

**GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY®**

College of
**HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES**

FIND YOUR PURPOSE

Private. Christian. Affordable.



THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES:

Changing and enriching individual lives and communities so that they may flourish.



Message from **THE DEAN**

The humanities study the human experience while social science study human behavior. Both of these academic disciplines allow us to delve into the depth and meaning of life. At GCU, our goal is for students to gain an understanding of the world around them and to awaken to their own God-given vocation in the world. GCU's College of Humanities and Social Sciences offers a variety of programs at the undergraduate and graduate level ranging from psychology and counseling to government social work and justice studies. All of these programs are designed to transform and enrich individual lives and communities so they may flourish. We also offer a robust mentoring program and have collaborated with local school districts providing GCU students with an opportunity to facilitate social and emotional mentoring groups for middle and high school students. Please take time to peruse our programs and reach out to us with questions. We're here to serve you on your journey.

*- Sherman Elliott, PhD,
Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences*

The College on Social Media:

-  @gcu_chss
-  GCU College of Humanities and Social Sciences
-  (formerly known as Twitter) @DrElliottCHSS



COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

PREPARATION FOR THE WORKFORCE

A degree from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences can prepare students for the workforce through our capstone courses offered in many of our programmatic areas. These courses allow students to create a tangible project (research, proposal, community service, etc.) that can be utilized to show employers they have the skill set needed for the workforce. The capstone courses are also a curricular pathway for graduate school preparation. In addition, our secondary education courses as well as counseling, social work and justice/government programs offer test preparation in both curricular and extracurricular capacities.

PREPARATION FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

Our degree programs can prime students to continue their education by moving on to graduate school. Students have the opportunity to be prepared for graduate school entrance exams through a variety of curricular and extracurricular activities which strengthen their research skills and help them feel confident about their future enrollment in law school and various graduate programs.

Psychology and Counseling Blog

These posts by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences faculty and special guests offer an engaging and comprehensive look into our diverse programs of study. Visit [gcu.edu/CHSSBlog](https://www.gcu.edu/CHSSBlog) to learn more.

GCU OUTREACH

“ During my freshman year, I was able to participate in the Guardianship Review Program with the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County. Through that program, I was assigned several individuals who were wards of the state and made sure they were being taken care of. The program reaffirmed for me that there are so many people out there who need help. If I can be the one to help them in any way, I want to do that, and the justice studies program at GCU is a great first step toward getting into that position.

- Andrew Wagenknecht, Bachelor of Science in Justice Studies, Class of 2022



CHANGING LIVES OUTREACH

GCU's student outreach collaborates with behavioral health partners in the area to provide support programs that help foster human flourishing. The Changing Lives Outreach opportunities include:

- K-12 social-emotional support at partnering schools
- Community support with local businesses and organizations
- Peer to peer support on GCU's campus



L.O.P.E.S. ACADEMY

The L.O.P.E.S. (Learning Opportunities for Participation and Engagement in School) Academy at the Cardon Center offers an immersive Christian university campus experience for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities focused on finding personal purpose through academic, social and job skills development. The L.O.P.E.S. Academy partners with Grand Canyon University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences to provide a not-for-credit, non-degreed, two-year program in a Christian university academic environment which includes an on-campus internship. Click on the links that follow to learn more about the program from L.O.P.E.S. Academy participant, [Lindsey Eaton's perspective](#) or visit gcu.edu/LOPESAcademy

CITYSERVE

GCU CityServe is a compassionate Christian outreach ministry of Grand Canyon University that mobilizes resources and collaborative partnerships to provide life-transformational solutions to individuals and families in need. **Social Work students have the unique opportunity to do a 25-hour service-learning project for GCU CityServe within their first year in their program.**

Explore the mind and human behavior with a social-science degree

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Degree Programs

- Behavioral Health Science
- Behavioral Health Science with an Emphasis in Substance Abuse Disorders
- Counseling with an Emphasis in Addiction, Chemical Dependency and Substance Abuse Psychology
- Psychology
- Psychology with an Emphasis in Forensic Psychology
- Psychology with an Emphasis in Performance and Sports Psychology
- Social Work

For more information and a complete listing of majors and degree programs, visit gcu.edu/CHSS

CHSS Minors

A minor is a secondary field of study that a student can choose to complement their major. While a major is the primary focus of a student's academic program and represents their primary area of expertise, a minor allows them to explore and gain additional knowledge in a different, often related, subject.

For more information and a complete listing of CHSS Minors, visit gcu.edu/minors



WHICH PROGRAM IS RIGHT FOR ME?

PSYCHOLOGY	COUNSELING	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCIENCE	SOCIAL WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Theory-focused ■ Covers disorders and pathology ■ Focuses on individual behavior ■ Research methods and statistics ■ Brain anatomy and biological factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Skill-focused ■ Covers diagnosis and treatment ■ Specific focus on addiction, chemical dependency and substance abuse ■ MSCMHC leads to licensure ■ Focus on mental health and wellness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Skill-focused ■ Covers disorders and pathology ■ Sociological focus ■ Working with families, children or individuals ■ Flexible degree for career path 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Skill-focused ■ Covers assessment, treatment, evaluation process ■ Focuses on assessing the needs of individuals using an integrative, multidimensional perspective ■ MSW leads to licensure ■ Work with individuals, families and communities

The Master of Science in Addiction Counseling program is accredited by the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC).

Master of Social Work is accredited by Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)



CLUBS AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- Behavioral Health Sciences Club – @gcu_bhsclub
- Canyon Counselors – @gcu.canyoncounselors
- GCU Anti-Trafficking Ministry - @freedomgcu
- GCU Global Outreach Team - @gcu.globaloutreach
- GCU Local Outreach Team - @gcu.localoutreach
- GCU Pre-Law Society – @gcu_prelaw_society
- Psi Chi Honors Society – @psichigcu
- Psychology Club – @gcupsynd
- Social Work Club – @gcusocialwork



“ GCU has afforded me numerous opportunities. I've led group counseling for high schoolers, served as secretary for the Canyon Counselors Club, volunteered at the Phoenix Dream Center and seen the need for incorporating Spanish in the counseling field. In another school or program, I wouldn't have discovered my passion or grown so much as a future counselor.

– Elizabeth Oekerman, Bachelor of Science in Counseling with an Emphasis in Addiction, Chemical Dependency and Substance Abuse, Minor in Spanish, Spring '21 ”





PUBLIC SERVICE

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- *Government with an Emphasis in Legal Studies*
- *Government with an Emphasis in Public Administration*
- *Justice Studies*

WHAT PROGRAM IS RIGHT FOR ME?

JUSTICE STUDIES	GOVERNMENT WITH AN EMPHASIS IN LEGAL STUDIES	GOVERNMENT WITH AN EMPHASIS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Comparative law analysis■ Criminal justice■ Law enforcement■ Overview of civil and criminal law■ Policing and corrections■ Strategic data analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ American politics and government■ Can serve as a pre-law degree or entryway into public or legal service■ Contemporary and practical legal issues■ Overview of civil and criminal law■ Research and writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ American politics and government■ Municipal government■ Policy development■ Research, writing and analytics



CLUBS AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- Lopes Justice Society
- Pre-Law Club
- Turning Point USA
- Young Americans for Freedom

“SO, YOU WANT TO GO TO LAW SCHOOL?”

In addition to the free LSAT preparation offered in the pre-law studies track, Government/Justice Studies faculty give an excellent presentation twice per semester: “So, You Want To Go to Law School?” It’s an excellent seminar that provides students with more information regarding preparation for law school and what law school admissions look for in their applicants.

“ I took Professor Walling’s Philosophy of Law class, and it was great; it really got me interested in law. You go through history and the foundations of law, and that suited me because I’m actually a history major, so that really brought me more into law. I come from a military family and I volunteered at the Disabled American Veterans a lot, and they do free legal clinics for veterans. That got me interested in how I could help veterans with a legal degree. ”

– **Jacob Frankson**





Explore a career in professional writing or communications

COMMUNICATIONS

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- **Communications**
- **English for Secondary Education**
- **Professional Writing for New Media**

COMMUNICATIONS

Explore principles and best practices of communication exchanges, interpersonal and organizational communications, public relations fundamentals and ethical decision making. Students can also participate in on-campus internships with the GCU TV Team and the Ad Agency.

- **Emphasis in Broadcasting and New Media**
- **Emphasis in Interpersonal Communication and Human Relationships**

LOPES BROADCAST LAB

The lab includes a recording studio and equipment for podcasting and a broadcast studio outfitted with cameras and a separate control room, a smaller version of what you would see at a television news station.

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FIELD

GRANT WRITING CENTER

Students collaborate with the College of Engineering and Technology and other student groups to write grants with the goal to raise funds for research and educational advancements. Students can gain practical experiences and teamwork skills. This is an opportunity to apply knowledge learned in ENG-245 – Introduction to Practical Grant Writing.

SOCIOLOGY/SOCIAL WORK REVIEW

Sociology/Social Work Review is a platform where students share their practical experiences that blend sociology and social work knowledge with their real-life encounters. In its pages, you'll find stories and reflections that showcase how students engage with social issues and apply sociological ideas in the real world. This publication brings together theory and practice, emphasizing how higher education equips students with the skills and empathy needed to make a positive impact in their communities.

CLUBS AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- CHSS Undergraduate Research Club
- Future Broadcasters Club
- Lambda Pi Eta Honors Society
- National Council of Teachers of English
- Write Here, Write Now

Graduate Certificate in Grant Writing

GCU now offers an advanced, post-bachelor's certificate in grant writing to help prepare students to craft grant proposals and write within the nonprofit space.





HUMANITIES

Turn your passion for history or Spanish into a meaningful career

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- *History*
- *History for Secondary Education*
- *Mathematics for Secondary Education*

IMMERSING STUDENTS IN CULTURE

As a BA in History student, students will explore the major themes in U.S. and world history and examine the major cultural, political, economic and social themes that have influenced civilizations throughout time. Early on in the program, students will be introduced to best practices in historical research, analysis, history writing and interpretation within a historical context. Culture through a historic lens is not only explored in the classroom, but through optional overseas trips during Spring and Summer Break.





CLUBS AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- Mathematics Education Club
- Spanish Club



SPEECH AND DEBATE

Strengthen Your Public Speaking Skills and Gain Practical Experience

GCU's speech and debate team is nationally ranked and has continued **national success** on both the speech and debate sides of the team. We have solidified GCU's place amongst the national programs and hope to add more voices to our distinguished team as we compete across the country.

TAKE THESE NEXT STEPS

1



Apply at
gcu.edu/ApplyNow
and upload your transcripts.
No application fee!

2



Make an appointment with
your admissions counselor to
review scholarships
and programs.

3



Upon acceptance visit
campus (all-expenses-paid¹
programs available).

4



Register early to secure
courses and
on-campus housing.

5



Pack your sunglasses and
move to Lope Country!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY,

undergraduate programs offered on campus, available scholarships and more, contact an admissions counselor.

855-428-7884 | gcu.edu/CampusAdmissions

¹ Travel reimbursement is only available to students who demonstrate their ability to meet admissibility for the traditional campus, plus one legal guardian, from a student's home city/state to Phoenix, AZ. School/district/organizations staff, faculty and/or personnel are also eligible. To participate, the program requires a signed MOU by both the student and parent/guardian or personnel, approval of travel dates by GCU and receipts submitted per GCU requirements. Travel reimbursement thresholds vary based on location and education sector. Only one form of travel will be reimbursed, air or ground. GCU does not reimburse hotel expenses, baggage costs, early check-in or travel insurance fees. Travel reimbursement usually occurs within 45 days.

Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Please note, not all GCU programs are available in all states and in all learning modalities. Program availability is contingent on student enrollment. Pre-licensure nursing students who begin or resume attendance in Fall 2020 and beyond will be ineligible to utilize most GCU institutional aid/scholarships for tuition and fees once accepted into the clinical portion of the program. Important policy information is available in the University Policy Handbook at <https://www.gcu.edu/academics/academic-policies.php>. The information printed in this material is accurate as of MARCH 2024. For the most up-to-date information about admission requirements, tuition, scholarships and more, visit gcu.edu.

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