

## 2016-2017 Student Right-to-Know Information

### Retention Rate for First-time Degree-seeking Undergraduates

	2013	2014	2015	2016	4-Year Average
first-to-second-year retention rate	68%	69%	55%	52%	61%

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

<b>Gender</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Men	24%	58%	24%	35%
Women	66%	67%	49%	37%

<b>Pell</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Pell Grant Recipient	56%	50%	40%	26%
Non-Pell Grant Recipient	47%	65%	37%	41%

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
Nonresident Alien	–	–	100%	–
Hispanic/Latino	0%	50%	50%	50%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	100%	–	0%
Asian	100%	100%	–	0%
Black or African American	0%	50%	50%	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island	–	–	–	100%
White	49%	61%	35%	28%
Two or more races	–	–	–	–
Race or ethnicity unknown	–	–	–	88%
<b>Overall Rate</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>36%</b>

***4-Year Average = 46%***

# 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's 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

**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 understand better what constitutes psychological, emotional, and behavioral well-being of 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.

The curriculum will challenge students academically, but more importantly, it will stretch them spiritually. At Arizona Christian University, students will be prepared to work in the mental health field as professionals with the 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 major with a counseling emphasis 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 in 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 masters' 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 major with a counseling emphasis 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. Graduates are qualified to 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; and interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research.
- Students will apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice and will 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 the 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. Arizona Christian University has the only NCFR approved program in the state. This program is suitable for students who are pursuing occupations working with children and families, including child-life specialist careers.

**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 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 graduate with the family studies major can immediately receive provisional certification as a Family Life Educator.\* 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.
- In using research and 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 program 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 and the Bachelor of Science in Psychology with an Emphasis in Sports Psychology are programs of study within the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The psychology programs have 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 distinctively 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; and interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research.
- Students will apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice and will apply psychology-based principles to ethical living, 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.

## 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 biblical studies major as well as 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 students be exposed to differing points of view in order to prepare them for contemporary life.

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

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

## BIBLICAL STUDIES

### **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 pursued varied professional occupations. Clearly, this illustrates that a major in biblical studies prepares students for many diverse careers.

### **Biblical Studies Program Objectives**

- **Knowledge:** The student will demonstrate a working knowledge of the historical, literary, and theological content of the Bible so that he or she can competently articulate a biblical worldview.
- **Character:** The student will learn to encounter God through the Scriptures so that the student's soul is shaped by its teaching.
- **Action:** Students will be empowered, not only with the ability to know and be changed by the Scriptures, but also 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 of 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 also focuses 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 have 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 service to Him. ACU 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 Program Objectives

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

## 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, with the intent of developing a 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 should 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

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: MANAGEMENT**

The B.S Business Administration: Management Program is designed for individuals who desire to manage and lead others in the world of business. The program features a focus on educating professional managers that can lead any type of organization, and learn how to transform business culture with biblical truth. The B.S Business Administration: Management Program prepares students with the relational, systems, strategic, and ethical knowledge and skills needed to build and manage an effective business team and organization.

### **What Can I Do with a B.S. in Business Administration: Management?**

Upon successful completion of the B.S Business Administration: Management Program, students will be prepared to serve in a broad range of organizations and pursue the following (sample list, not exhaustive):

- Account Executive
- Account Manager
- Business or Management Analyst
- Entrepreneur
- General Manager
- Human Resources Manager
- Management Consultant
- Non-profit Manager
- Operations Manager
- Sales Manager

### **Management Program Objectives**

- **Ethics:** Students graduating from the Management program will understand and be able to apply a Biblical perspective regarding management principles, practices, and ethics.
- **Multicultural Perspective:** Students graduating from the Management program will have a multicultural perspective as it applies to both business and management.
- **Communication:** Students graduating from the Management program will demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills
- **Critical-Thinking:** Students graduating from the Management program will develop and apply critical thinking skills to a wide variety of business situations.
- **Managerial:** Students graduating from the Management program will be prepared to be managers in a wide range of industries and types of organizations, including for-profit and non-profit organizations and their own businesses.

**Leadership:** Students graduating from the Management program will be able to articulate and exhibit their leadership style, realize their influence, and apply effective leadership principles in their engagement with others.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: MARKETING**

The B.S Business Administration: Marketing Program is designed for individuals who want to pursue a career in the creative, fast-paced, and wide-ranging field of marketing. The program features a focus on fundamental marketing knowledge and skills, how marketing encourages innovation, effects strategy, and drives corporate performance, and how marketing can be used to transform culture with biblical truth and exert cultural influence. The coursework will give students a foundational knowledge of business as well as a solid understanding of the various marketing disciplines.

### **What Can I Do with a B.S. in Business Administration: Marketing?**

Upon successful completion of the B.S Business Administration: Marketing Program, students will be prepared to serve in the marketing industry and pursue the following (sample list, not exhaustive):



- Account Executive
- Advertising Manager
- Art Director
- Copywriter
- Creative Director
- Digital Marketing Manager
- Market Research Analyst
- Marketing Director or Analyst
- Marketing Manager
- Marketing Specialist
- Media Relations Manager
- Media Buyer or Planner
- Public Relations Manager
- Product/Brand Manager
- Sales Manager
- Social Media Specialist
- Social Media Manager
- Special Events Manager

### Marketing Program Objectives

- **Ethics:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will understand and be able to apply a Biblical perspective regarding marketing principles, practices, and marketing ethics.
- **Multicultural Perspective:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will have a multicultural perspective as it applies to both business and marketing.
- **Communication:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills
- **Critical-Thinking:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will develop and apply critical thinking skills to business and marketing situations.
- **Managerial:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will be prepared to be managers in a wide range of areas and disciplines in a marketing department, marketing company, or their own business.
- **Leadership:** Students graduating from the Marketing program will be able to articulate and exhibit their leadership style, realize their influence, and apply effective leadership principles in their engagement with others

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: SPORTS MANAGEMENT

The Business Administration: Sports Management Program is designed for individuals who want to be leaders in the exciting and dynamic sports industry. The program design features a focus on effective sports leadership, strong business acumen, sound management principles, and Christian influence. Located in Phoenix, Arizona, students will study in one of the most vibrant sports cities in the United States, with a growing variety of professional, amateur, and youth sports organizations. The Business Administration: Sports Management Program offers a strong foundational understanding of the sports landscape and prepares future sports business professionals to engage the industry with the vision of *transforming the sports culture with biblical truth*.

**Mission Statement:** To fervently pursue biblically integrated academic excellence in preparing principled sports leaders to advance the work of God through the business of sport.

**Vision Statement:** The Business Administration: Sports Management Program at Arizona Christian University aspires to be the premier Christian program for future sports professionals, equipping graduates to transform the sports culture with the truth.

### What Can I Do with a B.S. in Business Administration: Sports Management?

Upon successful completion of the Business Administration: Sports Management Program, students will be prepared to serve in the sports industry and pursue the following (sample list, not exhaustive):

- Director for Youth Sports Organization

- Director of Athletics (interscholastic and collegiate)
- Operations Coordinator for Athletic Clubs
- Sports Marketing Manager
- Director of Sales - Sports Sponsorships
- Technical Director for Sports Programs
- Head or Assistant Coach (amateur/collegiate/professional)
- Sales Associate or Manager
- Director of Fan Experience

#### **Sports Management Program Objectives**

- Ethics: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will critically analyze ethical issues and make ethical decisions
- Multicultural Perspective: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will be prepared to engage and embrace a diverse socio-cultural sports industry, and conduct business in the multicultural sports market
- Communication: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills
- Critical-Thinking: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will be able to engage sports management related issues and offer thoughtful solutions critically
- Managerial: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will be prepared for managing the financial, human, material, and informational resources within a sports organization
- Leadership: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will be able to articulate and exhibit their leadership style, realize their influence, and apply effective leadership principles in their engagement with others
- Christian Life: Students graduating from the Sports Management program will be equipped to *transform culture with biblical truth* by thoughtfully integrating their Christian faith into all areas of their service in the sports industry.

## 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 40 academic credits (25 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.
- 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, and 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 students for potential graduate-level work in communication studies.

### **Communication Program Objectives:**

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

- Excel at public communication, delivering professional presentations, while integrating the 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.

### **Technology Requirements**

All students in the Communication major are required to own their own computer and specialized software for use in the program. Several classes (COM 215, COM 315, COM 435, and COM 445 in particular) have heavy technical components. Students will also want to use these tools in other courses. To maximize the benefits of the program, students must have their own computer and software. While the University does make editing facilities available, students should not expect to rely on the University's facilities alone to complete their program. Students should contact the department chair for information relating to types of hardware and software required for the major. Students will be required to reimburse the University replacement costs for any University equipment that becomes lost, damaged, or neglected while in the student's possession.

### **COM 277 Communication Practicum**

All students are required to complete COM 277 Communication Practicum. Students taking this course are placed within a department on campus and allowed to complete diverse multi-media projects for those departments while earning one unit of credit. Opportunities may include working with Athletics, Admissions, or Marketing. The course may be repeated (as COM 287 and COM 297) for up to three units of credit.

### **COM 497 Communication Internship**

All students are required to complete COM 497 Communication Internship. This course is intended to be the capstone experience of the student's course of study. Students should not enroll in the course until their junior or senior year.

The internship experience requires a healthy time commitment. Each student must work between 135 and 180 credits at the internship site during the semester. Students should take care to arrange their schedules to facilitate a smooth internship experience.

Students should choose an internship related to their interests. Broadcasting students might explore local radio or television stations. Journalism students will want to contact local newspapers or various public relations firms. There are also many local opportunities for film students. Communication majors may also want to explore possibilities for internships at non-profit or para-church organizations. Students are responsible for identifying their own internship. Students are required to find an internship with an off-campus organization.

Internships are chosen in consultation with the student's advisor and the communication department chair. Some internship sites have separate application procedures apart from university requirements. Once a suitable internship has been identified, students must complete an internship application and gain approval through the communication department chair. After the internship application has been approved, students will be allowed to register for the course.

In addition to work at the internship site, students complete other assignments during the Internship course. In particular, students construct an electronic portfolio of their internship work. Students should contact the department chair for more information about the internship.

### **Electives**

Communication students not completing a second minor are required to enroll in a minimum of 18 units of open electives. Students are encouraged to complete these units in an area that complements communication, such as computer science, business, marketing, or English. Students may also take electives from other emphases within the communication major. Students are encouraged to take upper division electives.

### **Minor Requirements**

Students pursuing a minor in communication must earn 18 units, 9 of which must be at the 300 level or higher.\

### **English Courses**

The Department of Communication and English also offers a variety of courses in English composition, literature and writing.

Arizona Christian University requires that all students complete English composition courses as part of their CORE requirements. Most students complete a two-course sequence of ENG 101 (English Composition I) and ENG 102 (English Composition II) during their freshman year. In some cases, students may be required to complete ENG 098 (Basic English) before entering the composition sequence. High-achieving students may elect to take one course, ENG 105 (Advanced Composition), to fulfill the freshman composition requirements.

The department offers multiple courses in literature (American Literature, British Literature, Shakespeare, The Novel) as well as courses in writing (Creative Writing, Advanced Grammar). Select ENG courses may be used to fulfill the Humanities elective requirement for the Bachelor of Arts sequence in The CORE.

### **Spanish Courses**

Foreign language courses enable students entering ACU after Fall 2014 to complete the 8 credits of foreign language credit required for earning a Bachelor of Arts degree.

## **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. The ACU education department offers certification and non-certification programs of study. Students must apply to the certification program of study if they want to pursue certification. ACU Education

graduates leave the institution ready to use their skills 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 for the students in the certification program of study is that they will develop into practicing teachers who are able to develop the students they will teach in the future fully. The students who choose the non-certification program of study are prepared to use their teaching skills outside of the traditional classroom. Graduates in the non-certification program choose an area of concentration that further prepares them to work in fields such as non-profit organizations, government agencies, corporations, youth/family services, entrepreneurship and more.

The ACU education programs are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the certification program of study is endorsed by the State of Arizona Department of Education and is 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 and professionals who use their biblical worldview to make a positive difference in public, private, charter, missionary, and home schools as well as outside the classroom.

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

### **What Can I Do with a Major in Education?**

Students who graduate with a degree in the elementary or secondary certification program of study and who also 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, certification 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.

Students who graduate with a degree in the elementary or secondary non-certification program of study can use their skills to make a difference in numerous areas such as public policy, youth programs, educational publishing, museums, science centers, corporations, and more.

### **Career/Job Opportunities**

A degree in the elementary or secondary certification program is a practical degree. Graduates can get a job as a teacher in a charter or private school after graduation and in a public school after completing state requirements.

The degrees in both the certification and non-certification elementary and secondary programs prepare graduates to use their education on the mission field, and many have chosen to do so, either full-time or during the summer. The Bible minor combined with the degree in education also prepares graduates for the many education positions within the church, parachurch, and nonprofit organizations. Additionally, these degrees provide good preparation for advanced training to obtain masters' degrees in leadership, curriculum, and special education, or in the graduate's content area.

A degree in the elementary or secondary non-certification program prepares graduates to use their educational knowledge in careers that are outside the traditional classroom. Possible careers are in the fields of social work, career counseling, lobbying, research analysis, educational publishing corporate training and more.

### **Education Program Objectives:**

- The student will recognize how history, trends, diversity, and philosophies of education have evolved to formulate a personal, Christian philosophy of education.
- The student will create developmentally appropriate, engaging lessons to teach content area to diverse students based on Arizona State Standards and InTASC standards.
- The student will assess learning resulting from instruction and develop a plan for ongoing monitoring and growth.
- Based on essential learned elements of instruction, the student will evaluate an outside classroom to determine overall instructional effectiveness.
- The student will 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**

All students begin in either the elementary or secondary non-certification program of study. If a student wants to enter the certification program of study, they follow the procedure below. Admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the education program.

In order to become a candidate for the education degree, students must satisfy the following requirements:

- Minimum overall GPA of 2.6.
- 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.*
- 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.
- An Identity Verified Prints (IVP) fingerprint 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.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation with dispositions. (Recommendation forms can be found online at [arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/09.22.15-Recommendation-Form\\_Final.pdf](http://arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/09.22.15-Recommendation-Form_Final.pdf))
- Successful completion of a departmental interview.
- Elementary education students must take and have passed the Arizona Subject Knowledge Elementary Education Exams.

Secondary education students must take and have passed the Arizona Subject Knowledge Secondary Education Exam.

## **Department of Government, History, and Philosophy**

The Department of Government, History, and Philosophy functions to support the CORE: Christian Liberal Arts program. The Department of Government, History, and Philosophy also houses four academic disciplines: political science, criminal justice, history, and philosophy. 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; an

understanding of 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, or 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 the following 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 is fundamental obligations of 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 Internship**

All political science majors are required to complete three credits of POL 497 Internship. This internship is intended to provide each student a valuable real-world, hands-on experience in a governmental, political, or public policy setting that reflects their personal interests and passions. Internships are chosen in consultation with the student's faculty advisor and the Chair of the Department of Government, History, and Philosophy, and are designed to be tailored to each student's specific interests and career goals. Past internship experiences have included public policy groups such as the Center for Arizona Policy, Congressional campaigns, Congressional offices in Washington, D.C., and Phoenix, and the Arizona U.S. Senate delegation.

Students are responsible for identifying their own internship. Some internship sites have application procedures apart from university requirements. Once an internship has been identified, students must complete an internship application and gain approval through the department chair. Students may complete up to six credits of POL 497 credit.

### **Political Science Electives**

Political science majors must complete 18 elective credits in addition to other course requirements for graduation. Suggested academic areas for electives include economics, communication, history, philosophy, business and nonprofit management, and other related academic areas. Students should consult with their academic advisor regarding political science courses that best fulfill the electives requirement and further their personal academic goals and interests.

### **Political Science Minor**

Students pursuing a political science minor must complete 18 credits in political science (POL) courses. Of these 18 credits, 9 credits must be earned in classes at the 300-level or above. Students should consult with their academic advisor regarding political science courses that best fulfill the minor requirement, and further their academic goals and interests.

### **Courses in History and Philosophy**

The Department of Government, History, and Philosophy houses two non-degree academic areas: history and philosophy. These courses meet a variety of student needs:

1. PHI and HIS courses fulfill general education requirements on check sheets used by students who entered Arizona Christian University prior to Fall 2014.
2. HIS and POL courses provide the coursework needed by secondary education majors to become highly qualified in social sciences by completing a total of not less than 24 credits in social sciences, including HIS and POL.

Students can complete any courses in the department for elective credit to meet University graduation requirements.

### **Admittance to the Major**

While there is no formal application process for admittance into the major, students normally begin the major in the fall of their sophomore year. Before enrolling in courses in the major, it is expected that students have completed ENG 101 and ENG 102 and either COM 100 or COM 201.

### **Major Requirements**

All students pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Communication degree must earn 40 credits, including 25 from a common core and 15 from one of three concentrations: broadcasting, journalism, or film. No grade



below C (2.0) will be accepted for credit in the major. Communication majors are required to take COM 100 Public Speaking in their general studies sequence.

## 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 a 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, 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 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 the 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.

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, 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.

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*

Arizona Christian University music programs are designed to recognize and develop God-given talents within each individual. Our faculty and staff are committed to designing a customized program that nurtures, cultivates, and facilitates the creative and musical growth of each student.

**Mission Statement:** To provide high quality biblically integrated music education in preparation for careers in modern worship, music ministry, music technology, music theory and composition, and vocal performance (both classical and commercial).

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

## WHAT THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OFFERS

The goal of the music department is to offer a biblically integrated music education that prepares students for ministry and professional occupations. All music majors acquire core skills in music theory, ear training, basic piano, music history, music technology, and private lesson instruction. The music department also offers a Bachelor of Science in Music with numerous concentrations.

NOTE: Each semester students are required to participate in performance ensembles that might include praise bands, advanced bands, chorale, vocal ensembles, jazz band, and musical theater.

### **Bachelor of Science in Music**

This degree program is designed to equip students for advanced studies in music. Students will gain a strong foundation in music theory, music history, conducting, ensemble performance and focused study of a primary instrument. Other music elective courses could include music-based technology, composition and orchestration, worship music, and music education. Students will graduate having completed coursework necessary to qualify for graduate level masters' programs.

### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Ministry**

Similar to the modern worship degree, students will be prepared to work in a church setting, fulfilling the role of worship pastor. In addition to some exposure to modern styles of worship, the focus will be on traditional worship forms. This program will give students the professional skills needed to plan and facilitate worship experiences, build and administrate a worship department, direct a choir, rehearse and lead a praise band, and develop a biblically based philosophy of worship.

### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Modern Worship**

In this degree program, students will develop the discipline and skills needed to fulfill the role of worship leader in a modern church. Students will study worship leading, praise band development and rehearsal techniques, worship planning, song arrangement, technologies used in music production, and recording and development of customized backing tracks. Each student will also develop a personal and biblically based philosophy of worship. All ACU programs emphasize a strong foundation in theory, private voice and instrumental development with ample opportunities for weekly participation in praise bands and other performing ensembles.

### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Music Education**

This degree program is designed for students wanting to teach music in the charter or public schools. Students will receive a strong musical foundation, in theory, history, private lesson instruction, and performance ensemble experiences. They will also develop skills in general, choral, and instrumental

methods. *NOTE: To teach in a public school, students will need to include education as a double major or enter a post-baccalaureate education program. This generally requires an additional year of coursework and student teaching.*

#### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Music Technology**

This degree program is designed for musicians who require the tools of music technology to develop their art. Students will receive a strong musical foundation and learn the technical knowledge necessary to compose, multitrack record, digital audio edit, MIDI program, and mix and master on digital audio workstations. When students graduate, they will have the analytical and professional skills for a music production-focused career as a producer, music director (MD), recording and mixing engineer, studio musician, composer and arranger, and more.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Theory and Composition**

This degree program equips students with the knowledge and skills they need to become arrangers, orchestrators, composers and songwriters. Students will be given a strong and comprehensive foundation in music theory and analysis. They will also acquire the skills to use modern technology to notate, orchestrate, develop and record musical ideas. Courses in arranging, orchestration, private composition lessons, and film scoring will prepare students to fulfill their musical goals.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Vocal Performance: Classical Voice**

This degree program prepares students for work as vocal artists in the classical genre or as instructors in private voice studios. Students will learn traditional aspects of vocal technique, performance practice in solo and ensemble classical styles, and how to prepare for professional auditions. When they graduate, they will have completed coursework necessary to qualify for graduate-level masters' programs.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Music with a Concentration in Vocal Performance: Commercial Voice**

This degree program prepares students for work as vocal artists in the commercial music industry or in a modern church worship setting. Instruction in contemporary music styles, including jazz, pop/rock, and musical theater, will enable students to develop an understanding of music theory and practice in these various genres and styles. Through cross-training using classical, jazz, and rock vocal models, students will be encouraged to develop their own unique voice with special attention given to voice health and function. Additional coursework includes band development, rehearsal, recording, arranging, and performing.

#### **What Can I Do with a Major in Music?**

- Band Member (Rock, Jazz, Pop)
- Choir Conductor
- Composer and Arranger
- Conductor
- Graduate School
- Music Director
- Music Teacher (Charter or Public School)
- Piano Accompanist
- Private Studio Teacher
- Producer
- Professional Musician
- Singer
- Songwriter
- Studio Mix Engineer
- Studio Recording Musician
- Vocal Performer (Opera, Musical Theatre, etc.)
- Worship Arts Director
- Worship Leader

#### **Music Program Objectives**

- Students will demonstrate musicianship mastery in the following:

- 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 necessary 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 areas in music.
- Students will express a biblically oriented philosophy of music and its application in chosen participation.
- Students will apply training to determine career goals, take steps to a selected field, and establish a life-long learning plan.

## MUSIC AUDITIONS (REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION)

The purpose of the music audition is two-fold:

1. For admittance into the music department
2. To be eligible for a music scholarship

Any high school senior or transfer student who is interested in majoring or minoring in music at ACU should schedule a music audition. An audition is required for admittance into the ACU music department and is used to determine scholarships for music students. Scheduled audition dates are available on the ACU website, and interested students should RSVP for one of those dates or contact their admissions counselor to schedule an alternative audition time. For more information, visit [arizonachristian.edu/secureforms/music-auditions/](http://arizonachristian.edu/secureforms/music-auditions/).

During an audition, students will be asked to share their musical dreams and aspirations, including any past musical experience (i.e. private voice or instrumental lessons, involvement in a choir or praise band, etc.). Members of the faculty will then advise each student as to the ACU music degree which best matches the student's musical goals and prepares him or her for the future.

### Music Audition Guidelines

Students will be asked to perform two music pieces at their audition demonstrating their knowledge of music and musical skills. Members of the faculty will then decide on class placement in such freshman courses as Applied Lessons, Class Piano, Music Theory, Chorale and Praise Band.

Students should prepare two songs for their audition. These songs can be for voice or a primary instrument (piano, guitar, etc.) and can be an original composition. Several possible options are listed below:

- **Worship Song:** Students may sing or perform a worship song and may accompany themselves on guitar or piano if able to do so. Any students who don't play an instrument should bring an accompanist CD or inform their admissions counselor that they need an accompanist. Sheet music should be brought to the audition.
- **Pop, Jazz, Blues, or Classical Song:** Students may sing or perform a second song in pop, jazz, blues, or foreign-language Classical style. Any students singing a foreign-language Classical piece should inform their admissions counselor that they need a piano accompanist. Sheet music should be brought to the audition.
- **Instrumental Piece:** Students who are not auditioning for voice should prepare two songs on their instrument in different styles. One of the songs should be in a worship style, while the second song should be in pop, jazz, blues, or classical style. Students should be prepared to demonstrate familiarity with their instrument's fingerboard or play scales.
- **Original Composition:** Students interested in the theory and composition concentration should bring one of their original works to the audition. They may sing, play an instrument, or bring a computer-generated work. They may also bring an original recorded work. A notated score should be brought if available.

## MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The music department recognizes talented students by awarding music scholarships in all emphases. These are competitive, talent-based awards. Evaluation for music scholarships generally occurs at the initial audition. The student will receive written notification of an award, a denial, or a request for further information from the financial aid office. The music department determines the type and amount of each award.

To maintain the music scholarship in subsequent years, the student must receive a grade of "C" or higher (A=4.0) for all music courses attempted and must remain a student in good standing within the music department and the University.

## MUSIC MINOR

The music department offers a music minor with 21 required credits, 6 of which must be upper division. An audition is not required to declare a music minor. Music scholarships are available, however, and require an audition. To schedule an audition, contact the Music Department Chair.

# Department of Science and Math

## BIOLOGY

The Department of Science and Math functions to support the CORE: Christian Liberal Arts program as well as the biology program major. A major in biology spans the disciplines of biology, zoology, and botany. The department desires to develop students who analyze areas of knowledge that the field of biology affects. The department's goals are for all students to a) be professionally competent, b) become lifelong learners, and c) be able to share their faith. This is accomplished by a study of facts and current perspectives in the scientific fields in addition to the Word of God. The outcome of these studies forms a basis for science through the centuries. To be accepted as a biology major, students must have an overall GPA of 3.0. All faculty members are Christians who realize that intellectual honesty demands exposing students to differing points of view in order to prepare them for contemporary life.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Department of Science and Math is to cultivate students' appreciation and care of the living world, including human life. To this end, members of faculty 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 the 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 will engage with questions that are both complex and controversial, displaying astute critical thinking and interpersonal skills. All the while they will maintain personal and professional ethics as they engage scientific and religious communities and build the relationship between scientific thought and religious faith in general.

### What Can I Do with a Major in Biology?

The biology major with a 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. By combining medical training with personal passions, there is almost no limit to what a person can do with a biology degree.

In addition to practicing in the allied health fields, a biology degree can prepare graduates for a wide variety of other careers in the following areas:

- Working in education as a professor at the collegiate level or a high school teacher
- Working for a museum or other organization devoted to educating people about science

- Working for a private drug company
- Working for the state or federal government on a variety of life-related issues such as pollution and extinction
- Working as a zoologist or wildlife biologist
- Working in the field of biochemistry, which focuses on the chemical composition of organisms and how those combinations and relationships change over time and through reproduction
- Working in the fields of microbiology, aquatic biology, and botany

These are just a few suggestions, but the goal of the program is for students to see that biology is the study of all of life and can be combined with a person's own interests and pursuits to form a variety of interesting career choices.

### **Biology Program Objectives**

- Students in the biology major will 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 the biological theory.

### **Admittance to the Biology Degree Program**

In order to become a candidate for the biology degree, students must satisfy the following requirements.

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.

Students may apply during the semester they complete the requirements and reach a total of at least 45-semester credits. Admission to Arizona Christian University does not guarantee acceptance into the Biology Program.

# Evening and Online Programs

The Evening and Online programs offer the opportunity for individuals from all walks of life and locations to start or complete their educational dreams of obtaining an undergraduate degree. Studying and completing a bachelor's degree allows individuals to seek advancement in their current position, retool for new employment, or continue on to graduate work. The Evening and Online programs offer students two distinct modalities to pursue their degree. Students may choose to be fully in the Evening program or the Online program or may option for a combination of the two programs, depending on which system best suits their needs. Every course, whether face-to-face or online, meets the same rigorous academic standards as ACU's traditional campus programs, yet offers the convenience and flexibility of taking classes one or two nights per week or in the comfort of one's own home.

## **EVENING PROGRAM LOCATIONS**

The Evening Program is designed for undergraduate students to complete a bachelor's degree on a fast track by attending class one or two nights per week. Evening courses are now being offered at the following locations:

**ACU Phoenix**

2625 E. Cactus Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85032

**ACU Chandler-Gilbert**

The Grove Church  
2777 S. Gilbert Road  
Chandler, AZ 85249

**ACU Peoria**

Huntington University Peoria Campus  
8385 W. Mariners Way  
Peoria, AZ 85382

**EVENING AND ONLINE COURSE OFFERINGS**

Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Health (*Evening only*)  
Bachelor of Arts in Family Studies (*Online only*)  
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Christian Ministries  
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education  
Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education

**ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Admissions Overview**

- High School Diploma or GED
- Minimum GPA of 2.0
- Completion of the application form and submission of all official transcripts
- Official Transcripts must be received before admission

**Evening and Online Tuition and Fees**

Tuition	\$450 per credit hour
Technology Fee	\$45 per semester
One-time Non-refundable Enrollment Deposit	\$75
Graduation Fee	\$200

**Tuition refund policy**

Withdraw before 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	100% Tuition Credit
Withdraw before 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	100% Tuition Credit
Withdraw during or after 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	0% Tuition Credit

**Attendance Policy**

The Evening and Online programs are highly accelerated; therefore, it is essential and expected that students attend all class sessions. Excessive absences will result in a lowered grade. Make-up assignments are at the discretion of the instructor. Students enrolled in the Evening Program must be present for at least 90% of the scheduled class period. Otherwise, instructors have the authority to mark a student absent. In order to receive attendance for an online class, students must post in discussion threads three days per week (Monday – Sunday).

If a student does not attend the first class (Evening program) or log on (Online program) and does not communicate with the instructor, he/she is automatically withdrawn from the course. An email will be sent to

notify the student of the withdrawal, and a copy of the withdrawal statement will be sent to financial aid. If a student has two unexcused absences, he/she may receive a failing grade.

A recognized excused absence occurs when a student is unable to attend or log on to a class because of an extreme illness, or an emergency of the student or an immediate family member. Immediate family members consist of a spouse, children, and parents. The student must: (1) notify the instructor before the absence to explain the reason for missing class, and (2) be proactive in working with the instructor to submit all assignments and make-up assignments. In the event of an emergency that precludes the student's ability to turn in his or her assignments on the final day of the class, the student will coordinate a date that is satisfactory to the class instructor.

For the Evening Program, two excused absences, at a minimum, will result in the reduction of one full grade for the course. Requests for excused absences must be submitted to the instructor electronically as quickly as possible. The class instructor will grant or deny the excused absence. For the Online Program, not checking in for two weeks will result in a reduced grade.

### **Incomplete Policy**

Students unable to complete a course may request an incomplete grade. A grade of Incomplete ('I') may be assigned by the instructor in situations in which the student has satisfactorily completed major components of the course and can finish the remaining work without re-enrolling. The instructor determines the appropriateness of a grade of "I," and establishes the remaining requirements. The work for an Incomplete (I) is due within three weeks of the final class. These requirements for the resolution of an "I" grade are documented with a Course Incomplete form. When three weeks have passed from the end of the course, an unresolved grade of "I" (Incomplete) will become an "F, " and the student may be required to re-take the class.

\* Students may submit for approval of credits obtained in the following ways:

- **College/University Transfer Credit**  
Arizona Christian University accepts credit from colleges and universities that are accredited by regional accreditation associations or the Association for Biblical Higher Education.
- **CLEP/DANTES Examinations**  
Subject examinations with a score of 50 or higher are acceptable to fulfill general studies or free elective, business core and business elective requirements. CLEP/DANTES credit cannot be granted in any area where the student has equivalent course credit.
- **Military Experience Credit**  
A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services contains ACE recommendations and will be used to evaluate formal coursework and occupational experience while in the armed services.
- **Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)**  
The award of credit for prior learning shall follow the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) standards. No more than nine credits of CPL will be awarded for completion of a degree.

\* *Please note policies below for required credits to be completed in residence at Arizona Christian University.*

### **Graduation Requirements**

1. Complete a minimum of 30 credits, 15 of which must be in the major and taken through Arizona Christian University.
2. Earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all coursework completed at Arizona Christian University and an overall GPA of 2.0 for coursework including transfer.
3. Fulfill all specific course requirements for the degree.



4. File an application for graduation through the registrar's office. A non-refundable graduation fee must be paid in the business office, and the receipt for the fee must accompany the application for graduation.
5. Pay in full all outstanding accounts or make satisfactory arrangements with the business office.
6. Receive approval for graduation from the faculty and Board of Trustees.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic work is evaluated with the assumption that the work presented is the student's own, unless designated otherwise. Anything less is unacceptable and is considered academically dishonest. Academic honesty is expected of all ACU students. Violations may result in disciplinary actions, which are documented and maintained in a permanent file. Procedures vary according to circumstances. Actions that may be taken include a reprimand, a written warning, a failing grade for the work involved, suspension from the course, failure for the course, and suspension or expulsion from the academic program or University.

Incidents of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: cheating, fabrication (making up information or sources), plagiarism, alterations or misuse of university documents and records, facilitating academic dishonesty by knowingly helping or attempting to help another student commit an act of academic dishonesty, and unauthorized collaboration, such as working together when doing so has been prohibited by the instructor.

University policy requires that whenever faculty or staff observe an act of academic dishonesty, a Student Academic Conduct Incident Report be completed and forwarded to the Dean of Students. Forms are stored in a confidential, secure file. When reports of academic dishonesty reach the dean's office, they are checked for prior offenses. If this is the first offense, it is up to the instructor, in consultation with the Dean of Students, to determine if the incident should result in disciplinary action. Repeat offenders may necessitate further review and disciplinary action.

## **ACADEMIC PROBATION, ACADEMIC SUSPENSION, READMISSION AND PROVISIONAL STATUS**

### **Academic Probation**

Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 to remain in good academic standing at the University. When a student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.0, the student will be placed on academic probation. During academic probation, students will have one semester to raise their cumulative GPA to at least a 2.0. While a student is on academic probation, he/she cannot receive any grade lower than a "C." A student is only allowed to be on academic probation once in their academic career. If the student pulls their cumulative GPA up to above a 2.0, they must keep it above a 2.0 for their remaining semesters. A subsequent drop of a cumulative GPA below a 2.0 will result in a possible academic dismissal.

When the cumulative GPA is at or above a 2.0 at the end of the semester, the academic probation will be removed, and the student will again be in good academic standing at the university.

### **Academic Suspension**

Students who have two semesters of a cumulative GPA below a 2.0 will be academically suspended from the University. Suspended students will not be permitted to register for classes for at least one semester.

## Behavioral Health (Evening Program Only)

Arizona Christian University's Bachelors of Arts in Behavioral Health is designed to provide working adult students who have some college credit but have not yet attained a bachelor's degree, with the knowledge and skills essential for the behavioral health field. This program will prepare students for a variety of job opportunities in the mental health community and position them for the pursuit of graduate work leading to licensure in counseling.

The program is offered in the following modality:

- On-Ground Face-to-Face
  - Phoenix
  - Chandler / Gilbert
  - Peoria

## Family Studies (Online Program Only)

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. Arizona Christian University has the only NCFR approved program in the state. This program is suitable for students who are pursuing occupations working with children and families, including child-life specialist careers.

The program is offered in the following modalities:

- On-Ground Face-to-Face
  - Phoenix
- Online

## Business Administration (Evening and Online Programs)

Arizona Christian University's Bachelors of Science in Business Administration is designed to provide working adult students who have some college credit but have not yet attained a bachelor's degree, with the knowledge and skills of essential business functions. The program emphasizes the application of coursework to each student's life and career goals and promotes academic excellence along with personal and professional development.

The program is offered in the following modalities:

- On-Ground Face-to-Face
  - Phoenix
  - Chandler / Gilbert
  - Peoria
- Online

# Christian Ministries (Evening and Online Programs)

Arizona Christian University's Bachelors of Science in Christian Ministries is designed to provide working adult students who have some college credit but have not yet attained a bachelor's degree, with a solid biblical foundation and Christian worldview essential for effectiveness in ministry in a variety of areas. The program equips leaders to function either in a church or nonprofit organization.

The program is offered in the following modality:

- On-Ground Face-to-Face
  - Phoenix
  - Chandler / Gilbert
  - Peoria
- Online

# Elementary Education or Secondary Education (Evening and Online Programs)

## EDUCATION STUDIES AT ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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 develop the students they will teach in the future fully.

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.

The program is offered in the following modalities:

- On-Ground Face-to-Face
  - Phoenix
  - Chandler / Gilbert
  - Peoria
- Online

## Refund Policy

Refunds are available only to students who officially reduce their course load or withdraw from Arizona Christian University according to the procedures specified in this catalog. The amount of refund will be based on the date a change of schedule form (Add/Drop) or withdrawal form is completed or according to federal policy for federal aid recipients. Examples of refund calculations are available in the Financial Aid Office. Payments to student accounts which result in a credit balance will be refunded ten (10) business days after a request has been received in writing. Refund requests will not be processed until a credit balance appears on the student's monthly statement.

### REFUNDS OF TUITION FOR THE CAMPUS PROGRAM

Refund Percentage	Fall 2017-2018 Withdrawal Date**	Spring 2017-2018 Withdrawal Date**
100%	On or before August 25th	On or before January 19th
No refund	After August 25th	After January 19th

### REFUNDS OF TUITION FOR THE EVENING & ONLINE PROGRAMS

Fall & Spring 2017-2018 Withdrawal Date** Evening & Online (8 Week Courses)	Tuition Refund Percent
Before 1st Class	100%
Before 2nd Class	100%
After 2nd Class	No Refund

### REFUNDS OF TUITION FOR ONLINE COURSES

All Terms 2017-2018 Withdrawal Date**	Tuition Refund Percent
Before End of 1st Week	100%
Before End of 2nd Week	100%
After 2nd Week	No Refund

\*\* Formal Withdrawal (appropriate documents must be completed). Withdrawal Date based on the Last Date of Attendance.

## REFUND OF FEES

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

## HOUSING REFUNDS

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.