

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 37 states, 28 countries and a variety of Christian faith traditions.

Academic majors

Messiah awards degrees in more than 80 undergraduate majors, offers six pre-professional programs and has a growing number of graduate programs.

Setting

Our scenic 471-acre campus is located in Mechanicsburg, 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, artists and experts in their chosen fields. Eighty-one 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, promote justice for the oppressed, reconcile adversaries and care for the earth.

Study abroad

Nationally ranked for our study abroad program, Messiah strives to make international programs accessible to all its students.

Campus life

Eighty-eight percent of students live on campus in traditional halls, apartments and special-interest housing. More than 70 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 15 national team championships.



Politics

Reflect on divergent viewpoints.

Stretch your mind. Nurture an openness to considering and understanding opposing views. In this major, you'll immerse yourself among Christian students and faculty who care about the things that energize, concern and motivate you: political campaigns, elections, diplomacy, international affairs, public health, immigration, the environment, race relations and social justice.

You'll be challenged to become intellectually agile, socially fluent and self-confident as you prepare for a career that can *transform society*.

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see anew



Politics

The politics major prepares students for thoughtful and meaningful participation in the political process. Politics studies the way in which people make collective decisions affecting life under government—choices about those goods, services and relationships that individuals cannot readily attain on their own. From a Christian perspective, politics is part of God’s provision for Creation, a means of reconciling self-interest and sociability—innate dispositions—so that a rich, peaceable and just social order can be achieved.

Highlights of the politics major at Messiah

- Students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher may participate in a Department Honors project during their senior year.
- Many politics majors participate in internships and hold leadership positions in many clubs and organizations on campus (i.e. Agapé, Collaboratory, etc).
- Several majors received highly competitive domestic and international scholarships: Rhodes, Carnegie, Truman, Udall and Fulbright.
- Major requirements allow students to pursue minors and double majors.
- Students can choose either an international relations or a political studies concentration.
- Politics is also offered as a minor.

Facilities and resources overview

- Politics majors have access to state-of-the-art resources, including industry-standard analysis software.
- Other resources available to all Messiah students include our Career Center and nationally recognized internship and study abroad programs.

Department faculty highlights

- The politics faculty is engaged in scholarship through publication, professional organizations and consultation work, including service as local and national media political experts.

- All full-time faculty are Christian scholars with Ph.D.s., several of whom have received prestigious teaching and scholarship awards.
- Our low student-to-faculty ratio ensures personalized attention.

Careers for politics majors

- Various administrative positions in corporations and non-profits
- Wide variety of elected officials; positions in domestic and international government agencies
- Journalist or other communication positions
- High school government teachers and college professors
- Lobbyists, policy writers, analysts, mediators, planners, advisors

Internships and graduate degrees

- **Local and state opportunities**, including: positions in legal firms, judicial offices, government offices, development firms, nonprofits
- **National opportunities**, including: the Canadian Embassy, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Washington, the offices of U.S. senators and representatives, the White House
- **International opportunities**, including: the International Labor Organization in Geneva, Amnesty International in London, members of Parliament’s offices in the United Kingdom
- Preparation for competitive graduate and law programs. Alums have attended Harvard, Oxford, Princeton, Columbia, NYU, the London School of Economics, Duke, Georgetown and others
- 3-2 program option with Carnegie Mellon’s School of Public Policy (B.A./M.S. in public policy and management)

“By helping me to understand the legislative process, analyze a diversity of viewpoints on political and social issues and sharpen my ability to speak and write persuasively, the politics department at Messiah College was instrumental in preparing me for my career as an attorney.”

—Messiah alumnus