigned on-campus housing unit.

No refunds will be given unless approved by the residence life housing committee. If a student is granted a refund, the refund rate will be determined by prorating the room and board charges that were incurred from the contract start date until the date listed on the resident's checkout form.