

Messiah overview

Messiah College is a nationally ranked private Christian college with a socially, denominationally and politically diverse student body of approximately 2,800 undergraduate students from more than 35 states, 29 countries and a variety of Christian faith traditions.

Academic majors

Messiah awards degrees in more than 55 undergraduate majors, offers six pre-professional programs and has a growing number of graduate programs.

Setting

Our scenic 471-acre campus is located in suburban Grantham, Pa., just 12 miles from the state capital of Harrisburg.

Faculty

Messiah selects its educators for their Christian commitment as well as their proven teaching ability. They are outstanding scholars, authors and experts in their chosen fields. Seventy-six percent hold terminal degrees. Our low student/faculty ratio of 13:1 ensures students receive personalized attention.

Community engagement

Our nationally recognized service learning initiatives extend the classroom into the real world. We teach students to engage their Christian faith, to build community, to serve as agents for peace and reconciliation and to champion the rights of the poor and the dispossessed.

Study abroad

Nationally ranked for our study abroad program, Messiah strives to make international programs accessible to all its students. Last year, more than 400 students earned academic credit in more than 40 different countries.

Campus life

Eighty-eight percent of students live on campus in traditional halls, apartments and special-interest housing. More than 60 clubs and organizations offer countless opportunities for students to get involved.

Spiritual formation

Messiah weaves opportunities for spiritual growth throughout students' college experience, including chapel and worship services, discipleship groups, ministry outreach teams, community service, mission trips and a variety of other special programs.

A spirit of inquiry, gracious hospitality and Christian conviction allows students to examine and deepen their faith.

Internships

Our nationally recognized internship program helps students land internships locally, nationally or internationally in a variety of fields and often creates exciting post-graduation career opportunities.

Athletics

Characterized by outstanding facilities, competitive scheduling and a team culture rooted in a deeply Christian ethic, Messiah's 22 intercollegiate NCAA Division III athletic teams exemplify excellence, competing strongly at the conference level and frequently in national championships. Since 2000, the Messiah Falcons have earned 12 national team championships.



Family and Consumer Sciences Education

Enhance the well-being of individuals and families.

Help others understand how their actions and decisions affect others. There's a high demand for skilled professionals in this field—professionals who teach practical skills for leading healthy, productive, harmonious lives. You'll be trained to impart knowledge about everyday issues—from family resource management to relationship skills, from parenting and child development to nutrition—and more. As you equip others with the tools to resolve conflicts and deal with everyday life, you'll *strengthen individuals and families*.

Family and consumer sciences education

The Bachelor of Science program in family and consumer sciences education (FCSE) prepares students to teach family and consumer sciences in kindergarten through 12th grade. With its student teaching requirement and heavy emphasis on child development, family resource management, nutrition and other key areas, this major provides students with the essentials to enhance individual and family development.

Highlights of the family and consumer sciences education major at Messiah

- Messiah's FCSE program is one of only five approved FCSE programs in Pennsylvania.
- In 2007, the major was affirmed by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) Academic Program Review Committee for Certified Family Life Education. Students graduating within FCSE are eligible to receive the provisional Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) designation from NCFR.
- Messiah offers a vibrant post-baccalaureate certification program for those who already possess a bachelor's degree and want to teach family and consumer sciences.

Minors and associated concentrations

Minors

- children and youth services
- gender studies
- multicultural families
- pre-marriage and family therapy
- gerontology
- human development and family science

Facilities and resources overview

- Through a special agreement, Messiah's on-campus Early Learning Center provides a professional setting for students to discreetly observe the interactions of enrolled children.
- Many students join the Messiah College Council on Family Relations (MCCFR) – a student professional organization affiliated with the NCFR.
- FCSE majors frequently join department faculty at conferences, including the PA Association of Family and Consumer Sciences conference, where students glean helpful resources and knowledge for their future careers.

Department faculty highlights

- Faculty members specialize in a wide array of areas ranging from infant development and care to intergenerational relationships to marriage and family therapy.
- Faculty members' scholarly work has been published in books, peer-reviewed professional journals and other publications.
- Faculty members frequently involve undergraduates in research projects through the Smith Scholar internship and other programs.
- All full-time faculty members are dedicated Christian scholars.
- 80 percent of department faculty have terminal degrees in their fields.

Careers for family and consumer sciences education majors

- Educators teach child development, family resource management, food science, nutrition and other content areas that enhance individual and family development.
- Since there is a shortage of FCSE teachers, graduates typically have multiple job opportunities.

Internships and graduate degrees

- All FCSE majors experience at least four different field placements which include experience in middle and high schools, as well as an early learning center for preschoolers.
- An entire semester is devoted to student teaching and related curricular development.
- FCSE provides a strong foundation for those who wish to eventually become school counselors, as many schools prefer counselors who are certified to teach.

“The FCSE education was very grounded and expansive. The expectation for professionalism at Messiah College eased my transition into the workforce and graduate school. The education regarding all stages of life has assisted my awareness in working with diverse populations.”

—Messiah alumna