

**THE CATALOG OF
LUTHER RICE SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY
2010 - 2011**

Luther Rice Seminary & University

3038 Evans Mill Road

Lithonia, Georgia 30038

Web Site: www.LRU.edu

1-770-484-1204

1-800-442-1577

Fax: 1-770-484-1155

Email: LRU@LRU.edu

**An application form is found at the back of this catalog.
Information on the application process is found on page 17.**

You may also apply online at www.LRU.edu.

NOTE

The institution is a private, independent, not-for-profit institution incorporated in the State of Florida as Luther Rice University, Inc., and operates as Luther Rice Seminary & University (LRSU). The institution is registered as a corporation with the State of Georgia and it meets the requirements of the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission of the State of Georgia.

Current information, including the calendar, admissions, program and degree requirements, tuition and fees, policies and procedures, and course offerings is contained in this catalog. The policy of LRSU is to give appropriate advance notice of change, whenever possible, to permit adjustment. However, the Board of Trustees and the administration reserve the right to modify, revoke, or add policies or procedures at any time. If students drop out of LRSU or become inactive and later return, they fall under the jurisdiction of the policies and procedures of the catalog in effect at the time of their return. Finally, failure to read the catalog does not exempt students from the stated regulations and requirements.

Luther Rice Seminary & University is an Equal Opportunity higher education institution open to any qualified individual without regard to race, religion, sex, age, color, national or ethnic origin, or disability. This non-discriminatory policy includes admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other institution administered programs, except where required by specific religious tenets held by the institution.



**James Flanagan, Ph.D.
President**

Welcome from the President

Luther Rice Seminary & University (LRSU) continues to operate on the cutting edge in offering theologically sound, biblically based, technologically advanced education to students around the world.

LRSU Distinctives

- Online tuition is the same low price as on campus tuition.
- All degrees can be achieved through 24/7 online studies exclusively. *
- Federal financial aid, grants, loans, and scholarships are available to eligible students.
- Typically, there is no specific time of day that you must be logged into an online class.
- **Prearranged course cycles** for all programs list the minimum guaranteed course offerings per semester a full three years in advance, allowing students to map their courses years ahead.
- Academic credit can be transferred, up to set limits, from any approved institution and even approved completed degrees. Some institutions do not accept transfer credit from previously completed degrees.
- Assignments and coursework for online classes are delivered using our secure academic website. No DVD's or video tapes must be purchased or are sent or received through regular mail.
- **Online course content is always fresh, new, cutting-edge**, and specifically designed for the online learning environment.

Our entire faculty believes the Scriptures are the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God. That's what we teach! LRSU provides students with the tools they need to help shape their destiny, mature spiritually, and realize their ministry goals.

I invite you to Luther Rice. It will be an experience that you will never forget. We would love to personally meet you and facilitate your life-changing experience at LRSU!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Flanagan".

James Flanagan, Ph.D.
President

* The D.Min. degree requires four, one-week intensives on campus.

For specific information or questions you might have, please use our phone and email contacts below.

Luther Rice Seminary & University
3038 Evans Mill Road
Lithonia, GA 30038

Phone/Fax

General Information	770-484-1204	Local
	1-800-442-1577	Toll Free
General Fax	770-484-1155	
Finance Office Fax	678-990-5388	

Email

Main Address	information@LRU.edu
Admissions Office	admissions@LRU.edu
Registrar's Office	registrar@LRU.edu
Student Accounts	studentaccounts@LRU.edu
Online Education	distanceed@LRU.edu
Financial Aid	financialaid@LRU.edu
Library	library@LRU.edu
International Ministries	intlmin@LRU.edu
Student Services	studentservices@LRU.edu
Development/Gifts	Russ@LRU.edu
Alumni	alumni@LRU.edu

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GENERAL INFORMATION

A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1961, Dr. Robert Gee Witty, Pastor of the Central Baptist Church, presented the need for a seminary in Jacksonville, Florida to several Southern Baptist pastors. In May, 1962, Dr. Witty secured five pastors who signed the charter application which he had prepared. On June 14, 1962, the State of Florida granted the charter. The Central Baptist Church agreed to provide space and office assistance for the new institution.

The first classes met in facilities provided by the church on September 11, 1962. All faculty were Southern Baptist pastors who served Luther Rice Seminary without pay.

Business of the Seminary was conducted until 1968 by the Board of Trustees, with Dr. Witty as Chairman. Frequently the faculty was invited to participate. Dr. Clyde Jones, Dr. Pat Wimberly, and Dr. Kenneth Umphrey served as part-time presidents until 1968. In that year, Dr. Fred Williams was elected as Chairman of the Trustees, and Dr. Witty became president. In 1970, Dr. Witty became the first full-time president.

By 1964, 94 students had registered, and 16 pastors served as part-time faculty. At that time the curriculum prepared by Dr. Witty for the external program was adopted by the Board of Trustees and offered to the public. This innovative, nontraditional system attracted thousands of students in the United States and such international interest that by 1978, students from 52 countries were registered. A faculty of full-time professors has served the institution since 1976.

In 1968, Luther Rice Seminary purchased property from the Central Baptist Church and returned the same property to the church as a gift when the Administrative Building at 1050 Hendricks Avenue was purchased in 1970. Later, classrooms were established in the Instructional Building located on Prudential Drive. The Bertha Smith Library, constructed on Home Street, was opened for use in the Spring of 1982. All were purchased and constructed debt free.

In May 1982, Dr. Witty retired as president to become the Chancellor. He retired from the chancellor's office in May, 1987. Dr. Witty went home to be with the Lord on June 20, 2007.

In May 1982, Dr. Gene Williams became president of Luther Rice Seminary. He had earned an academic doctorate (Th.D.) from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and was known internationally as an evangelist.

In August 1988, a church building and property in Lithonia, Georgia (a suburb of Atlanta) were donated to the Seminary. In June, 1991, construction of new facilities began. In August 1991, the Seminary moved its main campus to this location.

At a Trustees' meeting in September 1991, Dr. Williams became Chancellor-Elect. At the same meeting Dr. James Bryant, Executive Vice President, was approved to become President-Elect. Dr. Bryant also had a broad ministry background. He had earned an academic doctorate (Th.D.) from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and had served as pastor of several Southern Baptist churches. His experience also included serving as a church staff member and on the Board of Trustees of two Southern Baptist seminaries.

Dr. Bryant was inaugurated on May 6, 1992. Dr. Williams became Chancellor at the same service, and he became Chancellor Emeritus in 2005.

Dr. Bryant resigned as President, effective April 1, 1993, and Dr. James L. Flanagan was elected Interim President, effective April 1, 1993.

Dr. Flanagan joined the institution in 1982, serving as a faculty member and later as Vice President for Academic Affairs. He served as the interim President from April 1, 1993 until May 13, 1994, when he was inaugurated as President. Dr. James L. Flanagan was elected Chancellor and CEO, effective September 30, 2005. Dr. Flanagan's academic preparation includes an earned doctorate (Ph.D.) from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dr. John M. Borek, Jr., was elected President and COO, effective September 30, 2005. He joined the institution in 2004, serving as a faculty member and as Provost and COO. Prior to joining Luther Rice Seminary & University, he served, from 1997 until 2004, as the President of Liberty University. Prior to that time, he served a major university for 30 years as a faculty member and as a senior administrator. Dr. Borek's academic preparation includes an earned doctorate (Ph.D.) from Georgia State University. He is ordained as a Baptist minister.

In 2004, the Board of Trustees approved the use of the name Luther Rice University for the institution. The legal corporate name is now Luther Rice University, Inc.

Upon Dr. Borek's resignation to dedicate himself to consulting in May 2006, Dr. Flanagan reassumed the position of President.

HISTORICAL EXAMPLE

The man Luther Rice (1783-1836) is known in Baptist history for his contributions to missionary endeavor, Baptist cooperation, and ministerial education. A better name could not have been chosen by the founders of the University. What Luther Rice believed provides the philosophical basis on which Luther Rice Seminary & University is built.

Luther Rice believed in missions. He was a missionary who felt that every Christian had both the responsibility and the privilege of sharing in the work of worldwide evangelism.

Luther Rice believed in cooperation between churches. He devoted his life to traveling from church to church uniting Christians to support missions. His efforts resulted in the formation of the Triennial Baptist Convention (1814).

Luther Rice believed in Christian education. He established Columbian College (now George Washington University) in Washington, DC for the single purpose of training Christians to serve Christ effectively. At the time of his death, he was in South Carolina raising funds for the college.

Luther Rice believed in the authority of the Bible. His study of the Bible, while en route to Burma as a missionary volunteer with Adoniram Judson, convinced him of the necessity of changing his doctrinal position on baptism. The Bible provided him with the doctrinal foundation for his entire life and ministry.

Luther Rice believed in the power of the Holy Spirit. He believed that the Holy Spirit is the supreme teacher, the interpreter of Scripture, and the imparter of spiritual gifts to Christians.

Luther Rice believed in Bible preaching. He was an eloquent preacher who traveled the eastern and southern states preaching the Bible.

Luther Rice was a Baptist. He held to the great distinctive Baptist doctrines concerning the church, its ordinances, its autonomy, and its basis for cooperation.

CORE VALUES

- We value theological education that is grounded in sound biblical interpretation (2 Tim. 2.15).
- We value the witness of Christ among all people (Acts 1:8).
- We value the declaration of the infallible Word of God among all people (2 Tim. 3.16-17; Col. 1.28).
- We value instruction that combines theory and practice with relevant ministry needs (Eph. 4.11-13).
- We value an environment that promotes spiritual growth and transformation (Eph. 3.16-19).
- We value personal integrity in our students, faculty, staff, and business practices (1 Thess. 2.10-12).
- We value globally accessible theological education (Matt. 28.19-20).
- We value our relationship with God and His church as providers of our spiritual strength and resources as we endeavor to bring glory to Him (Eph. 3.20-21).
- We value on-going institutional quality and improvement (Col. 3.23-24).
- We value a community of faith and learning that embraces men and women who are diverse in ethnic, economic, social, and national backgrounds (Gal. 3.27-28).

PURPOSE

The purpose of Luther Rice Seminary & University is to provide theological education for Christian ministers and leaders around the world with an end to granting undergraduate and graduate degrees.

PHILOSOPHY

Luther Rice Seminary & University affirms the Bible as the inerrant and infallible Word of God and teaches all programs from a biblical worldview. The University maintains that providing a theological foundation consistent with its doctrinal statement will equip the student to carry out ministry around the world.

Luther Rice desires to inculcate a Christian ethic into its students so that they exemplify excellence in every area of life. The faculty members are committed to modeling Christian character for the students as an essential part of the learning process. The faculty does not merely impart knowledge but seeks to develop disciples of the Lord Jesus who will impact their world for His sake.

Luther Rice holds that learning occurs through various means including observation, instruction, and research. Because all truth has God as its source, the entire body of knowledge is consistent with, and not contrary to, God's revelation. Research and

study in all disciplines are possible because of (1) the inherent logical structure of the created order, (2) the absolute nature of truth, and (3) humanity's creation in the image of God with the potential to relate to Him by faith and with the ability to engage their minds in academic pursuits.

INSTITUTIONAL OBJECTIVES

In pursuit of our purpose, we seek to cultivate an institutional environment of Christian excellence through which vital core competencies and values are inculcated in each student.

An Environment of Christian Excellence

Theological education at Luther Rice will be delivered in an environment of Christian excellence marked by:

- Uncompromising commitment to the mandates, teachings, principles, and prohibition of the Holy Scriptures
- Unambiguous adherence to historic evangelical orthodoxy
- Encouragement of academic freedom and critical thought
- Student-focused Christian leadership committed to both the Great Commission and the Great Commandment
- Evident Christian charity for everyone in the Luther Rice community and beyond
- Commitment to a spiritually vibrant personal life that is reflected in every academic and nonacademic endeavor
- Utilization of best practices in every department of the institution

Student Core Competencies and Values

The Luther Rice educational experience is designed to transfer to the student all the vital competencies required of twenty-first century Christian leaders:

- Exegetical/Expositional Competence - the ability to accurately interpret and effectively communicate the Word of God in a variety of contexts
- Theological/Apologetical Competence - the ability to present a reasoned explanation of the doctrine's integral to Scripture and to defend the historic Christian faith
- Pastoral/Leadership Competence - the ability to shepherd and to lead others in ecclesiastical and workplace contexts
- Evangelical/Devotional Competence - the ability to present the gospel to unbelievers in a clear and winsome way and to disciple believers for spiritual formation in the image of Christ
- Academic/Discipleship Competence - the ability to research and study new subjects for oneself and to cultivate a lifestyle of lifelong learning
- Communication Competence - the ability to communicate effectively and accurately through both the written and spoken word

The Luther Rice educational experience is further designed to instill biblical core values essential to the student's excellence in Christian ministry and leadership:

- Devotion to the Word, the Will, and the Ways of God
- Pursuit of personal holiness through the all-sufficient grace of God and the biblical disciplines of the spirit

- Affirmation of the value and worth of every human soul and a consequent commitment to the global plan of God
- Knowledge that all of creation exists for the glory of God and a passion to reflect that glory in every arena of life

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In response to its commitment to Christian higher education, Luther Rice Seminary & University has adopted the following guiding principles:

- a. Luther Rice Seminary & University affirms the Bible as the foundational standard for all endeavors.
- b. Luther Rice Seminary & University values Christian excellence in all practices.
- c. Luther Rice Seminary & University strives to develop Christian character in each student.
- d. Luther Rice Seminary & University equips students to impact the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

These guiding principles drive all Institutional activities and programs.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

As stated on the application for admission, an applicant must affirm belief in Articles I through XI of this Doctrinal Statement. Article VII has been modified for students. See page 6.

- I. *THE SCRIPTURES.* We believe that both the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired by God and are inerrant in the original writings. Through the providence of God, the Scriptures have been preserved and are the supreme and final and adequate authority in faith and life (Ps 19:7; 2 Tim 3.16; 2 Pet 1.21).
- II. *GOD.* We believe that there is only one true and living God existing in three Persons--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit--each a distinct Person, but all of one essence and all having the same nature, perfections, and attributes, and each is worthy of precisely the same worship, confidence, and obedience (Gen 1.26; Jer 10.10; Matt 3.16-17; 28.19).
- III. *JESUS CHRIST.* We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, that He shed His blood on Calvary as a vicarious substitute, was buried, rose again bodily, and ascended to the Father according to the Scriptures (Isa 7.14; Matt 1.18-25; 1 Cor 15.3; Heb 4.15).
- IV. *HOLY SPIRIT.* We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, very God, co-existent with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the chief agent in the regeneration, the chief convictor of sin, and the chief comforter of the believer. Simultaneous with regeneration, the Holy Spirit baptizes the believer into the body of Christ (Matt 28.19; John 16.7-11; Acts 5.3-4; Rom 8.9; 1 Cor 12.12-14).
- V. *MAN.* We believe that man is the direct creation of God--body, soul, and spirit--and is not in any sense the result of evolution but is made in the image of God. Adam, the first man, sinned by disobedience. This act resulted in the fall of mankind and incurred both physical and spiritual death for all (Gen 1.26-27; Rom 3.10,23; 5.12).

- VI. *SALVATION*. We believe that all who, in faith, receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior are born again by the Holy Spirit and thus become the children of God. Salvation involves redemption, regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification (John 1.12; 3.3; 17.17; Rom 8.29-30; Eph 2.8-9; 4.30; Tit 3.5).
- *VII. *SECOND COMING*. We believe in the literal, visible, personal, pre-millennial, pre-tribulational return of Jesus Christ for His Church. At this event the dead in Christ and living believers will be translated to meet Him in the air. At the end of the seven year tribulation, Christ will visibly descend with the saints to establish His earthly millennial kingdom (Acts 1.11; 1 Thes 4.13-18; Rev 20.1-6).
- VIII. *SATAN*. We believe that Satan was originally created a perfect being. He rebelled against God. As a result, he became depraved, the Devil, an adversary of God and His people, and leader of a host of angels who fell with him. Satan has been judged and defeated at the cross and awaits his ultimate doom at the Second Advent of Jesus Christ (Isa 14.13-14; Ezek 28.13-17; John 16.11; 1 Tim 3.7; Rev 20.10).
- IX. *HEAVEN*. We believe in the eternal abode of God and the holy angels, where Jesus intercedes for His people on earth and where the spirits of departed saints await their resurrected, glorified bodies. Heaven is a literal place of conscious bliss to which all saints go upon death and from which the Lord Jesus Christ will come to receive those saints who are alive at His coming. To depart and be in heaven is to be "present with the Lord" and so is "far better" than to remain alive on earth, but the eternal blessedness of heaven is only for those who possess eternal life through faith in the atoning work of Christ (Heb 12.22-24; John 14.1-3; 2 Cor 5.1-10; Phil 1.23, 3.20-21; Thes 4.16-18; Rev 21.1-22.5; John 14.6).
- X. *HELL*. We believe that hell is a literal place of judgment created for the devil and those angels who followed him in his rebellion against God. In the final state, the devil and his demons will spend eternity banished from the presence of God in the Lake of Fire. This same final punishment also awaits all unredeemed people who refuse to believe on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Scriptures declare that the torment of all the inhabitants in the Lake of Fire lasts forever. Prior to the final state, the soul of the unjust at death is condemned to hades in a state of conscious torment until the resurrection of the unjust. At this resurrection, the disembodied soul is reunited with the resurrected body and cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev 20.10; Matt 25.41; Mark 9.43-48; Rev 14.11; 20.10, 15; Luke 16.19-31; Jn 5.29; Rev 20.11-15).
- XI. *THE PRIESTHOOD OF THE BELIEVER*. We believe in the priesthood of all believers so that every Christian has direct access to God in prayer through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, and that there is no mediator between God and man other than Jesus Christ (Heb 4.16; 1 Tim 2.5; Rev 1.6).
- XII. *SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER*. We believe that salvation is not only a gift from God but also is sustained by the Lord. The Holy Spirit permanently indwells the believer and seals him in salvation for all eternity. Therefore, since salvation is wholly of the Lord, apart from the works of man, we hold that the believer shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal salvation (John 10.28; 14.16-17,26; 1 Cor 2.9-14; Eph 1.13; 2.8-9; 1 Pet 1.5; Jude 24-25).

- XIII. *PROVIDENCE*. We believe in the providence of God, but that He is not the author or approver of sin nor the destroyer of the free will and responsibility of man (John 3.16; Rom 8.28-30).
- XIV. *THE LORD'S DAY*. We believe that Sunday is the Lord's Day and is a Christian institution for regular observance of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private (1 Cor 16.2; Rev 1.10).
- XV. *CREATION*. We believe the triune God created the universe apart from pre-existing materials and without any evolutionary process. We believe in the historicity of the first eleven chapters of Genesis (Gen 1.1; Matt 19.4; John 1.1-3; Rom 1.20; Col 1.16-17; Heb 11.3).
- XVI. *THE LOCAL CHURCH*. We believe that the New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers with Christ as its head and the Holy Spirit as its guide. New Testament churches promote God's work by cooperating together for missions and many other joint efforts. The local church is to be governed independently of outside persons, bodies, groups, or authorities (Matt 28.16-20; Acts 1.6-8; 6.3; 1 Cor 12.12-14; Eph 1.3-6,22-23; 1 Thes 4.16-18).
- XVII. *ORDINANCES*. We believe that the local church observes two ordinances--baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that all who have received Christ as Savior and Lord should be baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; that baptism is by immersion in the likeness of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ; and that the Lord's Supper should be observed in remembrance of Him to show forth His death for our sins until He comes again (Matt 26.26-30; 28.19-20; Rom 6.3-6; 1 Cor 11.23-26).

* *For students, Article VII reads as follows: We believe in the literal, visible, personal return of Jesus Christ.*

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Luther Rice Seminary & University is committed to the doctrinal beliefs of the Southern Baptist Convention and to Southern Baptist churches, missions, and evangelism.

However, the right of each student to affiliate with another evangelical denomination is respected.

Luther Rice is a non-profit religious institution of higher education chartered by the State of Florida, is located in the State of Georgia where it operates as a foreign corporation, and is governed by a Board of Trustees. It is not owned, controlled, or endowed by any denomination, agency, convention, or association.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

In this day of disappearing moral absolutes, it is imperative that all Christians be reminded that the Bible, as the revelation of God's truth, must determine not only one's doctrinal beliefs, but also one's lifestyle. In a changing world, the Christian has an unchanging standard, the Word of God. The LRSU "Standards of Conduct" are based upon the teachings and principles of Scripture, seeking to develop personal holiness and discipline exemplified in a lifestyle glorifying to God.

LRSU offers educational excellence with a distinctive purpose. Included in that purpose is a student's total growth and development in preparation for a Christian ministry. We are interested in imparting spiritual knowledge and teaching biblical values, both of which promote the tradition of conservative, evangelical, and fundamental local churches. We are also dedicated to nurturing an exemplary lifestyle for our students.

The LRSU Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty have committed to Luther Rice Seminary & University the highest standards of Christian conduct required to fulfill our stated mission. The following "Standards of Conduct" are intended to guide students who matriculate at LRSU. A more detailed description of acceptable conduct is found in the Student Handbook. All LRSU students are required to adhere to the "Standards of Conduct" and to indicate so on the application for admission.

Student Affidavit

I understand that preparation for Christian work requires my personal commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and separation from sin. I further realize that as an LRSU student, I represent the Lord Jesus Christ as well as the Institution. I am aware that the Scriptures prohibit certain behaviors and attitudes such as stealing, lying, gossiping, backbiting, profane language, drunkenness, drug abuse, sexual immorality, occult practices, cheating, lust, pride, bitterness, discrimination, jealousy, and an unforgiving spirit. In addition, I understand that certain types of activities are questionable and will avoid these activities for testimony's sake.

Therefore, as a member of the LRSU family, I pledge myself without reservation to the following lifestyle commitments:

1. Strive for excellence as a student and in all that I do;
2. Submit to the authority of the Scriptures in matters of faith and conduct at the control of the Holy Spirit;
3. Cooperate respectfully with those in authority at the Institution;
4. Participate actively in promoting the cause of Christ, including endeavoring to win others to faith in Him;
5. Refrain from behavior that will reflect discredit upon the Lord and offend another person.
6. Avoid the acts of the flesh: "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like" (Gal 5.19-21). The term translated "witchcraft" (Gal 5.20) is *pharmakeia*, from which we get the words "pharmacy" and "pharmaceutical." Therefore, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs and alcohol (on or off LRSU property) is strictly prohibited. This prohibition applies to all students and all employees. Further, such possession, use, or distribution will result in disciplinary action taken by the Institution and may result in local, state, and federal legal sanctions.
7. Maintain a personal appearance and dress which will honor Christ.

I understand that the "Standards of Conduct" are to guide my behavior both on and off campus for the time I am enrolled at LRSU. FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THE "STANDARDS OF CONDUCT" CAN LEAD TO DISMISSAL FROM THIS INSTITUTION AT THE ADMINISTRATION'S DISCRETION.

While the Institution recognizes that personal preferences differ and that every member of the Institution community might not agree with every detail of these standards, I must honorably adhere to them. Such an attitude on my part is one of the ways I can develop Christian discipline, exhibit Christian maturity, and demonstrate the love of Christ in concern, both for the integrity of the Institution and the welfare of other believers.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The breaking of the "Standards of Conduct" code can result in disciplinary action being taken against the student.

Violations of the criminal and civil codes of the United States and of state laws can also result in disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action can range from temporary probation to permanent expulsion from Luther Rice Seminary & University.

The Vice President for Student Development, or an appropriate representative, will be responsible for recommending the discipline to be taken after consultation with the student and other Luther Rice Seminary & University faculty/staff who may be involved in or aware of the incident.

The student may appeal to the appropriate dean if he is dissatisfied with the disciplinary procedures taken.

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

The administration and faculty make several basic assumptions about students at LRSU. The assumptions dictate the nature of both student life and Christian service.

Student Maturity: The Institution assumes that its students have a measure of maturity and a degree of motivation which enable them to comply with the "Standards of Conduct."

Active Student Ministry: The Institution assumes that students will be involved in some aspect of Christian ministry. A student may be a pastor, deacon, church staff member, church musician, Sunday School worker, missionary evangelist, or a Christian witness.

Student Worship: The Institution assumes that students desire to worship God in fellowship with their peers. Therefore, LRSU conducts chapel services for the on-campus program.

Student Counseling: The Institution assumes that students occasionally need to seek vocational, educational, or spiritual counsel from institution officials. Therefore, academic deans, all administrators, and faculty members are available, by appointment, to meet with students. The Academic Advising Office is available to assist students. For personal counseling issues, career counseling, or career testing, students can also contact the Discipleship Counseling Department for referrals.

Student Participation: The Institution assumes that students are a vital part of the institution and that their individual and collective voices need to be heard by the faculty and administration of the Institution. Every student, therefore, has the right and responsibility to participate in the student government. The student body elects its officers each year in the spring. The officers elected include the president, vice-president (graduate), vice-president (undergraduate), and secretary/treasurer.

The Student Council is designed to meet four basic objectives:

1. To cooperate with the officials of the Institution in promoting the best interests of the institution;
2. To promote the general welfare of the students;
3. To encourage students to honor the Lord Jesus Christ in all activities;
4. To promote fellowship among the on-campus students.

Alumni Support: The Institution assumes that students will desire to continue to support the Institution after they graduate. Therefore, the Alumni Association has been established to allow graduates and former students opportunity for fellowship, prayer, financial support, and promotion of LRSU.

GENDER AND MINISTRY

Luther Rice Seminary & University recognizes that throughout church history God has been pleased to use both men and women in marvelous ways for the advancement of the gospel. We also recognize that the Christian community has long held diverse opinions regarding the roles of women in ministry. Sincere and godly people hold varying positions on this subject.

While recognizing and respecting this diversity, as an institution and faculty, Luther Rice Seminary & University believes and teaches that the role of church pastor can be fulfilled biblically only by a man (1 Tim 2.12; 3.1-7; Heb 13.7, 17). Christian women, however, are gifted and are called to a broad array of other ministries.

The recognition of scriptural gender distinctions neither disparages one sex nor exalts the other. It is simply the proper response to God's revelation regarding His creation (Gen 2.18; 3.16; 1 Cor 11.8, 9; 1 Tim 2.13-14), His children (Gal 3.28; Eph 5.22-33), and His church (1 Tim 2.12; 3.1-7, Tit 1.5-9).

We affirm the call of God and the ministry gifts that He graciously bestows upon both sexes for effective Christian service within the parameters of His Word. No student is excluded from pursuing any degree because of gender. In all classes every student is given the respect befitting a fellow servant and brother or sister in Christ (1 Jn 4.7-8).

SAME-SEX BEHAVIOR AND UNIONS

Given that the administration, faculty, and staff of Luther Rice Seminary & University are committed to the fact that both the Old and New Testaments are the verbally inspired Word of God and that Scriptures are the supreme and final authority in faith and life, we are compelled to regard God's statements concerning the issue of same-sex behavior and partnerships as binding. An examination of both Testaments reveals that God is consistent concerning his position on this issue.

Genesis 19 indicates that the homosexual lifestyle was a significant sin for which Sodom and Gomorrah were judged (see also Jude 7). In Romans 1, the apostle Paul, speaking under inspiration, depicts the downward spiral of human morality over time. In this passage, both homosexual and lesbian behaviors are condemned (vss 26-27).

In light of the Scripture, the administration, faculty, and staff of Luther Rice Seminary & University cannot with a good conscience towards God knowingly admit or retain a person who has adopted a same-sex lifestyle. While the Institution does not denigrate the dignity of the individual's personhood or deny the worth of his soul, the Institution cannot condone the chosen lifestyle.

FACILITIES

The LRSU campus is located at 3038 Evans Mill Road, Lithonia, GA, 30038.

1. *Library:* The Luther Rice Seminary & University's Smith Library, named in honor of an outstanding missionary, is housed in a state-of-the-art facility that provides a well-lighted, quiet, comfortable area for research and study. Woodlawn Hall, which houses the library on the first floor and classrooms on the second floor, is adjacent to other university buildings.
2. *Parking:* LRSU provides ample student parking.
3. *Student Housing:* LRSU does not own or provide dormitories or other living quarters for students and their families. Students are responsible for securing their own living quarters. Assistance is available to new students, however, through the Office of Student Services via email at StudentServices@LRU.edu.
4. *Food Services:* Numerous eating establishments are near the campus. Vending machines with drinks, snacks, and meals are available in the student activity area.

FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED

LRSU supports the tenets and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accommodations include special parking facilities, ramped entrances, elevator services, and accessible water fountains and restroom facilities. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the institution of any disabilities, physical and/or mental, which might in any way affect the student's academic progress. LRSU will make reasonable accommodation to meet the needs of any student with a disability.

LOCATION (See map in back of catalog)

The LRSU campus has a strategic location on the east side of Metro Atlanta, providing numerous advantages.

Accessibility: The Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport provides air service to all major cities in the United States. Interstate Highways 20, 75, and 85 feed traffic into the area (www.atlanta-airport.com).

Public Transportation: The Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) provides excellent bus service nearby to the institution from virtually every area of Metro Atlanta (www.itsmarta.com).

Housing: Houses and apartments in all price ranges are readily available. For short-term lodging, several quality hotels are conveniently located nearby. Since LRSU is a commuter campus there is no resident housing on campus.

Recreation: Atlanta is well known for its recreational opportunities. Many sporting events are held in the city. A number of cultural attractions are also available.

Employment: The city of Atlanta is a major center for education, banking, insurance, medicine, wholesaling, tourism, and transportation. Atlanta has the capacity to absorb many students into the work force.

Educational Resources: Atlanta has several outstanding institutions of higher education which provide ample opportunities for students of LRSU to take courses and earn degrees in fields other than religion and ministry.

Church Stronghold: Atlanta is a leading evangelical center. It is served by many strong churches which provide numerous opportunities for Christian service. There are also many Christian Parachurch organizations in Atlanta.

Other Amenities: The Mall at Stonecrest includes numerous eating establishments, cinemas, and shopping opportunities (www.mallatstonecrest.com).

Atlanta is the location of several Baptist organizations and institutions and the International Mission Board. Among them are the North American Mission Board, SBC; Georgia Baptist Convention; Atlanta Medical Center; as well as other denominational agencies.

THE PIONEER

The *Pioneer* is a quarterly publication. It is distributed to students, graduates, and friends of the institution. It includes needs of the institution, information about students and alumni, and plans for the future.

LUTHER RICE SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY - SMITH LIBRARY

The Smith Library is named in honor of an outstanding Christian missionary to China. The library's mission is to provide adequate and accessible quality educational resources and services in support of the curricular and developmental needs of members of the university community to facilitate theological education. This is accomplished by providing effective access to high quality library services and resources in a variety of formats.

In keeping with the mission, the library is housed in an adequate, well-lighted, and easy to access facility on campus. The library is a quiet and comfortable place with wireless internet access. Study space is provided for students. Computers for completing class assignments and other equipment, such as copiers, are supplied as well.

The Library holds a collection of over 100,000 cataloged items, including books, e-books, videos, CDs, DVDs, microfiche, and electronic as well as print journals. The vast majority of this collection is easily accessible to all students whether on or off campus.

Library services include circulation of books and multimedia materials, live online reference help, access to various electronic resources, indexes, interlibrary loans, library manuals & tutorials and other services designed to meet the needs of the 21st-century library user.

The library's participation in GALILEO (Georgia Library Learning Online) provides access to over 220 databases covering a variety of disciplines. Through these databases students have access to thousands of periodicals and journals that are indexed, abstracted, or provided in full text. Online access to citations and full-text scholarly journal articles in the area of religion and theology is provided through well known vendors such as EBSCO Host, ProQuest, and the Theological Journal Library. These resources are available to all students and can easily be accessed on or off campus.

The library has a web-based catalog that not only can be used in the library facility, but also through the world-wide web via the Luther Rice Seminary & University website. Materials may be checked out by on-campus as well as online education students. Online students may receive these materials by simply requesting them by email, fax, telephone, live chat or letter. The library seeks to send these materials to the student within 24 hours of the request if received on a normal business day.

Online education and on-campus students will find no shortage of help when questions arise regarding anything from research to database access. During business hours posted on the library website, personal help is available by phone, email, fax, or live chat available from the library website. Help is also available through an assortment of manuals, tutorials and search tips available from the library website.

The Smith Library provides interlibrary loan services through cooperative arrangements and agreements with different library consortiums and academic institutions. Through these arrangements and agreements students have access to literally millions of materials for their research needs. The library's webpage describes the interlibrary loan process and contains links to an online form. For more information about the library, see <http://library.lru.edu/>.

DISCLOSURE POLICY

1. Credits and degrees earned from colleges in the State of Florida which are licensed by the Commission for Independent Education do not automatically qualify the holder for a Florida teaching certificate. Any person interested in obtaining a Florida teaching certificate should contact the Office of Teacher Certification, Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.
2. Credits and degrees earned from colleges in the state of Florida which are licensed by the Commission for Independent Education do not automatically qualify the holder to participate in professional licensing examinations in Florida. Any person interested in practicing a regulated profession in Florida should contact the appropriate state regulatory agency in the field of interest.
3. Information regarding the institution may be obtained by contacting the Commission for Independent Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400, (888) 224-6684, or the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, 2100 East Exchange Place, Suite 203, Tucker, Georgia, 30084-5313, (770) 414-3300.

4. Students pursuing a degree with a goal of being licensed or authorized in any profession should contact the licensing or regulatory agency of his state in order to determine whether courses or degrees from Luther Rice Seminary & University will qualify him for licensure or authorization. It will be important to inform that agency that LRSU is accredited by Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, an accrediting agency recognized by the US Department of Education and a member of the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.
5. A degree from Luther Rice Seminary & University is not an indication that LRSU is recommending the student for licensing or ordination. Each ecclesiastical denominational organization has its own set of guidelines for licensing and ordaining its ministers.
6. Credits and degrees earned at Luther Rice Seminary & University are not automatically transferable to all other colleges, universities, or seminaries. Any person interested in the transferability of credit from Luther Rice Seminary & University to another institution should contact the Admissions Office of that institution.
7. If the Institution proposes to have a physical presence in a state, proper permission will be sought in advance from the state's educational authority governing private educational institutions.
8. Degree program(s) of study offered by Luther Rice Seminary & University have been declared exempt from the requirements for licensure under provisions of North Carolina General Studies (G.S.) 116-15(d) for exemption from licensure with respect to religious education...Exemption from licensure is not based upon any assessment of program quality under established licensing standards.

ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION

1. Luther Rice Seminary & University is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) [P.O. Box 328, Forest, VA 24551, Telephone: 434-525-9539, email: info@tracs.org], having been awarded Reaffirmed status as a Category IV institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on November 28, 2005; this status is effective for a period of ten years. TRACS is a recognized United State Department of Education (USDE), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).
2. LRSU operates under the authorization of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, 2100 East Exchange Place, Suite 203, Tucker, Georgia, 30084-5313, (770) 414-3300.
3. LRSU is licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400, (888) 224-6684.
4. LRSU is a member of ACCESS.
5. LRSU is a member of AACRAO, The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers.
6. LRSU is listed under "The Best Alternative Programs/Nontraditional Education" in the Comprehensive Guide to the Best Colleges and Universities in the United States, published by the American Council for University Planning and Academic Excellence (ACUPAE).
7. LRSU is a member of CASE, The Council for Advancement and Support of Education.
8. LRSU is a member of NCPG, The National Committee on Planned Giving.
9. LRSU is a member of GCPG, The Georgia Committee on Planned Giving.
10. LRSU is a member of AFP, The Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Documents of accreditation and recognition may be viewed at the Office of Academic Affairs.

LRSU GRADUATION RATE

The current graduation rate for LRSU undergraduate students can be obtained through the following website. <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator?q=luther+rice+university&s=GA&zc=30038&zd=0&of=3&ct=2+3&id=135364>

PLACEMENT

For those students and alumni who are not serving in a ministry field or who desire to change fields of ministry or for those seeking to change disciplines, LRSU provides assistance through the Placement Office.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Students who are enrolled in at least 9 hours per semester are eligible to participate in a "Personal Security Program" offered by the GuideStone Financial Services of the Southern Baptist Convention.

To qualify for open enrollment in this health insurance plan, the following criteria must be met:

1. You must apply within 30 days of enrollment (this is considered open enrollment). If a student applies after this time period they are subject to insurance underwriting, which would include a physical exam, blood test, and extensive medical information.
2. You must not have previously applied for participation in the Personal Security Program and been rejected for yourself or a family member.
3. You must not have previously enrolled in Personal Security Program plans.

Those students who fulfill criteria 2 and 3 above, but are no longer eligible for open enrollment must provide evidence of good health on student and all family members requesting coverage.

The cost of coverage in the Personal Security Program is determined by the student's geographical area of residence and age. Applications can be obtained from LRSU. For questions regarding this program, students should call the GuideStone Financial Services at 1-800-262-0511.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Luther Rice Seminary & University is committed to providing a learning and working environment that is free of discrimination. In keeping with this commitment, unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment, is strictly prohibited. Harassment is defined as unwelcome or unsolicited verbal, physical, or visual contact that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. Any students who believe that they have been subjected to such treatment should immediately report such to the Office of Student Development.

HAZING POLICY

Luther Rice Seminary & University strictly complies with Georgia State Law (Code 1981, 16-5-61, enacted by GA.L. 1988, p.694, 1.) prohibiting hazing. To haze means to subject a student to an activity that is likely to endanger the physical health and/or mental health of a student, regardless of the student's willingness to participate in such activity. Hazing is prohibited specifically as a condition or precondition of gaining acceptance, membership, office or other status in a student organization.

Some examples of hazing are: (1) acts that cause undue discomfort or bodily harm; (2) acts involving psychological mistreatment including acts of personal servitude or humiliation; (3) acts that endanger the life or health of students; and (4) acts that interfere with class schedules or academic pursuits. More specifically, hazing shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

DRUG FREE POLICY

Luther Rice Seminary & University requires that its campus, faculty, staff, and students be drug free. The institution, including all departments and affiliated institutions within it, expressly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance on the campus and premises. Violation of this policy will result in the immediate dismissal from Luther Rice Seminary & University of any student involved in these activities. Any student using alcohol or participating in the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs while on the properties owned or used by Luther Rice Seminary & University will be immediately dismissed. In addition, students involved in such illegal activities are subject to legal prosecution under federal, state, and local law and may be liable for personal injuries or property damage that occur when participating in the above activities.

Luther Rice Seminary & University also considers tobacco to be habit-forming and addictive and strictly prohibits smoking or the usage of other tobacco substances while on any of the campuses or while attending other institution related activities.

ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT

Prospective students may access a list of various criminal offenses and the occurrence of incidents that have occurred at the LRSU main campus from the previous three academic years from the following website. http://www.lru.edu/Content.aspx?page=campus_safety&tool=quicklinks.

The Luther Rice Seminary & University main campus security report is available in hardcopy format upon electronic request to studentservices@LRU.edu.