

Saint Louis Christian College

College
Profile



Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework of the various degree programs at Saint Louis Christian College is established by the institution's Mission Statement, the Statement of Core Values, the Statement of Student Learning Objectives, and the standards established by the Association for Biblical Higher Education. These statements and standards reflect the integration of faith, professional practice, character, and scientific inquiry required in the practice of vocational ministry. Therefore, the design of the degree programs, including the admission of students, the construction and maintenance of curriculum, the structuring of practical ministry experiences, and certification for graduation, are based upon the conceptualization of ministry as a blend of hand, head, and heart.

Hand. Ministry requires an acceptance of the practical requirements of meeting a wide variety of human needs. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us the necessity of physical, financial, and social service as part of the practice to which Christ calls those who follow Him. Vocational ministry should not be viewed as a reward for good behavior or as a basis for receiving honor or financial gain.

Head. Ministry requires the integration of knowledge within a Biblical worldview. The effective minister possesses an intimate knowledge of the Bible, a broad general knowledge base, and a skill set founded on established methodologies. Ministry requires the ability to study, communicate, organize, solve problems, allocate resources, and above all articulate and defend the "faith once delivered." The logical and analytical qualities the minister brings to professional endeavors are fundamentally important to the practice of ministry.

Heart. Ministry requires character and intuition that effectively shape our responses to crisis and challenge. Creativity, a passion for implementing help, values that reflect Biblical teaching and a Christlike character are indispensable qualities for the practice of ministry.

Our Mission

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

What Does This Mission Mean To Our Students?

Saint Louis—Located in suburban Florissant, Missouri, St. Louis Christian College has the benefit of being within minutes of vibrant churches, work opportunities, many colleges and universities, and famous cultural venues.

Christian College—Founded and primarily sustained by members of Christian Churches with a Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement heritage, this institution of higher education integrates biblical, general, and professional studies, and practical field experience.

Pursues—College requires a serious commitment by its students. We employ every possible means to accomplish our mission. We move forward in action to see our students succeed.

Excellence—Superiority in achievement is at the heart of everything we do on our campus.

In the Word—The Word of God defines who we are and what we do.

And Develops—Education is a pilgrimage and a journey. The development process that takes place in our students takes discipline and time.

Servant Leaders—A servant leader has an understanding of ministry developed from the example and teaching of Christ. It is a hands-on approach to ministry that is willing to get dirty and serve in the darkest places to make a Kingdom difference around the world.

For Urban, Suburban, Rural, and Global Ministry—We prepare our alumni for ministry wherever God calls them.

Saint Louis Christian College is a private, church-related, coeducational institution in the tradition of the Bible college movement. Seeking to be faithful to the ideals of the Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement heritage, Saint Louis Christian College is committed in all policies and practices to the pursuit and exposition of truth as revealed in the Bible, the Word of God, and in creation, the world of God.

Saint Louis Christian College recognizes that skilled leaders must have a working foundation of general knowledge. We therefore provide for a well-rounded education, enrolling students in courses focusing on communication, the sciences, the humanities, and the individual's role in society.

Further, the College is committed to provide a positive and supportive Christian environment in which students can examine their giftedness, experiment in various ministry possibilities, and engage their full potential in committing themselves to a lifetime of servant-leadership to God, the church, and the world. To achieve this end, instructional and

institutional assessment efforts regularly analyze the level of student learning and introduce changes to improve student academic achievement.

SLCC recruits and retains highly qualified faculty members from within the membership of the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ who are committed to the pursuit of scholarship and instructional procedures that facilitate student learning, excellence in the Word, servant leadership, and ministry.

The College offers both traditional, and non-traditional adult, undergraduate curricular programs in both two-year (Associate of Arts in General Studies; Associate of Applied Science in Intercultural & Urban Missions, in Biblical Studies, or in Preaching Ministry) and four-year (Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science) degrees.

Our Vision

Alumni of Saint Louis Christian College strategically shape the world as faithful servant leaders for Christ.

Is SLCC Right For You?

Saint Louis Christian College desires to educate learners and to equip them for service to God. We seek learners who are:

- committed to Christ, highly motivated to serve God and the church,
- capable of successfully completing the academic rigors of college education,
- willing to assimilate both knowledge and skills through service and mentored off-campus learning experiences,
- drawn from a diversity of geographic, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Our Core Values

The Faculty, Staff, and Administration of Saint Louis Christian College embrace and promote the following values in the design and delivery of our programs:

- ♦ **Bible Knowledge**— Saint Louis Christian College is a Bible college, where every baccalaureate graduate pursues a major in Biblical and theological studies. The Bible's message informs our understanding of the purpose and predicament of human life, the history of the world, the nature and mission of the Church, and the nature and goal of ministry. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (II Tim 3:16-17)
- ♦ **Christian Character**— Saint Louis Christian College believes that servants of Christ must live by the example and teaching of Christ. We believe that the classical virtues of Wisdom, Courage, Self-control, Justice, Faith, Hope, and Love are exemplified by the life of Christ. He, in perfect humility, taught us first to love God and then to love our neighbors as ourselves. The college's Code of Student Conduct reflects and encourages these values, as do our hiring practices and academic programs. "I gave you an example, that you also should do as I did to you." (John 13:15)
- ♦ **Ministry Skills**— Because our graduates are called to be servant-leaders in their chosen fields of ministry, they possess the skills to relate to people of many backgrounds, the heart to serve them in their brokenness, and the judgment to effectively apply the Scriptures to life's diverse situations. Students are challenged and helped to identify and develop their spiritual gifts and are placed in settings to practice those gifts skillfully. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (I Peter 4:10-11)
- ♦ **Christian Worldview**— A broad base of academic knowledge is fundamental to becoming an educated person who effectively reasons and interacts in society. At the center of a Christian view of life and the world is the proposition that humans and the universe in which they live were created by the God who has revealed Himself in the Scriptures. God is the source of all truth, not just religious truth; and the Bible provides the basis for the ordering of all knowledge. The curriculum at Saint Louis Christian College integrates thought and life across a broad academic range and fosters in students a lifelong appreciation for the independent value of knowing. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Proverbs 1:7) "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Luke 2:52)
- ♦ **Christian Community**— Saint Louis Christian College is a diverse community of believers united by Christ in mission and purpose. The intimacy of our campus provides a unique atmosphere for developing lifelong relationships. However, our community extends beyond the boundaries of our campus and into the city in which we live, the church that we serve and the world we want to reach. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42 – 47) (See also Romans 12:4-8 and Ephesians 4: 11-13)

Our Commitment

To create an environment that allows the College's educational processes to operate at their maximum effectiveness, Saint Louis Christian College has adopted the following institutional strategies:

- ◆ Learners will be enrolled in programs of study that (1) maximize abilities and giftedness, (2) logically develop understanding, and (3) promote an appreciation of how the biblical truths interact with the liberal arts and professions to form a worldview that correctly discerns truth and teaches respect for God and mankind.
- ◆ Learners will have the support of personnel and organizations that seek to develop a caring environment, provide appropriate counsel, and encourage involvement for the purpose of maturing individuals who will become leaders in local churches and service organizations.
- ◆ Caring individuals, who demonstrate an understanding of personal circumstances and needs, will provide the learners with an attractive physical environment and support services that reduce distractions and maximize the learning experience.
- ◆ Qualified potential learners will become acquainted with and enrolled in the institution by receiving attractive, accurate information and assistance in a respectful and timely fashion.

Our Goals—Student Learning Objectives

Although bachelor-degree students pursue any of several different programs based upon their choice of second (ministry) majors, all degree programs share certain common goals. Those common goals are expressed in the following list of Student Learning Objectives. Upon completion of a program of study at Saint Louis Christian College, the graduating student will ...

- ◆ Be capable and reliable communicators of the Bible. Therefore the academic program at SLCC focuses on developing students' communication and vocational skills.
- ◆ Possess unimpeachable character. Therefore the program at SLCC fosters in students habits of accountability and integrity.
- ◆ Know how to initiate change. Therefore SLCC focuses on developing skills appropriate for leadership in a changing world.
- ◆ Possess a permanent thirst for wisdom. Therefore SLCC promotes academic excellence and seeks to develop in students a desire for personal enrichment and lifelong learning.
- ◆ Go anywhere in the world and do any ministry they believe God has called them to perform. Therefore SLCC focuses on advancing students' gifts for ministry and challenging students to develop a global perspective on their life's work.
- ◆ Practice servant-leadership on the model of Jesus, addressing the practical issues of racism, poverty, political powerlessness, and spiritual need among the world's disenfranchised, both urban and rural. Therefore SLCC promotes leadership models that focus on physical, emotional, and spiritual human needs in the wider community and around the world, as well as in students' local churches.
- ◆ Engage modern global, pluralistic, diverse cultures from the standpoint of a robust Biblical worldview. Therefore the SLCC curriculum aims to integrate thought and life across a broad range of knowledge.
- ◆ Responsibly manage financial and other resources for family and professional conduct. Therefore SLCC fosters in students a mature understanding of stewardship.
- ◆ Know how to partner with other Christians without compromising our commitment to restore New Testament Christianity. Therefore SLCC promotes the spiritual heritage of the Restoration Movement, especially its twin goals of the "restoration of the ancient order of things" and unity among all believers.
- ◆ Enthusiastically support the values, goals, personnel, and programs of the college. Through its programs and activities, therefore, SLCC encourages among students the practice of community, mutual accountability, shared loyalties, and a service ethic

Our Campus

The campus of Saint Louis Christian College is located in Florissant, Missouri, one mile west of the intersection of West Florissant Ave. and Interstate 270, and one-half mile east of the intersection of Washington/Elizabeth and Interstate 270. The College is located in a comfortable suburban setting just 20 minutes from downtown St. Louis and the city's impressive array of cultural and recreational opportunities. Students enjoy both the vitality of the city of St. Louis and the safety of a suburb that is rated the safest community of comparable size in the state of Missouri and in the top 20 safest in the United States. The College's 31-acre campus includes men's and women's residence halls and campus apartments, as well as educational and recreational facilities.

Offices, classrooms (several equipped with “smart” technology), gymnasium and fitness center, coffee house and cafeteria, chapel building, baseball field, and tennis courts, are among the campus’s most attractive features. Students also have access to hiking trails on a nature preserve and a soccer field on property adjacent to the SLCC campus. “The Hundred”, a Student Learning Center located in the Keystone Building, is available to all students for placement testing, academic counseling, and peer tutoring.

The college has established an extension and residential internship site in the St. Louis inner-city facility owned by the North City Church of Christ. The North City site is located in the Mark Twain neighborhood, between Belfontaine Cemetery and Interstate 70. This educational facility permits students to study urban missions and church planting in a “front-line” setting.

The Saint Louis Christian College Library furnishes a wide range of resources and services to support students’ study, faculty research, and area ministries. In January 1997, the library moved into new facilities in Presidents Hall, providing room for physical growth as well as permitting expansion of electronic technologies. A well-lit, relaxing atmosphere enhances student study at tables or individual carrels, and a lounge area accommodates more informal reading. A well-equipped computer media laboratory gives students access to software used to complete coursework and also permits faculty to downlink satellite broadcasts for instructional purposes.

The library itself contains approximately 41,000 volumes and subscribes to 150 periodicals. Its special collections include a sizable number of nineteenth century religious works as well as the James E. Redden Collection of anthropology and linguistic materials. Additionally, the library houses approximately 16,000 microforms, 3,000 audiotapes, 400 videotapes, and other print and non-print educational resources. Audiovisual equipment is made available for in-house use of these materials or loaned to students involved in ministry.

The College library provides wireless access to many online research sources. SLCC is one of 75 institutional members of MOREnet (Missouri Research & Educational Network). This consortium provides access to EBSO^{host} Online periodical database, which features electronic access to standard encyclopedias, an atlas, Bible study software, in addition to many full-text periodicals. The College also subscribes to the ATLA (American Theological Library Association) *Religion Database*, providing students with a wide range of search capabilities in breaking news, business, health, military, and religious information. Because the college is a member of the St. Louis Regional Library Network, SLCC students also have easy access to the resources of most libraries, both public and academic, throughout the metropolitan area.

Our Accreditation & Recognition

Saint Louis Christian College has been fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of The Association for Biblical Higher Education since 1977. Saint Louis Christian College adheres to the standards established by the ABHE and other accrediting associations with which we affiliate.

Member colleges of ABHE are recognized by CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation), the national accrediting organization that serves as an umbrella over all the recognized accrediting bodies in the U.S., including the regional associations. ABHE is also listed by the United States Department of Education as a recognized agency for biblical higher education. The Association's member institutions are recognized by the Department of Justice, the Veteran's Administration, and other relevant federal agencies in the United States. Finally, ABHE is recognized by the International Council for Evangelical Theological Education, the theological education affiliate of the World Evangelical Alliance.

The churches have indicated their approval of Saint Louis Christian College by their support in financial gifts, by sending men and women to be trained for Christian service, and by employing Saint Louis Christian College alumni. The Missouri State Department of Education has approved the College for the education of veterans. Saint Louis Christian College, listed in the Directory of Higher Education, is eligible for participation in many Federal grant and loan programs, such as the Federal Pell Grant Program, the Federal Work-Study Program, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program, the Federal Stafford Student Loan Program, and the Federal PLUS Loan Program.

Our History

From its inception, Saint Louis Christian College has provided Bible-centered higher education to equip men and women as leaders who can handle the Word and provide ministry with excellence in urban centers and rural communities around the world. The College was founded to meet the ministry needs of the Saint Louis region. In June 1956, three Saint Louis ministers met to discuss a common concern: the need for leadership in the churches of the Saint Louis region. Luther Perrine, Hubert Burris, and Vernon Newland reviewed the evangelistic decline of the previous

quarter century and proposed to found a Bible College as a “center of evangelism” for the Saint Louis region. Out of that proposal, Saint Louis Christian College was established.

In the first year, faculty responsibilities were distributed among 11 ministers. Nineteen students enrolled. In the following years, full-time teachers were appointed and an 11.5 acre campus was secured at the present location. Luther Perrine became the first President in 1957. Russell Boatman became academic dean in 1962, serving in that capacity through June 1978. Glenn Bourne became president in June 1966. He served in that capacity through June 1978. Saint Louis Christian College attained accreditation with the American Association of Bible Colleges and enjoyed growth in facilities, faculty, enrollment and influence during the Bourne-Boatman administration.

Thomas McGee succeeded Glenn Bourne as President in August 1979. He served as president of the college for 16 years, the longest of any president during the 39 years of the college’s history. During his visionary leadership, over 300 students were graduated. They served Christ from coast to coast in the United States and around the world. Under his leadership, the Adults in Ministry (AIM) degree-completion program was started, Boldly Beyond 2000 (a capital gifts program for President’s Hall) reached \$1.2 million, debt was significantly reduced, and relationships with churches were strengthened. President McGee assembled a highly qualified and motivated faculty and staff. Saint Louis Christian College received an enrollment growth award from Christianity Today and the AABC. The College had the highest enrollment growth of member colleges of its size. Enrollment was at 194, the second highest the school had ever experienced. Saint Louis Christian College continued to refine and revise programs to achieve the mission of equipping men and women to impact the world for Christ.

The 1995-1996 academic year marked the beginning of Dr. Kenneth Beck’s tenure as the fourth president of Saint Louis Christian College until 2004. Dr. Beck’s tenure with the college was highlighted by significant enhancement of the institution’s facilities providing students with a comfortable environment in which to learn.

From 2004 - 2006 St. Louis Christian College was led by a five-man Presidential Transition Team. Team members included two senior Ministers; Ben Merold of Harvester Christian Church and Paul Newland of Gateway Christian Church; and three operational staff members of SLCC; Jamie Lankford, finance officer, Kendall Brune, development officer and Keith McCaslin, academic officer. The Presidential Team under the direction of the Board of Trustees led the college in a new Strategic Direction. Saint Louis Christian College recognized it was facing the growing challenge of recruiting a relatively small pool of students, given the very specific nature of the type of degrees the college offers, in a highly competitive market. To offer a more competitive approach to attract students and address the two greatest concerns prospective students and their parents face – the rising cost of higher education and the increasing indebtedness with which college students are graduating –the College began to offer full tuition scholarships to all full time residential students. To address the needs of our non-traditional AIM and commuter students, tuition was cut in half for full time students.

In June of 2006, Dr. Guthrie Veech accepted the call from the board of trustees to become the fifth president in the college’s 50-year history. He brings a balance of academic expertise from the college classroom and ministry experience from diverse local congregations.

Our College Today

While personnel change periodically, the College's focus remains unchanged. Saint Louis Christian College exists to commit the gospel of Christ to faithful people who will be able to impact others around the world. The mission is still ministry. Alumni of Saint Louis Christian College serve throughout the United States and around the world in numerous ministry functions. They commit the good news of Christ to faithful people in churches, schools, colleges, benevolent agencies, missions, and other settings so that those they impact in turn will be able to teach others the message of life.

Statement of Faith

Without any effort to be exhaustive, but rather to provide an accurate summary of our faith system, the trustees, administration, and faculty affirm belief in the following areas.

- ♦ **God**—We affirm our belief in the one eternal God, Creator, Lord, and Savior of the world, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who governs all things according to the purpose of His will.
- ♦ **The Bible**—We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness, and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
- ♦ **Man**—We affirm that all men and women are unique individuals, created in God's image, capable of intimate fellowship with Him and with the potential for personal fulfillment and positive social good. We further affirm

- that all men and women, by virtue of Adam's sin and their own personal rebellion, are sinners demonstrating their sinfulness in numerous personal and social dimensions.
- ◆ ***Salvation Through Christ***—We affirm that there is only one Savior and only one gospel. Jesus Christ, being Himself the only God-man, who gave Himself as the only ransom for sinners by His death on the cross, is the only mediator between God and man. There is no other name by which we must be saved.
 - ◆ ***Salvation by Faith***—We affirm that individuals receive the benefits of Christ's salvation by a response of wholehearted faith in Him. This response of faith necessarily involves repentance from sin, public confession of faith in Christ, baptism by immersion, and lifelong obedience to Christ.
 - ◆ ***The Church***—We affirm that the church is the bride of Christ, the body of Christ, the community of believers, and primary manifestation of the kingdom of God on earth. The well-being of the believer, the progress of the gospel, and the health of society at large are promoted by the vital functioning of Christian congregations in every level of society.
 - ◆ ***Evangelism***—We affirm that Christ sends His redeemed people into the world as the Father sent Him, and that this calls for a similar deep and costly penetration of the world. World evangelization requires the whole church to take the whole gospel to the whole world.
 - ◆ ***Christian Unity***—We affirm that division is a hindrance to the work of evangelism and we recognize that Christ prayed that His followers might all be one. As a result, we firmly advocate the restoration of the church revealed in the Scriptures as the only sure way to achieve Christian unity.
 - ◆ ***Social Responsibility***—We affirm that God is both Creator and the Judge of all men. We therefore should share His concern for justice and reconciliation throughout human society and for the liberation of men from every kind of oppression.
 - ◆ ***The Power of the Holy Spirit***—We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Father sent His Spirit to bear witness to His Son; without His witness ours is futile. Conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth, and Christian growth are all His work. We believe that the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23) is the primary evidence of the Spirit's work in the believer's life.
 - ◆ ***The Return of Christ***—We believe that Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly, in power and glory to consummate His salvation and His judgment. Our Christian confidence is that God will perfect His kingdom, and we look forward with eager anticipation to that day and to the new heaven and earth in which righteousness will dwell and God will reign forever.

Equal Opportunity

Saint Louis Christian College subscribes to the principles and laws of the State of Missouri and the Federal Government pertaining to civil rights and equal opportunity—including Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments.

Applicants for admission or employment, students, parents of students, and employees of Saint Louis Christian College are hereby notified that no person shall be denied admission as a student or denied appointment as an employee on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap.

Any person having inquiries concerning Saint Louis Christian College's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504, is directed to contact Mr. Jamie Lankford, 1360 Grandview Drive, Florissant, Missouri 63033, 314-837-6777 Ext. 1210, jlankford@sleconline.edu. Mr. Jamie Lankford has been designated by Saint Louis Christian College to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with said governmental regulations. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, regarding the institution's rights and compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.