Mission

The University of Lynchburg, a private coeducational institution founded in 1903 in covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), offers distinctive undergraduate and graduate programs that reflect its commitment to teaching and learning, scholarship, and service to the broader community. The mission of the University of Lynchburg is to develop students with strong character and balanced perspectives and to prepare them for engagement in a global society and for effective leadership in the civic, professional, and spiritual dimensions of life.

The University of Lynchburg provides its students with a wide range of rigorous educational experiences delivered through multiple modes of instruction. Undergraduate programs are grounded in the liberal arts, enhanced by professional studies, and nurtured by a residential community. Further, the University’s quality graduate programs respond to identified community needs, advance scholarship in the discipline, and promote student career goals. The University of Lynchburg extends its reach beyond the campus through experiential learning, cultural opportunities, and service by sharing the expertise and commitment of faculty, staff, and students with the broader community.

In support of its mission, the University of Lynchburg is an academic community that:

- fosters a student-centered environment;
- develops the breadth of knowledge associated with liberal education;
- develops depth of knowledge and promotes focused inquiry in academic disciplines;
- respects and supports diversity;
- values and celebrates diverse faith traditions; and
- sustains close working relationships among faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners.

(Revised by the Board of Trustees, May 2018)

Accreditation/Memberships

The University of Lynchburg is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master, and doctorate level degrees. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of the University of Lynchburg. All other inquiries about the University should be directed to the University of Lynchburg, (1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24501-3133 or 434.544.8100) not the Commission.

The University of Lynchburg is authorized to operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia through the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, 101 N. 14th Street, 10th FL, James Monroe Bldg. Richmond, VA 23219 or telephone 804. 225.2600.

The College of Business at the University of Lynchburg is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs, (11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213 or 913.339.9356) based on standards
that require the school to demonstrate teaching excellence.

The Virginia Board of Education (P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, VA 23218 or 804.225.2023) accredits the university’s educator preparation programs. The Nursing Department is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing (9960 Maryland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, VA 23233-1463 or 804.367.4515) and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (655 L Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001 or 202.887.6791).

The Exercise Physiology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP at 25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater, FL 33763 or 727.210.2350) as an Exercise Science program. The Athletic Training program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE at 6850 Austin Center Boulevard, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78731-3184 or 512.733.9700). The last undergraduate athletic training class will graduate in May of 2019; the University now offers a Master of Science in athletic training.

The University of Lynchburg is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, VA 20190 or 703.437.0700).

The Graduate Counseling Programs are accredited through the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP, 1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 510, Alexandria, VA 22314 or 703.535.5990).

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Lynchburg is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703.684.2782; email: accreditation@apta.org. CAPTE information is found at www.capteonline.org/home.aspx.

The ARC-PA (Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc, 12000 Findley Road, Suite 275, Johns Creek, GA 30097 or 770.476.1224) has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to the University of Lynchburg Physician Assistant Program sponsored by the University of Lynchburg. Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not enrolled students, appear to demonstrate the program’s ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.

In support of distance learning programs, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia has approved University of Lynchburg for participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA).

The University of Lynchburg is approved for payment of educational benefits for veterans by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services - State Approving Agency. The University holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the American Council on Education, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges, the Council of International Schools, the National
History

The University of Lynchburg was founded as Virginia Christian College in 1903 by Josephus and Sarah Hopwood, pioneers in Christian coeducation. They established one of the oldest coeducational colleges in Virginia with the support of ministers and businessmen associated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a denomination that welcomes dialogue with people of all faiths.

While serving as president of Milligan College in Tennessee, Dr. Hopwood was approached about starting a college in Lynchburg, Virginia, on the site of a former resort, the Westover Hotel. Impressed by the resort’s setting, Dr. Hopwood declared, “Boys, we’ll take it.” He purchased the site on April 18, 1903, his 60th birthday.

The stately, gray hotel was renamed Westover Hall, and it served as a multi-purpose facility with dormitories, offices, classrooms, dining hall, and a chapel. The College began its first year with 11 faculty members and 55 students, and the first graduating class consisted of five men and three women. Today, University of Lynchburg has 190 full-time faculty members and more than 2,800 undergraduate and graduate students from throughout the United States and around the world.

In 1909, the College completed construction on the first academic building, Main Hall (later named Hopwood Hall), and Carnegie Hall, a men’s residence hall partially funded by a gift from industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. A decade later, Virginia Christian College changed its name to Lynchburg College, a reflection of its student recruitment and fundraising expanding beyond Virginia.

The campus master plan envisioned buildings in an elliptical pattern around the Dell. Hopwood Hall (1909) and Snidow Chapel (1966) were built at the east and west ends of the ellipse, symbolizing Dr. Hopwood’s guiding principles of faith and reason. Schewel Hall (2005, originally Centennial Hall) completed the ellipse.

The period from 1964 to 1983 saw the largest building expansion in the institution’s history, increasing the number of major buildings on campus from nine to 19. The academic program grew in that same period, and the first graduate programs were added in 1964. The growth in the academic program was a major step in the College’s evolution to a university.

In 1998, Claytor Nature Center was created on a farm in Bedford County, donated by the late A. Boyd Claytor III. Used for research, education, and recreation, the 491-acre center is home to the Belk Observatory, an education building, an herbarium, an eco-lodge, a campsite, and hiking trails.

In 2003, Lynchburg College partnered with the nation of St. Lucia, and has offered educational opportunities to St. Lucian students on the Virginia campus, on the Caribbean island, and online.

The University entered a new phase of growth beginning in 2003. In addition
to major projects such as the construction of Schewel Hall and the $12 million renovation of the Drysdale Student Center (2014), the University extended campus housing to include many homes in the surrounding neighborhood, as well as new, on-campus townhouses. Additionally, several sustainability programs have helped the university protect the environment even as it has grown.

In 2011, Lynchburg College entered into a partnership with Historic Sandusky, a nearby historic home known for its role in the Civil War Battle of Lynchburg. The University now owns and operates the historic site.

In 2007, the Board of Trustees adopted a plan to pursue more graduate health sciences programs. The faculty soon approved the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, the institution’s first doctoral program. Today the University also offers a Doctor of Education in Leadership Studies and a Doctor of Medical Science, one of the first doctoral degrees for physician assistants in the U.S. The University also offers 14 master’s degree programs and several graduate certificates.

While expanding its graduate programs and pre-professional offerings, the institution has maintained its commitment to the liberal arts, believing that the two areas of study support one another. In 2017, the faculty passed a major revision to general education, streamlining requirements and calling for the creation of new, interdisciplinary seminar courses.

The varsity athletic program includes 21 teams for men and women, which have won more than 120 Old Dominion Athletic Conference championships. In 2014, the women’s soccer team won the NCAA Division III championship, the first team national championship in the history of the University. Students also enjoy intramural and club sports for men and women.

The institution is nationally recognized for offering quality educational opportunities while building the character and the leadership ability of its students. The University of Lynchburg is one of only 40 colleges nationwide to be included in Loren Pope’s Colleges That Change Lives and one of about 60 institutions nationwide selected to participate in the Bonner Leader Program.

In October 2016, the Board of Trustees adopted Vision 2020, a strategic plan focused on making the institution a national leader in student engagement in academics, athletics, and leadership. It calls for new investment in facilities and infrastructure, as well as academic and athletic programs.

A few months later, the Board voted to change the institution’s name to University of Lynchburg, acknowledging more than a century of growth and evolution. The University of Lynchburg continues to lead the way in educational opportunities, standing as a tribute to the Hopwoods’ pioneering spirit.

**University of Lynchburg Presidents**

- Dr. Josephus Hopwood (1903-1911)
- Dr. S.T. Willis (1911-1912)
- Mr. G.O. Davis (1912-1914)
- Mr. George P. Coler (Acting, 1914-1915)
- Dr. John T. Hundley (1915-1936)
- Dr. Riley B. Montgomery (1936-1949)
- Dr. Orville W. Wake ’32 (1949-1964)
- Dr. M. Carey Brewer ’49 (1964-1983)
University of Lynchburg

Dr. George N. Rainsford (1983-1993)
Dr. Charles O. Warren (1993-2001)
Dr. Kenneth R. Garren (2001-present)

The Campus

Located in the heart of Lynchburg on 264 acres, University of Lynchburg’s beautifully landscaped campus is a showplace. More than 40 buildings, many of Georgian style architecture, grace the campus with the Blue Ridge Mountains forming the western skyline. Nearby are newly renovated athletic fields and tennis courts.

The Health Sciences building on Monticello Avenue is a 5 minute walk from the main campus and houses the Doctor of Physical Therapy and Masters of Physician Assistant Medicine programs.

A small lake is bordered by wooded hills and part of an original forest of oak, hickory, poplar, pine, and dogwood.

The 491-acre Claytor Study Center in Bedford County sits at the foot of the Blue Ridge with a spectacular view of the Peaks of Otter.

Buildings and Facilities

Hopwood Hall 1909 (formerly Main Hall)
Carnegie Hall 1909
Hall Campus Center (formerly Memorial Gymnasium) 1923, renovated 1980
Hundley Hall 1954
Knight-Capron Library 1954; Capron addition, 1969
Hobbs Hall 1959; laboratory wing 1993; renovated 1995
Shackelford Hall 1963
Freer Hall 1963
Crews and Reynolds Courts 1964
McWane Hall 1966
Snidow Chapel-Hebb Music Center 1966
Tate Hall 1967
Burton Student Center 1968
Turner Gymnasium 1969, renovated 2000
Wake Field House 1969
Montgomery Hall 1970
Dillard Fine Arts Center 1974
Alumni House 1985
McMillan Nursing building 1987
Thompson Education building 1987; renovated 2009
Daura Art Gallery 1990; addition 1995
Beaver Point Clubhouse 1990
Bell Tower 1993
A. Boyd Claytor III Education and Research Facility 2003
Brewer, Rainsford, and Warren townhouses 2003
Bullard and Huston townhouses 2004
Elliot & Rosel Schewel Hall 2005
Peaks View Hall 2005
Belk Astronomical Observatory 2007
Shellenberger Field renovated 2007
Moon Field renovated 2006, 2007
Graduate Health Sciences building 2010
Chandler Eco-Lodge 2014
Drysdale Student Center expansion and renovation 2014
Historic Sandusky 2016

**Academic Sessions**

**Fall and Spring Semesters**
The University operates under the semester system, with a yearly schedule indicated by the University calendar.

**January Term - “J Term”**
A voluntary term during the winter break provides on-campus and online opportunities for pursuit of a selection of courses.

**Summer Session**
The Summer Session offers opportunity for acceleration of degree programs, pursuit of courses with particular appeal, and opportunity to remedy deficiencies.

Detailed information about summer sessions is available at the University of Lynchburg web site, www.lynchburg.edu/summer.

**Non-Discrimination Statement**
The University of Lynchburg does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy (including childbirth or related medical conditions including lactation), marital status, disability, age (40 and over), sexual orientation, sexual identity, or religion in its programs and activities, including admission to and employment at the University of Lynchburg.

The University of Lynchburg is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination based on sex in educational programs and activities, including employment and admission. (Prohibited discrimination based on sex includes sexual harassment and sexual violence.) For questions regarding University of Lynchburg’s compliance with Title IX, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at Office of Equity and Inclusion, Flynn Multicultural Center (2nd floor, Drysdale Student Center), 1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501; phone: 434.544.8482; email: titleix@lynchburg.edu.

Inquiries about the application of Title IX may also be referred to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at Office for Civil Rights, U. S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1475; Telephone: 800.421.3481 or 202.453.6020; fax: 202.453.6021; TDD: 800.877.8339; and email: ocr@ed.gov.

The University of Lynchburg is in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination based on disability in admission, treatment, or access to, or employment in its programs or activities. For questions regarding the University of Lynchburg’s compliance with Section 504, please contact the Accessibility and Disability Resources Coordinator in
the Center for Accessibility and Disability Resources (2nd floor, Hall Campus Center), 1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501; phone: 434.544.8687; email: disability@lynchburg.edu.

The University of Lynchburg is in compliance with the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in its programs and activities. For questions regarding University of Lynchburg’s compliance with the Age Discrimination Act, please contact the Director of Human Resources, (4th floor, Hall Campus Center), 1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501; Telephone: 434.544.8215; humanresources@lynchburg.edu.

Safety and Security Statement
An annual University of Lynchburg security report, available upon request from the Office of Enrollment Services, describes campus safety practices; crime statistics, reporting, and prevention education; and policies and education programs on alcohol, illegal drugs, and sexual assault.