



GORDON COLLEGE

A Case for Christian Higher Education

Higher education offers myriad choices for students as they evaluate colleges and universities. Among those choices are hundreds of institutions that are affirmatively Christian. Gordon College is part of the Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), an alliance of 105 institutions in North America and 77 affiliates in 24 countries that maintain standards consistent with the Christian faith and the Protestant tradition. These standards include requiring that all faculty members be Christians and that certain behavioral standards are adhered to on campus.

These institutions tend to attract students who are committed young Christians interested in continuing their education within a context of the teachings of their faith. This approach provides a holistic approach to both intellectual and character development.

These colleges and universities have varying degrees of strictness in their codes of conduct and specific biblical interpretations and teachings. Gordon College is known for its lack of legalism and reliance on scriptural teachings for guidance. The College is committed to a rigorous education and to helping students become globally aware and committed to social responsibility in addressing issues ranging from poverty and hunger to environmental responsibility.

Christian higher education is an important choice in the marketplace of higher education. Given the role that their faith plays in their lives and decisions, Gordon students will have the option to fully understand the teachings of Christ rather than descend into divisive culture wars that often distort the faith and the message. For example they need to understand how the scientific theory of evolution and belief in a creator are compatible and that our mission is to serve others and live as witnesses. They can do that best by learning how to think critically, how to live morally and how to serve others effectively and with compassion.

Christian higher education is not for every student but it is an important option for young adults committed to pursuing their faith and engaging the world.