



Associate of Arts in Christian Studies

64 college credits needed

Complete	Course	Method of Instruction	Credits
HUMANITIES - 10 CREDITS			
	English 1	Madison College Catalog #20-801-201	3
	English 2	Madison College Catalog #20-801-202	3
	Intro to Academic Writing	CLCM #HU-098-M; Independent Study *	1
	Christian Ethics	CLCM PH-202-M; Independent Study	3
SOCIAL SCIENCE - 6 CREDITS			
	Introduction to Sociology <i>OR</i> Introduction to Christian Sociology	Madison College Catalog #20-809-203 CLCM #SO-202-M; Independent Study	3
	Foundations of Western Civilization	CLCM #HI-120-M; Independent Study	3
NATURAL SCIENCE-3 CREDITS			
	College Math	Madison College Catalog #10-804-107	3
BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES - 24 CREDITS			
	Old Testament Survey	CLCM #BI-101-M	3
	New Testament Survey	CLCM #BI-102-M	3
	Systematic Theology I	CLCM #TH-201-M	3
	Systematic Theology II	CLCM #TH-202-M	3
	Life & Letters of Paul	CLCM #BI-221-M	3
	The Torah Story	CLCM #BI-112-M	3
	Jesus: His Word & Works	CLCM #BI-111-M	3
	Old Testament Historical Books	CLCM #BI-201-M	3
CHRISTIAN STUDIES - 18 CREDITS			
	Spiritual Formation	CLCM #MS-201-M; independent study	3
	Church History	CLCM #MS-331-M	3
	Introduction to Apologetics	CLCM #TH-212-M	3
	Introduction to Hermeneutics	CLCM MS-221-M; independent study	3
	Introduction to Christian Leadership	CLCM #MS-203-M; independent study	3
	Mission, Evangelism, & Discipleship	CLCM #MS-205-M; independent study	3

FIELD EDUCATION-3 CREDITS

Field Education	CLCM #MS-412-M; internship with local church	3
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If you've completed general education courses at another academic institution, please provide your college transcripts showing those requirements have been met. Note: a minimum 24 out of 64 credits need to be taken in residence at CLC (which includes an internship) to earn an AA in Christian Studies.

Madison College (GEN. ED.) Courses

English 1- 3 credits

The first course in communication skills at the college level, developing student abilities in critical reading, writing, listening, and speaking, for both exposition and argumentation. The course emphasizes summarizing, analyzing, and synthesizing information from sources and develops research and presentation skills. The class assumes competence in English grammar and paragraph structure.

English 2 - 3 credits

This course is a continuation of English 1. Students will use advanced research skills to write papers from across the curriculum. Research papers will be informative and persuasive in nature and will be based on topics from academic disciplines (social sciences, literature, and the humanities, or science and mathematics). Students will conduct research using primary and secondary library resources, surveys and questionnaires, observation, and interviews and will use the MLA format and one other format (APA, Chicago) to document their sources. Students will be asked to prepare 25-35 pages of polished writing.

Introduction to Sociology - 3 credits

Introduces students to the field of Sociology. Defines and examines the concepts and realities of social structure, culture, socialization, complex organizations, class, inequality, social groups, and social change. Special emphasis is given to institutions such as the family, religion, education, politics, economics, and the media.

College Math - 3 Credits

A basic introduction to the concepts and theory of elementary mathematics. Topics include arithmetic, algebra, trigonometry, problem-solving, set theory, numeration systems, whole numbers, rational and irrational numbers, and consumer mathematics.

Christian Life College IN-PERSON Courses

In-person classes offered at Christian Life College, Madison, run during a 16-week semester, both in the Fall and Spring. Students meet weekly at Abundant Life Christian School (ALCS), room 202, 4901 E. Buckeye Rd., Madison. ALCS is located across the parking lot from City Church.

Old Testament Survey- 3 Credits

The Old Testament serves as the beginning of the revelation of God's heart for humanity. For some, the Old Testament can be a daunting challenge. Yet, the revelation of God in the Old Testament makes our New Testament faith fuller and richer. The Old Testament offers an exciting discovery of the character and ways of God. From the beginning of the world in the opening chapters of Genesis through to the last prophecies of Malachi, God was clearly at work in humankind, preparing the world for the revelation of His Son, Jesus Christ. We have the privilege of hearing God's revelations of himself through all of this history and the challenge of applying it to our world today.

New Testament Survey - 3 Credits

Since our world is so different from that of the first century, it is important to understand the context and content of the New Testament to be faithful followers of Jesus. This class addresses questions that readers of the Bible may have, such as: How can we tell if what is written in the New Testament is true history or just mythology? When were these books written and why? And, what can today's believers get out of letters addressed to people who lived two millennia ago? This survey is enjoyable to anyone who wants to better understand the New Testament.

Systematic Theology I - 3 Credits

Systematic Theology I is a study of the foundations of Christian, Evangelical theology. With particular emphasis on understanding the teaching of Scripture as a whole and in its unity, this course will focus on the doctrines of Scripture, God, man, and the person of Christ. Special emphasis will be given to the practical application of these doctrines to gospel ministry in contemporary culture. The course will also provide an occasion for students to think deeply on these theological truths, especially of how they relate to their understanding of God and His creation.

Systematic Theology II - 3 Credits

Systematic Theology I is a study of the foundations of Christian, Evangelical theology. With particular emphasis on understanding the teaching of Scripture as a whole and in its unity, this course will focus on the doctrines of Salvation, Church, and End Times. Special emphasis will be given to the practical application of these doctrines to gospel ministry in contemporary culture. The course will also provide an occasion for students to think deeply on these theological truths, especially of how they relate to their understanding of God and His creation.

Life and Letters of Paul - 3 Credits

A study of the life of Paul as it is traced through the New Testament writings. Students will examine his conversion experience and subsequent ministry with an emphasis on his mission to the Gentile world. Key biblical themes will be addressed in this course.

The Torah Story - 3 Credits

A comprehensive study of the first five books of the Bible. The early history of man is studied with emphasis on the creation, the flood, the patriarchs, the exodus, the law, the tabernacle, and history.

Jesus: His Words and Works - 3 Credits

A study of the nature, origin, religion, and cultural background of the four Gospels. Emphasis will be given to each narrative and its contribution to the understanding of Jesus. A detailed examination of what the Gospels teach about Jesus' ministry, message, death, and resurrection.

Old Testament Historical Books - 3 Credits

The study of the Old Testament from Joshua to Esther deals with the nation of Israel in its rise, disruption, fall, captivity, and restoration. Special emphasis is given to the background for the further study of the prophets.

Church History - 3 Credits

Church History will introduce students to the thought and life of the Christian church from Pentecost to the dawn of the Protestant Reformation to the modern church era. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of doctrinal, institutional, and ethical patterns including the tracing of core theological issues within the various traditions of the church. This course will provide students with a fascinating and panoramic view of the dramatic events, colorful characters, and revolutionary ideas that shaped centuries of the church.

Apologetics - 3 Credits

Apologetics is making a case for why Christianity is objectively true. We will discuss the reasonableness of the Christian worldview, drawing on arguments and evidence for this purpose. We will offer a positive case for Christian claims and examine objections against it. The goal is to show that Christian faith is not a blind faith, but one firmly grounded in reason, evidence, and a bit of mystery, which makes faith not only interesting but a necessary component.

Field Education (Internship) - 3 Credits

An internship with your local church. The student will experience a variety of responsibilities in an approved local church (either the student's home church or one selected by the Lead Instructor) under the leadership of the Pastor and/or staff member.

Independent Study Courses

Independent study courses are self-paced courses where the students listen to pre-recorded lectures, read books, do assignments, and study for exams. These courses should be completed in a semester-length time frame (typically during the summer months), and are overseen by the Lead Instructor.

Introduction to Academic Writing - 1 credit

This course is designed to reinforce essay composition skills and introduce students to the practice of writing for academic purposes. It will prepare students for courses in which research writing is a requirement. It introduces basic research writing skills including: conducting research, note taking, paraphrasing, summary, direct quotation, and MLA style citation. ***This course should be done within the first 3 classes taken.***

Introduction to Hermeneutics - 3 credits

The act of interpretation (hermeneutics) is as common as communication itself. Whenever someone speaks, a listener interprets what that speaker means. In the same way, everyone who reads the Bible interprets what it means. This course will help students understand the various parameters of biblical interpretation and how specific methods are applied to Bible study. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the original, intended meaning of scripture in its canonical context as the basis upon which to prepare expositions and make appropriate contemporary applications. ***Take this course within the first 5 classes taken.***

Christian Ethics - 3 credits

This course aims to provide instruction in the basic principles of Christian Ethics and their application to the Christian life. The first part of the course will be concerned with general ethical concepts and issues. The second part will be concerned with the sources of Christian ethics and the distinctive character of those ethics. Attention will also be paid to degenerate forms of Christian ethics, the relation between conversion and grace to Christian ethics, and the application of ethical principles to particular situations.

Spiritual Formation - 3 credits

This course has been designed to provide a biblical, theological, and experiential foundation for the process of being conformed to the image of Christ. It will explore the meaning of biblical Christianity and its relation to faith and practice, giving special attention to spiritual formation through prayer, devotional reading, contemplation, and other spiritual disciplines. The lectures will help the student form a paradigm for spiritual growth and maturity that will affect both the individual and those to whom they minister.

Introduction to Christian Sociology - 3 credits (Alternative to Intro to Sociology)

This course provides an overview of the major works of social thought from the beginning of the modern era through the 1920s. Attention is paid to social and intellectual contexts, conceptual frameworks and methods, and contributions to contemporary social analysis. Special attention is given to the interaction of modern sociology and the Christian faith, to the effects of technology on Christian spirituality and social interaction, to the significant anthropological themes for a meaningful cross-cultural witness and to the dynamics of diversity in class, age, race and gender within the church.

Foundations of Western Civilization - 3 credits

Students will discover the essential nature, evolution, and perceptions of Western civilization from its humble beginnings to the dawn of the modern world. With these 96 lectures on the people, places, ideas, and events that make up Western Civilization, award-winning scholar and teacher Thomas F. X. Noble of the University of Notre Dame invites the student to explore the vast and rich territory of Western civilization.

Ministry and Leadership Admin, MS-201-M- 3 credits

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad overview of the theory and practice of administration in the local church by exploring the biblical concepts of leadership and administration. Additional topics to be addressed include goal setting, team building, delegation, human relationships, budgeting, working with committees and teams, legal issues, personnel management, church operations, and the management of leaders. Though the principles are universal, the focus of the course is on the church/ministry organization.

Introduction to Christian Leadership - 3 Credits

This course is designed to move students into deeper levels of understanding regarding the significant concepts and theories that shape our contemporary understanding of leadership development and function in a Christian context. From this primary context, students will be guided into discoveries of personal individual styles, strengths, and opportunities for growth to enhance personal leadership competencies. This course will also have a deliberate focus on the development of personal character, the deeper life in Christ, and Christ-like servant leadership.

Mission, Evangelism, and Discipleship - 3 Credits

This course is a study of the methods of evangelism and the structures of discipleship with special emphasis on the caring and maturing of the newly evangelized. By integrating biblical theology, careful analysis of contemporary cultures, and reflective practice, this course provides resources for evangelizing and discipling post-moderns in the Christian faith.

Certificate in Christian Studies Option

A *Certificate in Christian Studies* is an alternative option for those who wish to expand both their knowledge of the Bible and their effectiveness as disciples of Jesus Christ, but without having to take general education requirements for the Associate's degree. Students take classes for credit, earning a total of 30 credits (a total of 10, 3-unit courses). These credits can then be applied later to an AA or BA degree if that is beneficial to your academic goals.

Independent study courses may **NOT** be substituted for certain in-person, core classes:

- 1) Old Testament Survey
- 2) New Testament Survey
- 3) Life and Teachings of Jesus
- 4) Systematic Theology (one of the two courses)
- 5) Church History
- 6) Old Testament extra courses (one of the two offered)

Accreditation

Accreditation: Christian Life College, Madison (CLC-M) is fully accredited through AICCS, the Association of Independent Christian Colleges and Seminaries (AICCS). We have secured this high-level accreditation while keeping our tuition costs affordable.

We are an off-campus satellite center of CLC-Mount Prospect (the main headquarters that grants the AA degree). CLC is licensed by the State Board of Higher Education in Illinois and have articulation agreements, or CTAs (credit transfer agreements), with many Christian colleges and universities that accept CLC credits if students plan to pursue an education beyond the Associate level.

For more information on the courses offered at the Madison-based study center, or clarification about the program, please email the Lead Instructor, Lisa Quintana: lquintana@citychurchonline.org