



Great Lakes
Christian College
Intellectual, Spiritual & Personal Growth

2026-2027



Graduate Program



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Great Lakes Christian College

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Lansing, MI 48917

517.321.0242
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Graduate Program Coordinator

Dr. Aaron R. Woods
517-321-0242 ext. 190

HISTORY

The year was 1949. Millions of soldiers, sailors, and Marines had returned home, and the post-war economy was booming. While tens of thousands of young families flocked to neighborhood churches, the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ in Michigan seemed to be shrinking, both in numbers and vitality. The reason: too few trained ministers to lead congregations throughout the region.

Hervey Sewell, Lowell Grubbs, Ralph Woodard, Brant Lee Doty, and other likeminded leaders founded Great Lakes Bible College to face the challenge. Meeting in Ralph Woodard's cottage near the shore of Rock Lake in Vestaburg, Michigan, twelve students enrolled that first year. Ralph Woodard served as the College's first President.

The College quickly outgrew the log cabin and, soon after, a nearby farmhouse. Recognizing the advantages of a more urban location, the Trustees relocated GLBC to Lansing in 1958. Students studied at the Turner-Dodge Mansion for fourteen years before the College moved to its current location on Lansing's west side.

Since its founding, GLBC – which became Great Lakes Christian College in 1992 – has maintained a focused mission: to prepare students to be servant leaders in the church and world. This faith-centered approach is bolstered by a commitment to academic excellence. Initially backed by the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges, GLCC earned regional accreditation with The Higher Learning Commission in 2003.

Supported by Independent Christian Churches and Churches of Christ, GLCC remains committed to Restoration principles such as unity among all believers and simplicity of doctrine centering on the widely agreed upon teachings of Scripture. These commitments have extended GLCC's reach to the thousands of nondenominational churches scattered throughout the seven states bordering the Great Lakes.

GLCC is the sole residential, accredited, college among the Independent Christian Churches north of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi River. Our growing number of marketplace ministry programs complement our longstanding vocational ministry offerings, which now include GLCC's first graduate program: the Master of Arts in Practical Theology.

With alumni serving on every inhabited continent and in forty U.S. States, GLCC's focus on preparing students for vocational and marketplace ministry continues to make a truly global impact. Wherever GLCC graduates serve, the Kingdom of God expands throughout the world.

MISSION

Great Lakes Christian College, an institution of higher education affiliated with Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, seeks to glorify God by preparing students to be servant-leaders in the church and world.

INSTITUTIONAL GOALS

1. To provide our students a foundation for Christian faith, thought, and character that is relevant to the challenges and opportunities of the world.
2. To develop in our students a greater awareness of the need for the gospel in a fallen world and a personal commitment to be bearers of that message.
3. To prepare educated, faithful vocational ministers, able to lead and administer churches and/or Christian institutions throughout the world.
4. To prepare both volunteer and vocational Christian students for leadership and professional roles within the church and world.
5. To instill the restoration principles as espoused by Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in the life, faith, ministry, and witness of our students.
6. To assist the churches of our constituency through special events and educational programming.

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS

Students who complete the Master of Arts of Practical Theology at GLCC will be able to

1. Utilize advanced biblical and theological resources for ministerial practice
2. Formulate a holistic theology of Christian witness and cultural engagement
3. Develop a biblical approach to Christian leadership
4. Analyze contemporary practical issues in light of the history of Christian theology
5. Design a biblically and pedagogically informed approach to discipleship and spiritual formation

TITLE IX NOTICE

Great Lakes Christian College does not discriminate on the basis of sex in admission to or employment in its education programs or activities. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations may be referred to the College's Title IX Coordinator or to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. The title and the address of the College's Title IX Coordinator is

Dr. Brian Baldwin
Dean of Students
Great Lakes Christian College
6211 West Willow Highway
Lansing, MI 48917

ACCREDITATION, APPROVAL, AUTHORIZATION FOR GLCC

Accredited by
The Higher Learning Commission
www.hlcommission.org

Approved by the
United States Office of Student Financial Assistance
for offering federal student aid

Approved by the
State of Michigan Department of Education
for offering state financial assistance

Authorized by the
United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement
(for enrolling non-immigrant foreign students)

Approved by the
Department of Veterans Affairs
(as a Military-Friendly school)
www.va.gov

Member of the
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability
(in compliance with the ECFA standards of financial integrity and Christian ethics)

Admissions Information

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Great Lakes Christian College seeks students who can succeed academically and spiritually in a Christian college environment.

A candidate will submit proof of a bachelor's degree and a completed application, which will include the following:

1. A letter of recommendation
2. Technological Skills Assessment
3. Completion of short answer questions

GLCC may make exceptions for admission to the master's program without a bachelor's degree. Such cases will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Great Lakes Christian College requires a minimum of one favorable recommendation. The Admissions Office will send Reference Questionnaires to individuals listed on the Application for Admission or send them directly to the applicant to provide the references. Relatives or individuals under the age of 21 may not be used as references. References should be from people familiar with the applicant's spiritual maturity such as a minister, church leaders, or Bible teacher and/or the applicant's work ethic in school or workplace such as a teacher, school counselor, or employer and/or the applicant's family background such as a neighbor or coach.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Great Lakes Christian College's Masters of Arts program is **not SEVIS-approved**, and therefore we are unable to issue student visas for the program at this time. International Students without an appropriate U.S. visa must participate in the program from within their home country.

Transcript Evaluation

All foreign transcripts (whether secondary or university level) must be evaluated by a NACES-approved Foreign Credential Evaluation service. The evaluation must include a course-by-course level evaluation and include a conversion to the U.S 4.0 GPA scale. Fees associated with this type of evaluation are incurred by the student, not by Great Lakes Christian College. See <http://www.naces.org/members.html>.

Proof of English Language Proficiency

Those students whose native language is not English and do not hold a bachelor's degree which was primarily taught in English are required to demonstrate competency in English by achieving the following scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):

- Paper Based (PBT) ~ 550
- Computer Based (CBT) ~ 210
- Internet Based (iBT) ~ 79 overall with a minimum of 20 in writing
- Boston Educational Services ~ score of 4.5 or higher

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

GLCC graduate candidates must participate in orientation activities which will assist them in making the transition to online graduate studies by discussing the skills and attitudes necessary for success in a master's program, as well as the software and databases they will need to complete the program online. Orientation also introduces students to the mission, program, and resources available to graduate students. Students who are not able to attend orientation before the Fall Trimester are required to view the recording before beginning class.

PROVISIONAL ADMISSIONS

In some cases, students who apply late and cannot submit transcripts and references before registration may be accepted on a provisional basis. These students will have time until the add/drop date to submit all information to the Admissions Office. Any extension of this time must be approved by the Admissions Office.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with documented disabilities should identify themselves and discuss their necessary accommodations with the Registrar, the Director of Student Success, the Dean of Students, and instructor(s) at the beginning of each trimester.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

A graduate-level transfer student must provide GLCC complete transcripts from each college or university previously attended in pursuit of a graduate degree. Official transcripts for all graduate credits must be sent directly to the Admissions Office. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will determine which courses satisfy GLCC requirements and are eligible for transfer credit. Transfer courses must be master's-level and have a grade of at least 2.5. Transfer students must complete at least 18 hours at Great Lakes Christian College to be awarded a master's degree.

Academic Information

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Great Lakes Christian College combines deep theological study with real-world application to equip students for everyday ministry.

- The Master of Arts in Practical Theology requires the completion of 36 credits—a total of 12 courses. Nine of those courses are required and three are elective.
- The program follows a trimester academic calendar that includes 12-week trimesters with breaks between trimesters and for holidays—no summer courses!
- Choose Your Pace. The MA can be completed either in two years at a full-time pace (2 courses per trimester) or in four years at a part-time pace (1 course per trimester).

All degrees are awarded upon the satisfactory completion of the program outlined in the following pages and upon the formal recommendation of the Faculty to the Board of Trustees of Great Lakes Christian College.

Great Lakes Christian College reserves the right to change requirements for enrollment in all programs and courses as necessary. The college will make every reasonable effort to provide alternatives for students who are affected.

MASTER OF ARTS IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

This degree requires completion of 36 credits to graduate—27 of which are required courses and 9 are electives.

This degree is perfect for

- Church and ministry leaders
- Christians exploring a call to vocational ministry
- Graduates seeking to deepen their theological training

☒ Course #	Course Name	Hours
Required Courses		27
BT 510	Advanced Biblical Study	3
BT 525	Christian Thought from the First Century to Today	3
BT 530	Discipleship & Spiritual Formation	3
BT 535	Preaching & Teaching from a Two Testament Bible	3
BT 610	Reading the Bible Canonically	3
BT 615	Theology of Christian Mission	3
BT 620	Biblical Theology of Power & Leadership	3
NT 515	Advanced Introduction to the New Testament	3
OT 520	Advanced Introduction to the Old Testament	3
Electives (Choose 3)		9
BT 630	Intertestamental Literature for Understanding Scripture	3
BT 635	Moral Vision of the Bible	3
BT 640	Theology of Church & Culture	3
NT 620/615	Exegesis of a New Testament Book or Books	3
OT 620	Exegesis of an Old Testament Book or Books	3
OT 625	Old Testament Law for Today's Church	3
WM 610	Theology of Worship	3
BT 699	Special Topic in Biblical or Theological Study	1-3
TOTAL HOURS		36

MODEL COURSE SEQUENCE—FULL TIME

This model shows a possible progression of courses to finish this program in two years.
Variations may occur. All courses are 3 credits. [Blue text shows elective courses.](#)

YEAR 1					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
BT 510	Advanced Biblical Study	OT 520	Advanced Intro to the OT	NT 620	Exegesis of the Gospel of John
BT 535	Preaching & Teaching from a Two Testament Bible	BT 525	Christian Thought from the First Century to Today	BT 615	Theology of Christian Mission
YEAR 2					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
NT 515	Advanced Intro to the NT	BT 620	Biblical Theology of Power & Leadership	BT 610	Reading the Bible Canonically
BT 530	Discipleship & Spiritual Formation	OT 625	Old Testament Law for Today's Church	BT 640	Theology of Church & Culture
		BT 635	Moral Vision of the Bible (On Campus)		

MODEL COURSE SEQUENCE—PART TIME

This model shows a possible progression of courses for this program.
Variations may occur. All courses are 3 credits. [Blue text shows elective courses.](#)

YEAR 1					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
BT 510	Advanced Biblical Study	OT 520	Advanced Introduction to the Old Testament	NT 620	Exegesis of the Gospel of John
YEAR 2					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
NT 515	Advanced Introduction to the New Testament	OT 625	Old Testament Law for Today's Church	BT 640	Theology of Church & Culture
		BT 635	Moral Vision of the Bible (On Campus)		
YEAR 3					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
BT 535	Preaching & Teaching from a Two Testament Bible	BT 525	Christian Thought from the First Century to Today	BT 615	Theology of Christian Mission
YEAR 4					
Trimester 1		Trimester 2		Trimester 3	
BT 530	Discipleship & Spiritual Formation	BT 620	Biblical Theology of Power & Leadership	BT 610	Reading the Bible Canonically

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Graduate certificate programs at Great Lakes Christian College provide accredited, graduate-level training in biblical studies, theology, and ministry. Each certificate requires 12 credit hours (four courses) and is designed to equip students with both academic depth and practical application for Christian life and leadership in the church and world.

These certificates offer flexible pathways for students to deepen their knowledge of Scripture, strengthen theological understanding, and develop ministry skills without committing to a full graduate degree. All courses taken for credit in the certificate program can be rolled into the Master of Arts degree where students can continue their education if so desired.

This program is perfect for

- Church and ministry leaders
- Christians exploring a call to vocational ministry
- Graduates seeking to deepen their theological training

GLCC's Five Graduate Certificates

Graduate Certificate in Applied Biblical Studies

- Advanced Biblical Study (BT 510)
- Either Advanced Introduction to the Old Testament (OT 520) *or* Advanced Introduction to the New Testament (NT 515)
- One applied course
 - Moral Vision of the Bible (BT 635)
 - Preaching & Teaching from a Two Testament Bible (BT 535)
 - Theology of Christian Mission (BT 615)
 - Discipleship & Spiritual Formation (BT 530)
 - Theology of Church & Culture (BT 640)
 - Theology of Worship (WM 610)
- One elective

Graduate Certificate in Old Testament Studies

- Advanced Biblical Study (BT 510)
- Advanced Introduction to the Old Testament (OT 520)
- An advanced Old Testament class
 - Exegesis of an Old Testament Book or Books (OT 620)
 - Old Testament Law for Today's Church (OT 625)
 - Theology of Church & Culture (BT 640)
 - Exegesis of Old Testament Prophetic Books (OT 650)
- One Elective

Graduate Certificate in New Testament Studies

- Advanced Biblical Study (BT 510)
- Advanced Introduction to the New Testament (NT 515)
- Advanced New Testament class
 - Exegesis of the New Testament Epistles (NT 615)
 - Exegesis of New Testament Narrative Books (NT 620)
 - Exegesis of the Book of Revelation (NT 625)
- One Elective

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

- Christian Thought from the First Century to Today (BT 525)
- Either Theology of Christian Mission (BT 615) or Theology of Church & Culture (BT 640)
- Biblical Theology of Power & Leadership (BT 620)
- One Elective

Graduate Certificate in Ministry

Pick any 4 of the following:

- Preaching & Teaching from a Two Testament Bible (BT 535)
- Theology of Christian Mission (BT 615)
- Discipleship & Spiritual Formation (BT 530)
- Biblical Theology of Power & Leadership (BT 620)
- Theology of Church & Culture (BT 640)
- Theology of Worship (WM 610)

Graduate certificates can typically be completed in an academic year, or as quickly as two trimesters, this depends on course availability and student enrollment patterns. Courses are offered on a rotating schedule. Some certificates may take longer to complete than others.

Course Descriptions

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COURSE NUMBERING AND ABBREVIATIONS

500 Level	An introductory graduate level course
600 Level	An advanced graduate level course

All courses are 3 credit hours.

BT	Bible & Theology
NT	New Testament
OT	Old Testament
WM	Worship Ministry

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course numbers in red print are required courses.

BT 510

ADVANCED BIBLICAL STUDY

A detailed consideration of the process of interpreting the Bible at an advanced level including principles of hermeneutics, consideration of the various genres of biblical literature, and how the history of interpretation throughout the church's history informs interpretation. The course will also address the use of digital and other forms of language tools and how to use them in responsible ways to improve interpretation.

BT 525

CHRISTIAN THOUGHT FROM THE FIRST CENTURY TO TODAY

A survey course tracing the history of Christian thought from the first century to the twenty-first century with an emphasis on its relevance to contemporary Christian questions and issues.

BT 530

DISCIPLESHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION

An interdisciplinary course that brings advanced knowledge of human learning and development into conversation with the biblical imperative to make disciples who are formed into the image of Christ through the regenerative work of the Holy Spirit to be fit servant leaders for God's kingdom mission.

BT 535

PREACHING & TEACHING FROM A TWO TESTAMENT BIBLE

An interdisciplinary course that addresses how to teach and preach from the Old Testament with the New Testament in mind and from the New Testament with the Old Testament in mind. This course complements Reading the Bible Canonically but focuses more on the practice of preaching and teaching, especially the Old Testament.

BT 610

READING THE BIBLE CANONICALLY

An interdisciplinary course that addresses how to teach and preach from the Old Testament with the New Testament in mind and from the New Testament with the Old Testament in mind.

BT 615

THEOLOGY OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Biblical, historical, and conceptual analysis of God's mission in this world, the church's role in that mission, and the world's role in God's mission. This course differs from Theology of Church and Culture in that TCM focuses more on ecclesiology and evangelism whereas TCC focuses more on contemporary ethical challenges.

BT 620

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF POWER & LEADERSHIP

An exploration of the themes of power, authority, and leadership throughout the Scriptures to lay a foundation for a specifically Christian approach to leadership that is consistent with the church's nature and mission. Though this course will greatly inform Christian leadership in church and parachurch contexts, its relevance to wider world contexts will also be explored.

BT 635

MORAL VISION OF THE BIBLE

A panoramic survey of the entire Bible's teaching on pressing contemporary ethical issues such as immigration, poverty, sexual ethics, the church's appropriate role in politics, violence and war, divorce and remarriage, and abortion. Ministerial ethics will also be considered.

BT 640

THEOLOGY OF CHURCH & CULTURE

A biblical analysis of the church's specific calling, how it postures God's people in relation to the wider world, and what that means for specific cultural issues that face the church today. This course differs from Theology of Christian Mission in that TCM focuses more on ecclesiology and evangelism and this course focuses more on ethical challenges.

BT 698

SPECIAL TOPIC IN THEOLOGICAL OR PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES

This graduate seminar explores a selected theme, figure, text, or issue in theological or philosophical studies not regularly offered in the curriculum. Topics vary by trimester and may include in-depth analysis of theological or philosophical movements, historical developments, or contemporary issues in theological and/or philosophical reflection. This course may be repeated as topics vary.

BT 699

SPECIAL TOPIC IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

This graduate seminar explores a selected theme, figure, text, or issue in biblical studies not regularly offered in the curriculum. Topics vary by trimester and may include in-depth analysis of specific books of the Bible, historical developments, or contemporary issues in biblical interpretation and theological reflection. This course may be repeated as topics vary.

NT 515

ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

An introduction to the literature of the New Testament, the first century Greco-Roman history, critical issues of New Testament formation, methods in New Testament study, and the theology of the New Testament.

NT 615

EXEGESIS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLES

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of the New Testament Epistles in English with guidance on how to use language tools. When different Epistles are considered, the student may repeat this course.

NT 620

EXEGESIS OF NEW TESTAMENT NARRATIVE BOOKS

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of the New Testament Epistles in English with guidance on how to use language tools. When different narrative books are considered, the student may repeat this course.

NT 625

EXEGESIS OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of the book of Revelation in English with guidance on how to use language tools.

OT 520

ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

An introduction to the literature of the Old Testament, the history of Israel, critical issues of Old Testament formation, methods in Old Testament study, and the theology of the Old Testament.

OT 620

EXEGESIS OF OLD TESTAMENT NARRATIVE BOOKS

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of one or more narrative books in the Old Testament in English with guidance on how to use language tools. When different Old Testament narrative books are considered, the student may repeat this course.

OT 625

OLD TESTAMENT LAW FOR TODAY'S CHURCH

A deep dive into the nature of Torah in conversation with how Christ fulfills that law in such a way that it is sometimes transformed as it enfolded into church life and practice, sometimes carried forward with little need for transformation, and at other times terminated as its fulfillment requires no further implementation.

OT 640

EXEGESIS OF OLD TESTAMENT POETIC BOOKS

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of one or more of the poetic books in the Old Testament in English with guidance on how to use language tools. When different Old Testament poetic books are considered, the student may repeat this course.

OT 650

EXEGESIS OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC BOOKS

This course focuses on advanced interpretation of one or more of the prophetic books in the Old Testament in English with guidance on how to use language tools. When different Old Testament prophetic books are considered, the student may repeat this course.

WM 610

THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP

A biblical, historical, and conceptual examination of Christian worship that focuses on the nature, purpose, and interdependence of various components of the gathered Christian assembly.

Academic Policies & Resources

POLICIES FOR ALL COURSES

All communications from GLCC will go to the student's GLCC email account. Students should contact tech@glcc.edu if they need help forwarding their GLCC email address to their personal email addresses.

As a graduate community we hold integrity and hospitality as core values. We expect each person to both contribute to class discussions and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone's contribution holds equal importance. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom. Any policy not detailed here will default to the undergraduate catalog.

Course Attendance Policy

Professors expect students to attend and participate in all class sessions. A student may be granted 2 absences without penalty. A third absence lowers a student's grade by a full letter grade. Failure to attend at least 8 of the 12 class sessions in a single course is grounds for automatic failure. A professor may set other attendance expectations within these minimal guidelines. Students are always expected to communicate with a professor in advance if they will be absent. Attendance expectations are higher for online and intensive courses (see syllabus for specific requirements).

Course Tardiness Policy

The third time a student is late for the start of a class, it will be counted as a class absence. It is also expected that students will return from a break by the time specified by the professor.

Late Work Policy

If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a "[Postponement of Grade Application](#)" form to the Registrar by 4:30 p.m. of the last day of the term. The form is available on the website under Registrar/Forms and must be signed by the instructor and Vice President of Academic Affairs. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.

Turabian Format

All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. A style guide is available to students on their course page in Populi.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one's own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the "Academic Integrity Policy" below for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.

Assignment Submission Format

Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work must be submitted electronically in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

Course Evaluation in Populi

Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Populi system at glcc.populiweb.com to receive a final grade for the course. The evaluation will be open for one week starting on the last day of the term. If assistance is needed connecting to Populi or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to tech@glcc.edu.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Because of the historic commitment to Biblical principle (“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female...” Galatians 3:28), Great Lakes Christian College has been, and remains, nondiscriminatory in all policies and programs within the parameters of its Christian faith commitment. Great Lakes Christian College admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally available to students at the College. It does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, physical handicap, national or ethnic origin in administration of educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, employment practices, other activities. The College actively seeks to fulfill federal, state, and local laws and regulations in all its practices and facilities. The facilities provide access for the physically handicapped for on campus classes.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

GLCC places a high value on honesty, integrity, and truthfulness. All instances of academic dishonesty result in prompt disciplinary action by the college. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following practices:

- **Using another student’s work to complete your own assignment or having another person or program—such as ChatGPT or Grammarly—complete your work for you, unless doing so is part of the assignment instructions.**
- Plagiarizing: failing to document quoted material, presenting the ideas of others as if they were your own, or submitting someone else’s work as your own.
- Lying about your work.
- Sharing assignment, quiz, or exam information with another student unless working together is part of the assignment instructions.
- Cheating on exams with any form of cheat sheet, or technology, or by looking at another student’s answers.
- Submitting the same assignment for different courses without written permission from both professors.
- Making any other attempt to deceptively receive an unearned grade.

Violations of this policy will be handled in the following manner:

First Offense

- The first time a student is found guilty, he or she will receive a zero on the assignment in which the violation occurred.
- The professor will inform the Vice President of Academic Affairs of this violation, and the VPAA will add the student’s name to a list of academic offenders.
- First time offenders must meet with the Graduate Program Coordinator for personal instruction regarding academic integrity and how to avoid violations going forward. Failure to attend this meeting and any follow-up meetings deemed necessary results in failure of the course in which the violation occurred.

Second Offense

- Once any faculty member confronts and reports a student for academic dishonesty, the next reported violation will be treated as a second offense.
- Students who commit a second offense automatically fail the course in which the second violation occurs.
- Second offenders must meet again with the Graduate Program Coordinator for continued guidance. Failure to attend this meeting and any follow-up meetings deemed necessary results in academic suspension.

Third Offense

- Students who commit a third academic offense will face immediate academic suspension.

Acceptable Evidence of Academic Integrity Violation:

1. Documentary Evidence
 - Copies of student work (e.g., essays, exams, lab reports) showing similarities to outside sources or other students' submissions
 - Source materials that were plagiarized (e.g., webpages, journal articles, books)
 - Submission metadata (e.g., timestamps showing inconsistencies, file history, or unusual edit patterns)
 - Screenshots of online communications or platforms showing unauthorized collaboration
2. Digital Forensics
 - Similarity reports from plagiarism detection tools
 - Logs from Populi showing login activity, file access, or unusual exam behavior
 - IP address tracking showing multiple students submitting from the same location at the same time
3. Eyewitness Testimony
 - Statements from faculty, staff, or proctors who observed cheating or misconduct
 - Statements from students who witnessed or were asked to participate in academic dishonesty
4. Confessions or Admissions
 - Written or recorded admissions by the student
 - Emails or messages sent by the student acknowledging the act
5. Physical Evidence
 - Unauthorized materials brought into an exam room (e.g., cheat sheets, notes written on a student's body or clothing)
 - Possession of another student's work or exam paper without adequate explanation
6. Behavioral Evidence
 - Inconsistencies in student performance (e.g., dramatic improvement in writing ability)
 - Failure to replicate or explain one's own work when questioned

ADVISING

Academic advising is an essential component of higher education; therefore, GLCC is committed to providing the individual advice and assistance that students need at every step throughout their program. The Graduate Program Coordinator will assist students in constructing course schedules that meet their needs and fulfill the requirements of the program.

Students are responsible for scheduling, preparing for, and keeping appointments with the Graduate Program Coordinator; seeking out contacts and information; and knowing the basic requirements of their individual degree program. Students bear the final responsibility for making their own decisions based on the information and advice available and, ultimately, on their own judgment. Therefore, they should become knowledgeable about the policies, procedures, and rules of the College and its academic programs.

The Graduate Program Coordinator will assist students in developing a thorough knowledge of the institution and the structure of the curriculum (e.g., requirements and electives). The Coordinator is available to students on a regular basis, will monitor their progress, assist them in considering career and curriculum options, and make appropriate referrals to other campus offices.

Students meet with the Graduate Program Coordinator prior to each trimester. The Coordinator will conduct an academic audit for students prior to the meeting which will aid in offering academic support.

ACADEMIC TERMS AND CREDIT HOUR DEFINITION

The Master of Arts program at Great Lakes Christian College is broken up into three 12 instructional week trimesters: Fall, Winter, and Spring. Graduate courses at GLCC generally conform to the Carnegie credit hour standard. A credit hour is defined by the US Department of Education as: "One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit . . . or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time." For each credit hour, students should expect approximately one hour of classroom instruction and two hours of out-of-class work per week at a **minimum**. For a typical 3-credit course over 12 weeks, this translates to 30 hours of instructional time exclusive of breaks and a minimum of 90 hours of independent study, including reading, writing, and other assignments. Reading of academic literature is calculated at 20 pages per hour, popular level reading at 30 pages per hour, writing at one page per hour, and video and audio materials are measured by actual viewing time.

GRADES

Each student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) will be computed at the end of each trimester. A report of the student's grades, permanent record of the student's courses, credits, and grades are stored with the Registrar's Office. While the College only records grades on a 4.0 scale, the following equivalencies are often used:

Grade	Grade Point	Numerical Value	Description
A	4.0	97 – 100	Excellent
A-	3.7	93 – 96	
B+	3.3	89 – 92	
B	3.0	85 – 88	Good
B-	2.7	81 – 84	
C+	2.3	77 – 80	
C	2.0	73 – 76	Average
C-	1.7	69 – 72	
D+	1.3	65 – 68	
D	1.0	61 – 64	Poor
F	0.0	60 and below	Failing
W = Withdrew DF = Deferred**			
IN = Incomplete* AU = Audit			

* Incomplete

When a student is unable to complete the required work for a course by the last day of the trimester because of some unavoidable circumstance (such as serious illness or death in the family), the student may request a 30-day extension to complete the work.

** Deferred

When a student is unable to complete the required work for an independent study, special study, research, or an internship during the registered trimester, the student may request a maximum 90-day extension to complete the work.

To receive either an IN or DF, a student must obtain the appropriate form from the Registrar's Office, have it signed by the instructor, pay the \$20.00 fee to the Business Office, and return it to the Registrar's Office prior to the last week of Course. The student then has the allowable days to complete the work. At the end of the allowable time, the instructor must submit the grade as it stands at that time to the Registrar's Office. If no grade is submitted, the Registrar will assign a 0.0 for the course.

GRADUATION

Students intending to graduate from GLCC with a master's degree must meet the following requirements:

1. Attain a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA upon graduation.
2. Successfully complete 36 trimester hours.
3. Successfully complete all required courses.

GLCC holds commencement ceremonies in May of each year. For students who complete their graduation requirements after the date of Commencement, the College can provide a diploma with a date of August 31 or December 31. The College encourages those students to participate in Commencement the following May. Students who have not fully completed all their graduation requirements may not participate in Commencement. Though students who complete those requirements may participate in commencement, they will not receive their diploma until they meet their financial obligations to the College.

Transfer of Credit and Graduation

For transfer students, a minimum of 18 credit hours for the M.A. must be taken from GLCC to graduate. Exceptions may be granted upon request based on the nature of the courses and the student's academic performance.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

The first step in the grievance procedure is communication between the student and the faculty member. In the event the student and faculty member cannot reach a resolution on their own, the Vice President of Academic Affairs will arbitrate the dispute between the parties. This process begins with the written submission of the grievance to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, who will personally talk with the faculty member and the student. If the grievance directly involves the Vice President of Academic Affairs, a committee of no less than two faculty members will be appointed to serve as a Grievance Committee. Regarding Academic matters, the decision of the Vice President of Academic Affairs or Faculty Grievance Committee is final. Non-academic matters may be appealed to the President of the College.

MILITARY LEAVE POLICY

A student called up for active military duty during the trimester has two options regarding course credit and refunds.

1. The student may receive a W ("withdraw") for the course(s) withdrawn. A full refund of trimester tuition and fees for the course(s) withdrawn will be issued.
2. If the student is called up in the 8th week or later of the trimester, the student may request an "incomplete" for the course(s) and complete the requirements within one year of the student's discharge from active duty. No tuition or fee refund will be given for any such course(s).

Any course(s) not completed within one year of the student's discharge from active duty will convert to a W ("withdraw") on the student's transcript.

Finally, a student taking two or more courses who is called up in week 8 or later of a trimester may elect to apply option 1 to a portion of the trimester courses and option 2 to the remaining portion.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION POLICY

Great Lakes Christian College retains all student education records for a minimum of three years after the last trimester in which a student is enrolled.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students the following rights with respect to their education records:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access. Students should submit to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, written requests to identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will arrange for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Students should write the College official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the College decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the College will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, faculty, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the College has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Great Lakes Christian College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Directory information includes the following: name, GLCC address and telephone number, major field of study, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student, and participation in official school activities. Only the Registrar's Office disseminates directory information. All inquiries for such information should be forwarded to the Registrar. Students may see the Registrar to request non-disclosure of directory information. This request must be made in writing by the add/drop date each trimester.

TRANSCRIPTS

The college uses a transcript service through National Student Clearinghouse. The college does not charge for the transcript, but NSC charges for processing. They can deliver transcripts digitally (which most institutions prefer) or by mail. They also send email updates as it is in process and once it is delivered. A link to the transcript service can be found at <https://www.glcc.edu/academic/registrars-office/>.

Students with an outstanding balance may not be able to obtain official transcripts. Students who receive Federal Aid may receive their transcript even if they have an outstanding balance.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Credit for comparable courses taken at other colleges and universities accredited by institutional and professional agencies recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) may be transferred to GLCC provided the student has received a 2.5 or better in the course(s) and the course is graduate level. A student may transfer courses equivalent to GLCC courses or others that apply to the program of study.

Transfer credits are not counted in the calculation of the grade point average. GLCC will use a “SA” to indicate passing for allowable transfer credit. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the institution to the Office of the Registrar at Great Lakes Christian College, 6211 West Willow Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917 or they can be emailed to the Registrar. Students desiring to have transcript evaluations completed *prior to enrollment* should have official transcripts from all prior coursework sent to the Admissions Office at the above address. Students assume responsibility in the transfer process to provide necessary information such as course descriptions and/or syllabus if necessary. A preliminary review of potential transfer of credit requires only an unofficial transcript. For the credit to become official, an official transcript is required.

For questions or more specific information regarding the Transfer of Credit from an accredited institution, contact the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

ADDING / DROPPING / AUDITING COURSES

Students may add, drop, or change course to audit status only before the Add/Drop deadline, which is two weeks from the start of the trimester. If a student drops a course before the Add/Drop deadline, tuition and fees associated with that course will be refunded in accordance with institutional policy. After the Add/Drop deadline, the withdrawal policy below will apply.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL

After the Add/Drop deadline and through the end of the sixth week of instruction, a student may withdraw from a course and receive a grade of W. A grade of W does not affect the student’s GPA, and no academic credit is earned for the course. After the sixth week of instruction, a student who withdraws is not eligible for a W and will be assigned a grade. In cases of catastrophic illness or other exceptional circumstances, the student may petition the Vice President of Academic Affairs for special consideration.

PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL

A student who wishes to withdraw permanently from the graduate program must complete the “Withdrawal from Graduate Program” form available on Populi and resolve financial matters with the Business Office. Program withdrawal is distinct from course withdrawal and from a leave of absence.

Student Development & Resources



CAREER SERVICES

Great Lakes Christian College publishes and maintains a page for ministry openings on its website at glcc.edu/ministry-openings. Faculty and Staff make themselves available for career counseling on an individual basis.

CHAPEL

Great Lakes Christian College holds chapel services most Tuesday mornings from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. These services will be live streamed for the convenience of all online students. Graduate students are not required to watch the live stream (or recorded video), but they are highly encouraged to do so. Chapel services provide edification, encouragement, and regular announcements concerning what is happening on campus.

LIBRARY

The Louis M. Detro Memorial Library supports Great Lakes Christian College's goal of preparing students to be servant-leaders in the church and world. The library facilitates teaching, research, and life-long learning of both former and current students and area congregations. It anticipates and provides essential resources and services. To support this mission, the Library maintains a collection of some 30,000 items including books, magazines, and audio/visual materials. Patrons can search all these materials using our online catalog located on the library's website at <https://www.glcc.edu/academic/library/>.

The Library also subscribes to multiple online databases including ATLA Religion which allow patrons to access full-text periodicals and eBooks. The library owns several digital reference resources, including high quality Biblical commentaries such as Anchor Yale and Hermeneia. All students have access to an online library database called Perlego, which provides Library users access to over a million full-text eBook titles. Virtually all textbooks are available on Perlego. Any other course materials not available on Perlego or the Library's website will be posted on the course page via Populi. These databases can be accessed through the quick links on the Library's website. GLCC maintains several computer workstations in the adjacent Technology Center for patrons to access these databases. Patrons may also connect to wireless internet available throughout the Administration Building and dorm rooms for access to these databases on their personal computers. These databases may also be accessed from off campus.

On campus patrons can obtain books, journal articles, and audio/visual materials from thousands of libraries across Michigan using MelCat, a statewide conglomeration that includes most Michigan libraries. Interlibrary loans may be requested directly through the MelCat online catalog accessible on the GLCC Library home page. If you need help learning how to use the ILL system, see a library worker at the circulation desk or email library@glcc.edu.

The Library's hours and policies can be found on the Library's website. The Library can be reached by telephone at (517) 321-0242 ext. 740 or by emailing Jordan Nickels at jnickels@glcc.edu.

Financial Information

TUITION & FEES

Tuition for the 2025-26 Academic year will be \$500 per credit hour. Students will also be assessed a \$100 matriculation fee, and a \$154 tech fee per trimester including free digital access to most textbooks.

PAYMENTS

At registration, the student will receive written notification of the total amount of tuition and fees due. If a student has been awarded financial aid, the Financial Aid Office will arrange for the proper credit to the student's account. It is the student's responsibility to have all financial aid documentation completed and to contact and arrange any outside scholarships or other sources of funding prior to the day of registration. Registration is considered incomplete until arrangements have been made for full payment of all charges. Major credit cards may be used to pay student accounts. Payment plans are available through contacting the Business Office at 517-321-0242 ext. 140.

REFUNDS

If a student decides to withdraw from GLCC or reduce credit hours, tuition and fees will be refunded in accordance with schedules published each trimester.

FINANCIAL AID

Great Lakes Christian College endeavors to keep costs within reach of all students so that as many as possible can benefit from a Christ-centered education. Even so, financing graduate studies can be challenging. Some financial aid programs are available to help meet student needs.

Military Service Personnel

Great Lakes Christian College is approved for the education of active-duty service personnel, veterans, and their dependents (widows, war orphans, etc.) Veterans should apply as early as possible to expedite handling of VA forms. GLCC requires official acceptance for admission to qualify for educational benefits.

Students receiving chapter 31 or chapter 33 benefits must submit a certificate of eligibility to GLCC's financial aid office. (This certificate may include a "Statement of Benefits" obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs' website.)

GLCC will not impose any penalty (including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to Courses, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds) on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from the VA under chapter 31 or 33. A covered individual waiting for a VA disbursement may continue attending Courses up to 90 days after the date GLCC certifies the covered individual's tuition and fees.

Note: A "covered individual" is any individual who is entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31, *Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment*, or chapter 33, *Post-9/11 GI Bill*® benefits.

GI Bill®

GI Bill ® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>.

Tuition Discount (Up to 40%!)

The Log Cabin Society is made up of members who commit to sustaining the mission of Great Lakes Christian College with a minimum gift of \$5,000 gifted over five years. Students in our graduate degree program can receive a scholarship of 20% off their tuition for each new individual they recruit to join the Log Cabin Society, up to 40% off when two new individuals are recruited.

Guidelines

- Each Log Cabin Society pledge will reduce tuition by 20%, with a limit of two recruits per student.
- The Log Cabin Society recruits need to be new members of the society; existing members may not be recruited to offer new pledges, renew their existing pledges, or repurpose their existing pledges so that the student receives credit.
- At the beginning of each trimester, the status of every recruit's pledges will be examined to see if they are current. If a student's recruit is unable to fulfill their pledge, the student will be ineligible for the scholarship associated with that recruit going forward. However, the student may provide a new recruit in their place to continue the scholarship.

Federal Direct Student Loans

The federal government offers Direct Unsubsidized loans. These loans are available regardless of income or financial need. Students are eligible for up to the cost of attendance, minus any additional aid, with a maximum of \$20,500 per academic year. Certain basic federal requirements apply:

1. Student must be a citizen or an eligible non-citizen
2. Student must not currently be in default on any federal loans

Contact the Financial Aid Office for further information or assistance with federal loan applications.

Private Loans

Private educational ("alternative") loans are an option, as are private bank loans for education. These are both based on an individual's credit history. Contact the Financial Aid Office for further information or assistance.

GLCC Personnel

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Great Lakes Christian College is directed by a Board of Trustees composed of business people, educators, and ministers who are active in their local churches. The By-Laws provide that Trustees shall serve up to two terms of four years and then not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year.

(This list is effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.)

Mr. Matt Wesaw, Chairman	Lansing, MI
Mr. Steve Higgs, Vice Chairman	Decatur, IL
Mrs. Kelly Bentley, Secretary	Grand Ledge, MI
Mr. William "Duke" Gray, Treasurer	Caledonia, MI
Dr. Ted Bolema	Grand Rapids, MI
Mr. Andy Bratton	Kalkaska, MI
Mr. Troy Cleland	Berrien Springs, OH
Mr. Doug Crozier	Scottsdale, AZ
Mr. Rob Fowler	Haslett, MI
Dr. Andy Gerhart	Farmington, MI
Mr. David Hildreth	Chelsea, MI
Mr. David Lautzenheiser	Mason, OH
Mr. David Lund	Rockford, MI
Mr. Chuck Markel	Toledo, OH
Mr. Mike Nicholas	South Bend, IN
Mr. Ron Otto	Lincoln, IL
Mr. Mark Pike	Anderson, IN
Mr. John Schmitt	Floyds Knobb, IN
Mr. David Stacy	Loveland, OH
Mr. Rick Stacy	Okemos, MI
Mrs. Denise Timm	Tiffin, OH

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. FRANK WELLER

President

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.A., Huntington College

D.Min., Bethel University

Ph.D., Calvin Theological Seminary

Mr. CHRIS AMES

Vice President of Operations

B.S., Baker College

Mr. GREGORY A. STAUFFER

Vice President of Enrollment Management

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

Dr. JOHN C. NUGENT

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Professor of Theology

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.Div., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Th.M., Duke Divinity School

Mr. JAMIE WETZEL

Vice President of Institutional Advancement

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.A., Cincinnati Christian University

A PHILOSOPHY FOR TEACHING FACULTY

The role of teaching faculty at GLCC includes scholar, mentor, and teacher. First, our faculty members pursue scholarship in their narrow specializations and stay current in their fields more broadly. Second, our faculty members mentor Christian brothers and sisters—their students. Mentoring occurs inside and outside the classroom. It assumes a relationship of mutual submission (Eph. 5:21) between fellow Christians. It requires a servant's heart on the part of the faculty. Mentoring also implies wisdom on the part of the faculty and trust and respect from the student. Third, our faculty members teach. This assumes an in-depth understanding of content and ability to connect with students in the classroom to communicate effectively.

GLCC's faculty are not only prepared academically; in addition to Doctorate degrees, they have years of ministry experience and are heavily involved in being servant-leaders in the church and world. Every week they serve as part-time ministers, interim ministers, elders, worship leaders, and teachers in churches.

GRADUATE FACULTY & STAFF

(Date in parentheses indicates beginning of service at GLCC)

Prof. RYAN S. APPLE

Financial Aid Director

(2006 -)

B.R.E. & B.S., Great Lakes Christian College

M.M., Central Michigan University

Dr. BRIAN BALDWIN

Dean of Students & Professor of Discipleship

(2023 -)

B.A., University of Tennessee

M.Div. & D.Min., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Mrs. HEATHER L. BUNCE

Director of Library Services

Special Assistant to the VPAA

(2018 -)

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.A., Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Dr. ESTHER A. HETRICK

Professor of Music

(1989 -)

B.A., Lincoln Christian College

M.C.M., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

D.W.S., Institute of Worship Studies

Dr. PAUL J. KISSLING

Adjunct Professor of Bible

(1991 - 2004, 2025 -)

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.Div., Lincoln Christian Seminary

Th.M., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Ph.D., University of Sheffield

Dr. SAMUEL C. LONG

Professor Old Testament

(2017 -)

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.Div., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Ph.D., Asbury Theological Seminary

Mr. JORDAN NICKELS

Assistant Librarian

(2025 -)

B.S., Great Lakes Christian College

Dr. JOHN C. NUGENT

V.P. of Academic Affairs & Professor of Theology

(2002 -)

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.Div., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Th.M., Duke Divinity School

Ph.D., Calvin Theological Seminary

Dr. ALISHA PADDOCK

Registrar

B.A. Manhattan Christian College

M.Div., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Ph.D., University of Birmingham (UK)

Dr. RONALD D. PETERS

Professor of New Testament

(2004 -)

B.R.E., Great Lakes Christian College

M.A., Cincinnati Bible Seminary

Ph.D., McMaster Divinity College

Dr. RICH KNOPP

Adjunct Professor

(2027-)

B.A., St. Louis Christian College

M.Div., Lincoln Christian Seminary

M.A., Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Champaign

Dr. CHARLIE STARR

Prof. of English & Humanities

(2024-)

B.A., Dallas Chr. College

M.A., University of Dallas

D.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Dr. AARON R. WOODS

Graduate Program Coordinator

(2025 -)

B.S., Great Lakes Christian College

M.Div., Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Ph.D., Asbury Theological Seminary

Master of Arts Program Calendar

FALL TRIMESTER 2026

July	28	Orientation
August	4	First Day of Fall Trimester
	17	Last Day to Add/Drop
September		
October	26	Last Day of Fall Trimester

WINTER TRIMESTER 2026-2027

November	3	First Day of Winter Trimester
	16	Last Day to Add/Drop
	21-30	Thanksgiving Break (between instructional weeks 3 and 4)
December	19	Beginning of Winter Break (between instructional weeks 7 and 8)
January	4	End of Winter Break
February	15	Last Day of Winter Trimester

SPRING TRIMESTER 2027

March	2	First Day of Spring Trimester
	15	Last Day to Add/Drop
	29	Beginning of Spring Break (between instructional weeks 4 and 5)
April	2	End of Spring Break (between instructional weeks 4 and 5)
May	15	Commencement
	31	Last Day of Spring Trimester

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