

Asbury University

Asbury University, formerly **Asbury College**, is a Christian liberal arts institution located in Wilmore, Kentucky, United States. Although it is a nondenominational school, the college's foundation stems from a Wesleyan-Holiness tradition. The school offers 50 majors across 17 departments. Primarily a four-year college, Asbury was ranked in the third tier of liberal arts colleges by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2008.^[3] Asbury University's freshman retention rate is above 85 percent. Approximately 34 percent of incoming freshmen are in the top 10 percent of their high school classes, and more than 80 percent of current faculty are full-time.

The campus of Asbury Theological Seminary, which became a separate institution in 1940, is located across the street from Asbury University.

Asbury University is a member of the Christian College Consortium and the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.

In the fall of 2012, Asbury University had a total enrollment of 1,764: 1,325 traditional undergraduate students, 203 adult degree completion students, and 236 graduate students.

Contents

History

Academics

School of Graduate and Professional Studies

Accreditation

Notable alumni

College presidents

Athletics

Gallery

See also

Further reading


References

External links

History

Asbury College was established in 1890 by John Wesley Hughes in Wilmore, Kentucky. It was originally called the Kentucky Holiness College, but was later renamed after Bishop Francis Asbury, the "Father of American Methodism"

Asbury University



Motto	<i>Eruditio et Religio</i> (Latin)
Motto in English	Learning and Religion
Type	Private Christian Liberal Arts
Established	1890
Endowment	US\$27.6 million ^[1]
President	Sandra Gray
Provost	Dr. Bonnie Baker (Interim)
Academic staff	150
Students	1,764 (2012) ^[2]
Undergraduates	1,325
Postgraduates	236
Location	Wilmore, Kentucky, U.S
Campus	Suburban
Athletics	<i>Baseball, Basketball (men's and women's), Cross Country (men's and women's), Golf (men's and women's),</i>

and a circuit-riding evangelist. Asbury was instrumental in Methodist education in central Kentucky, having founded the state's first Methodist school, Bethel Academy, in 1790; its site lies near High Bridge, only about four miles (6 km) south of Wilmore.^[4] After being pushed out as President of Asbury College in 1905, Hughes went on to found another college, Kingswood College, in Breckinridge County, Kentucky. Kingswood College no longer exists. Despite his disappointment over being removed at Asbury, Hughes wrote in his 1923 autobiography: "Being sure I was led of God to establish (Asbury College), it being my college child born in poverty, mental perplexity, and soul agony, I loved it from its birth better than my own life. As the days have come and gone, with many sad and broken-hearted experiences, my love has increased. My appreciation of what it has done, what it is doing, and what it promises to do in the future, is such that I am willing to lay down my life for its perpetuation." In 1928, Hughes was invited to break ground for Asbury College's new chapel, Hughes Auditorium, which is still in use today.

Under great financial difficulty, Asbury College hired Dr. Henry Clay Morrison, a Methodist evangelist and editor of the *Pentecostal Herald* magazine, as its president in 1910. With the help of his *Pentecostal Herald* readers and his nationwide reputation as a great preacher (William Jennings Bryan regarded him the "greatest pulpit orator on the American continent"), Morrison was able to pay off large debts owed by the college and increase its reputation and student body. After stepping down as president in 1925, Morrison was asked once again to assume the presidency in 1933 under another financial crisis. He served his second term until 1940.

Succeeding Morrison as president of Asbury College was his Executive Vice President, Z.T. Johnson, the first alumnus of the college to serve as its president. The longest-tenured president in the school's history to date (1940–1966), Johnson's presidency at Asbury College was marked by growth, both of the student body and the campus physical plant. Campus improvements during his administration included an amphitheater, a 9-hole golf course, an athletic field with a quarter-mile track, a 370-acre (1.5 km²) farm, twenty-one duplexes, a triplex, an 18-unit apartment, eight faculty homes, five dormitories (including the Johnson Men's Dormitory), a student center, fine arts building, a library addition, a science hall, and the Z.T. Johnson Cafeteria. During his term as president, the student enrollment rose from 526 to 1,135. It was also under Johnson's administration that Asbury College moved to full racial integration in 1962.

In 2001 The Kinlaw library was completed. It was named in honor of Dennis F. Kinlaw and his wife Elsie. It contains over 150,000 items in several collections. There are three floors and most of the collections are on the main and top floors.^[5]

On October 5, 2007, Dr. Sandra Gray was inaugurated as the seventeenth president of Asbury. She had previously served as Provost and as professor of business management at the school. Her inaugural challenge was given by Mitch McConnell, United States Senator from Kentucky and Minority Leader of the Senate. Gray was the first female president

*Soccer (men's and women's),
Swimming & Diving (men's and women's),
Softball, Tennis (men's and women's),
Volleyball,
Lacrosse (men's and women's)*

Colors

☐ Purple

☐ White

Affiliations

River States Conference,
National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics,
National Christian College Athletic Association,
Christian College Consortium,
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities

Mascot

Eagle

Website

www.asbury.edu
(<http://www.asbury.edu/>)



of the college.

March 5, 2010 Asbury College became Asbury University. Asbury Seminary, in honor of the promotion, displayed a congratulations banner for their sister school on the main road of Wilmore, KY and the Asbury University Art department decorated the famous statue of Francis Asbury with a new "Asbury University" T-shirt.

Academics

Students come from 44 states and 43 countries. Nearly 90 percent of the university's students live on campus. Eighty-two percent of the school's faculty hold terminal degrees in their field of study. The university offers master's degrees in education and alternative certification programs. Internships, exchange programs, missions, and community service opportunities are available and are part of the curriculum in nearly every major.^[6] Asbury has a large general education requirement ranging from 39–57 semester hours.

Undergraduate majors are divided into three distinct schools, while the School of Graduate and Professional Studies houses all graduate majors:^[7]

- College of Arts and Sciences
- School of Communication
- School of Education

School of Graduate and Professional Studies

Since 2000, Asbury University has welcomed graduate students in education. In 2005, the institution added the adult degree completion program for undergraduate students, which includes three majors and has campuses in Wilmore, at the Jessamine Career and Technology Center and online. The Master of Social Work program began classes in fall 2008, and is a candidate for full accreditation. In the fall Asbury University will offer classes for the Principal Licensure Program to prepare professional educators to provide leadership in schools across Kentucky, nationwide and around the world.

Accreditation

Asbury University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Asbury University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music. The Asbury University Department of Education is accredited by the Kentucky Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, and all of its individual teacher education programs have state approval. The Asbury University Social Work Program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Notable alumni

There are more than 20,000 living alumni, who live in all 50 US states and at least 80 countries.^[6]

Notable alumni include:

- Frederick Bohn Fisher (Class of 1902) – Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in India
- Andrew N. Johnson (Class of 1903) – Methodist minister, U.S. vice presidential candidate from the Prohibition Party (1944)
- Luther B. Bridgers (Class of 1906 – did not graduate, Honorary Doctorate 1921) – pastor, evangelist, hymnwriter ("He Keeps Me Singing")
- E. Stanley Jones (AB, 1907) – Missionary, Evangelist, Author, and Theologian
- J. Waskom Pickett (Class of 1907) – Missionary to India

- [Lela G. McConnell](#) (Class of 1924) – founder of the [Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association](#)
- [Z.T. Johnson](#) (Class of 1925) – Methodist minister, Asbury College President (1940–1966)
- [Edward L.R. Elson](#) (Class of 1928) – pastor of [National Presbyterian Church](#) in Washington, D.C.; [Chaplain of the United States Senate](#) (1969–1981)
- [Anna Talbott McPherson](#) (Class of 1929) – author of more than 22 biographies, book illustrator and artist
- [James B. Pritchard](#) (Class of 1930) – Biblical archaeologist
- [Mack B. Stokes](#) (Class of 1932) – retired Bishop of the [United Methodist Church](#)
- [Cornelius R. Hager](#) (Class of 1934) – three-time President of Asbury College (1967–1968; 1981–1983; 1992–1993)
- [Laton E. Holmgren](#) (Class of 1936) – General Secretary of the [American Bible Society](#) (1963–1978)
- [Wayne K. Clymer](#) (AB, 1939) – a Bishop of the [United Methodist Church](#)
- [Dennis F. Kinlaw](#) (Class of 1943) – Author, Theologian, Evangelist, Asbury College President (1968–81; 1986–91)
- [Rosalind Rinker](#) (Class of 1945) – Author of *Prayer: Conversing with God*, selected by *Christianity Today* magazine as the No. 1 most influential evangelical book
- [Dean Jones](#) (Class of 1953 – did not graduate, Honorary Degree 2002) – actor
- [Ernie Steury](#) (Class of 1953) – Missionary Doctor, Tenwek Hospital, Kenya
- [Paul Rader](#) (Class of 1956) – General of [Salvation Army](#) (1994–1999), Asbury College President (2000–2006)
- [Joe Frank Harris](#) (Class of 1958) – former Governor of Georgia
- [Janice Shaw Crouse](#) (Class of 1961) – Senior Fellow at the Beverly LaHaye Institute of [Concerned Women for America](#)
- [Joseph R. Pitts](#) (Class of 1961) – United States Representative from [Pennsylvania](#)
- [Ted Strickland](#) (AB, 1963) – former Democratic Governor of Ohio and former U.S. Representative
- [Leopold Frade](#) (Class of 1965 – did not graduate) – Third Bishop of [Episcopal Diocese of Southeast Florida](#) and former Bishop of [Honduras](#)
- [David Hager](#) (Class of 1968) – Physician, Author
- [Stephen W. Wood](#) (Class of 1973) – past member of the North Carolina General Assembly
- [Steve Smith](#) (Class of 1977) – Head Basketball Coach at [Oak Hill Academy](#) in Mouth of Wilson, VA
- [Sue Bell Cobb](#) (Class of 1978) – former [Chief Justice](#) of the [Alabama Supreme Court](#) (first woman to hold this position)
- [Joe Hilley](#) (Class of 1978) – *New York Times* best-selling author
- [Gregory Van Tatenhove](#) (Class of 1982) – Judge of the [United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky](#)
- [Andy Merrill](#) (Class of 1990) – Voice artist, *Space Ghost Coast to Coast*, *Cartoon Planet*, *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, and *The Brak Show*
- [Ben Campbell Johnson](#) (Class of 1953) - Professor Emeritus of Evangelism at [Columbia Theological Seminary](#), Author
- [Jessica Ditto](#) (Class of 2004) - [White House Deputy Director of Communications](#) for the Donald J. Trump administration

College presidents

- [John Wesley Hughes](#) (1890–1905)
- [Francis F. Fitch](#) (1905)
- [Benjamin Franklin Haynes](#) (1905–1908)
- [Newton Wray](#) (1908–1909)
- [Aaron S. Watkins](#) (1909–1910)
- [Henry Clay Morrison](#) (1910–1925; 1933–1940)
- [Lewis Robeson Akers](#) (1925–1933)
- [Z.T. Johnson](#) (1940–1966)
- [Karl K. Wilson](#) (1966–1967)
- [Cornelius R. Hager](#) (1967–1968; 1981–1983; 1992–1993)
- [Dennis F. Kinlaw](#) (1968–1981; 1986–1991)
- [John P. Oswalt](#) (1983–1986)
- [Edwin G. Blue](#) (1991–1992)

- David J. Gyertson (1993–2000)
- Paul A. Rader (2000–2006)
- William C. Crothers (2006–2007)
- Sandra C. Gray (2007–)

Athletics

Asbury University teams are known as the Eagles. The university is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), primarily competing in the River States Conference (RSC). Men's sports include baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, swimming and tennis; while women's sports include basketball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis and volleyball. Men's and women's lacrosse are the two newest varsity programs, both beginning competition in the 2014–15 academic year.^[8] Since the RSC does not sponsor lacrosse for either sex, both lacrosse teams play in the Appalachian Athletic Conference.

The school mascot is the Eagle and the school colors are purple and white.

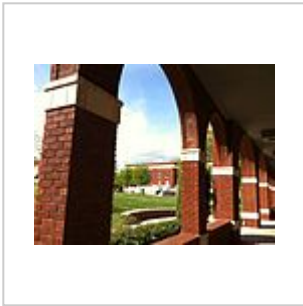
Gallery



The official colors for Asbury University are Purple and White, as worn by these students.



The administration building.



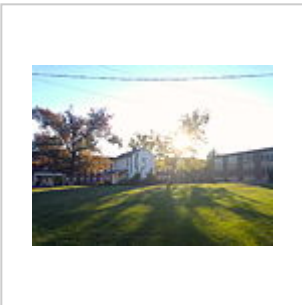
The arches overlooking the green provide cover from the elements and from snow during the winter months.



Miller Center for Media Communications.



The Student Center is a place for students to relax, study, or play.



The Old Asbury Building (in white) was the first building, serving as the single schoolhouse for education. It is now used for prayer and meditation.



The Asbury University Library provides students with educational resources, hosts classes, and is a place to study.

See also

- Holiness movement
- Ichthus Music Festival

Further reading

- Asbury College: Vision and Miracle*, by Joseph A. Thacker, Jr. (Evangel Press, 1990)
- The Autobiography of John Wesley Hughes*, by John Wesley Hughes (Pentecostal Publishing Co., 1923)
- Some Chapters of My Life Story*, by Henry Clay Morrison (Pentecostal Publishing Co., 1941)
- Revival Fire*, by Wesley Deuwel (Zondervan, 1995)
- A History of Asbury College Chronology*, by Dr. Edward H. McKinley (<http://www.asbury.edu/offices/library/archives/history/chronological-history>)
- A Song of Ascents*, by E. Stanley Jones (Abingdon Press, 1968)

References

- As of June 30, 2009. "U.S. and Canadian Institutions Listed by Fiscal Year 2009 Endowment Market Value and Percentage Change in Endowment Market Value from FY 2008 to FY 2009" (http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009_NCSE_Public_Tables_Endowment_Market_Values.pdf) (PDF). *2009 NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments*. National Association of College and University Business Officers. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20100401034750/http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009_NCSE_Public_Tables_Endowment_Market_Values.pdf) (PDF) from the original on April 1, 2010. Retrieved February 15, 2010.
- "Asbury University Quick Facts" (<http://www.asbury.edu/about-us/quick-facts>). Retrieved 2013-05-21.
- "U.S. News and World Report: Asbury University At A Glance" (http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/usnews/edu/college/directory/brief/drglance_1952_brief.php). Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20080802081021/http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/usnews/edu/college/directory/brief/drglance_1952_brief.php) from the original on August 2, 2008. Retrieved 2008-06-24.
- Thacker, Joseph A., Jr. *Asbury College: Vision and Miracle*. Nappanee: Evangel, 1900, 19.
- "About the Library" (<http://asbury.edu/offices/library/about-library>). *Asbury University*. Retrieved 26 October 2014.
- "Asbury University profile" (<http://www.asbury.edu/about-us/university-profile>). Retrieved 2008-06-24.
- "Asbury University Academics Page" (<http://www.asbury.edu/academics>). Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100404074849/http://www.asbury.edu/academics>) from the original on April 4, 2010. Retrieved 2010-04-26.
- Gonia, Jeremiah (February 14, 2013). "Lacrosse Coming to Asbury" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20131012124811/http://theasburycollegian.com/lacrosse-coming-to-asbury/>). *Asbury Collegian*. Archived from the original (<http://theasburycollegian.com/lacrosse-coming-to-asbury/>) on October 12, 2013. Retrieved February 23, 2013.

External links

- Official website (<http://www.asbury.edu>)
- Official athletics website (<http://www.asbury.edu/athletics>)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Asbury_University&oldid=819812553"

This page was last edited on 11 January 2018, at 11:37.

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.

