Liberal Studies

A high-quality, interdisciplinary program to complement studies in elementary education or a variety of career opportunities.

CALIFORNIA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
**A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH AND A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE**

The B.A. in Liberal Studies prepares students for multiple callings. While most students use a Liberal Studies degree to prepare for the multiple subject educational demands of the elementary classroom, the Liberal Studies degree equips students for all types of careers. The Liberal Studies program combines many academic disciplines, allowing students to pursue one or more concentration areas.

Students in the elementary subject matter program are exposed to various teaching styles and are prepared to support issues of diversity in our multicultural society. The faculty and curriculum provide a Christian content consistent with the University’s mission. By cultivating a thoughtful and caring approach in every student, the program produces teaching candidates who truly make a difference. Liberal Studies majors learn classroom practices that encourage cooperation and understanding, which bring out the best in learners.

“There is not just room for our liberal arts graduates in today’s workforce, there is a necessity.”

~Louis Gerstner
Former Head of IBM

The School of Education faculty builds relationships with students which continue after graduation. Instructors act as mentors, lending guidance based on their own first-hand experiences. Liberal Studies graduates benefit from both the program’s fine reputation among school districts and a high placement rate into teaching positions.

Students may pursue many desirable double majors, such as Liberal Studies/Music and Liberal Studies/Spanish, offering additional career options. The Liberal Studies degree is also an excellent preparation for advanced studies in Education. CBU offers both a Master of Arts degree and a Master of Science Degree in Education.

**CORE COURSEWORK**

(125 units)

The Elementary Subject Matter Program requires coursework covering the multiple subject range of elementary education. These general requirement areas are:

- Language and Literature, 27 units
- Mathematics and Science, 20 units
- Social Science and History, 24 units
- Humanities, 9 units
- Visual and Performing Arts, 8 units
- Health and Physical Education, 6 units
- Christian Studies, 9 units
- Professional Development, 6 units
- Capstone Portfolio Course, 1 unit
- Concentration, 12 units (see right)
- Elective, 3 units.

“**The quality and commitment of California Baptist University education majors always places them at the top of our recruiting efforts for teaching in the district.**”

~Sue Rainey, Ed. D, Superintendent
Riverside Unified School District

**FIELD EXPERIENCE**

Students pursuing a career in education will have the opportunity early in the program to observe and gain experience in the classroom through various fieldwork activities associated with the CBU coursework. The purpose of fieldwork is to link the content of the university coursework with the actual practice of teaching and classroom dynamics, allowing students to better relate theory with practice.
CONCENTRATION AREAS

Students build upon the general requirements by pursuing one or more of the following concentrations:

- Astronomy
- Communication Arts
- English
- Environmental Science
- Human Development
- Humanities
- Kinesiology
- Language
- Literature
- Mathematics
- Music
- Natural Sciences
- Political Science
- Science in Society
- Social Science
- United States History
- Visual and Performing Arts
- World History
- Others as approved

Each concentration requires 12 or more units of study in upper division level.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the School of Education to prepare teachers of high moral character and ethical behavior to teach in schools throughout the world.

“Properly understood, the liberal arts are hard and practical. At their heart are exactly the same skills that are tested by the SATs, LSATs, GREs, and IQ tests. They are the essence of what is known as academic or intellectual aptitudes. They are the best predictors of success in almost any enterprise. And there are still enough institutions around who select employees largely on the basis of such aptitudes.”

~Wiker & Mulroy (1998)

FACULTY

Barbara Cockerham, M.S.
Assistant Professor

Mary Crist, Ed. D.
Dean, School of Education

Dirk Davis, M.A.
Assistant Professor

Joe DeVol, M.A.
Assistant Professor

James Heyman, Ed. D.
Assistant Professor

Karin Johnson, Ph. D.
Professor

David King, Ed. D.
Associate Professor

Jeff McNair, Ph.D.
Professor

John Shoup Ph. D.
Associate Dean

Sherrye Smith, Ed. D.
Assistant Dean

Susan Struder, Ph D.
Professor

Rachel Timmons, Ed. D.
Assistant Professor

David Wiebe, Ed. D.
Professor

FINANCIAL AID

California Baptist University annually awards millions of dollars in federal, state, and private student financial assistance including scholarships, grants, loans and other awards. For more information, or for application materials, contact the Financial Aid Office toll free at 877.CBU.8855