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# Grand Rapids, Michigan

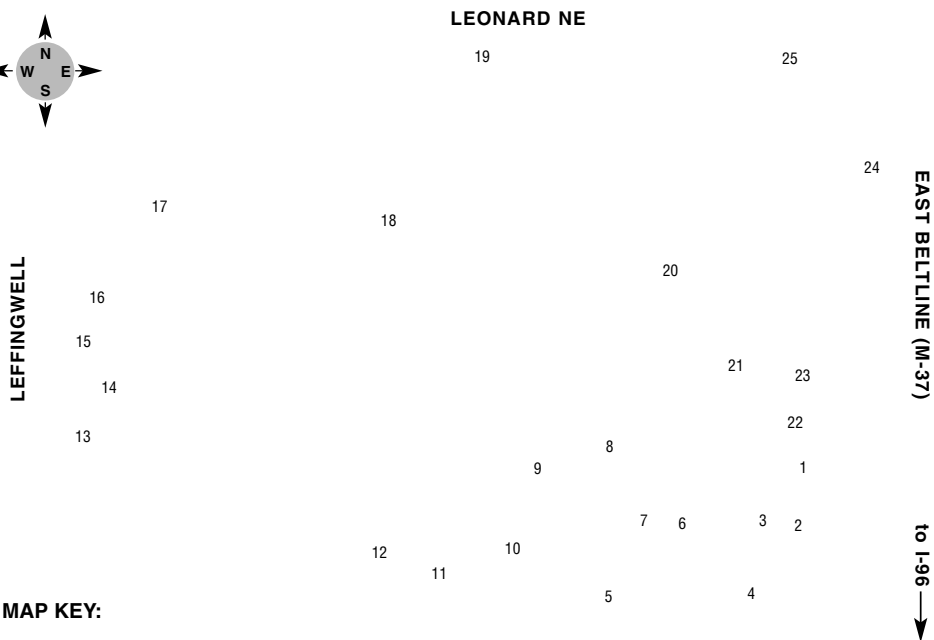
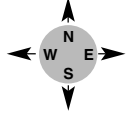
2002 • 2003 Academic Catalog



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# Campus Map



**MAP KEY:**

- 1. Ketcham Bldg.
- 2. Faber Hall/Family Christian Stores
- 3. Bolthouse Hall
- 4. Gordon Music Bldg.
- 5. Miller Hall
- 6. Gainey Conference Center
- 7. Corum Student Union
- 8. Quincer Hall
- 9. Pickitt Hall
- 10. Keithley Hall
- 11. VanOsdel Hall
- 12. Cook Hall
- 13. Fuller Hall
- 14. Knol Hall
- 15. Morris Hall
- 16. Babcock Hall
- 17. Crawford Hall
- 18. Wood Seminary Bldg.
- 19. Adema Honors House
- 20. Hansen Athletic Center
- 21. Miller Library
- 22. Daverman Hall
- 23. Administration Bldg.
- 24. 91.3 WCSG/Mission Network News/ His Kids Radio
- 25. ACE Bldg.

**BRADFORD**

# 2002/2003 Academic Calendar

## Fall 2002

Faculty Work Days	August 22-23
Classes Begin	August 28
Labor Day (No classes)	September 2
Registration Begins	October 28
Thanksgiving Break	November 27-29
Classes Resume	December 2
Senior Assessment	December 7
Final Day of Classes	December 13
Final Exams	December 16-19
Last day for withdrawal without W/P or W/E	November 6
Last day for withdrawal without W/E	December 4

## Spring 2003

J-Term	January 6-17
Classes Begin	January 20
Registration Begins	March 3
Spring Break	March 10-14
Classes Resume	March 17
Good Friday (No classes)	April 18
Easter Sunday	April 20
Classes Resume (Tues.)	April 22
Senior Assessment	May 3
Final Day of Classes	May 9
Final Exams	May 12-15
Commencement	May 17
Last day for withdrawal without W/P or W/E	March 31
Last day for withdrawal without W/E	April 28

# A Letter from the President

Dear Student,

Welcome to Cornerstone University. I'm glad you have chosen this institution of higher learning, and I hope you come to campus eager to learn and ready to work. Did I say "work?" Yes, pursuing and achieving a higher education involves commitment, discipline, and a good work ethic. What you learn will not be handed to you; your degree will be **earned**. Our faculty and staff are able and willing to share with you from their spiritual, academic and professional experience. Your opportunity and task is to learn from them all that you can.

Cornerstone University is a Christian institution of higher learning. We are interested in your development in two primary ways: what we call a "Christian Worldview," your philosophy of life, and your "Leadership Skills," your ability to lead and thus make a great impact in the world for Christ. Now Cornerstone University will teach you a lot more than this, but these twin characteristics will define your educational experience, and you will hear more about them in the days ahead.

Allow me to offer this piece of advice: get "involved" as quickly and in as much as you can. You'll meet more friends, learn more, grow more, and enjoy your university education more.

I look forward to meeting you. And in just a short time, I'll shake your hand on the Commencement platform. In the meantime, I pray you will enjoy the learning process. It's work, but it's fun.

God bless you,

Rex M. Rogers  
President

## History of Cornerstone University

Cornerstone University is an independent, conservative, evangelical, Christian institution. The university (formerly Grand Rapids Baptist College and Seminary) began as an evening Bible Institute in the educational wing of the Wealthy Street Baptist Church on January 7, 1941. Two hundred and eleven students enrolled in Bible courses designed to make them more effective lay workers in local churches. The response to the program and the expressed desire of many students to enter into ministry led to the inauguration of a day school in 1944, which offered two- and three-year programs of study.

In 1945, with the hiring of seminary-educated professors, the level of education for ministry was raised. As a prerequisite to entrance into the pastoral ministries program, a minimum of two years of general education, including Greek and philosophy, was required. In 1955, the seminary moved to admit only students with baccalaureate degrees. Steps were also taken to change both the level and the function of the Bible Institute to a degree-granting, undergraduate institution. One of the options considered was to become a liberal arts college. Finances and faculty did not adequately support that move, and in 1963 the Bible Institute became a state-approved Bible College, chartered to offer the Bachelor of Religious Education and Bachelor of Music degrees. The Bible College incorporated the general education of the pre-seminary course, added six, fifteen to twenty hour concentrations in the liberal arts to its curriculum, and became a four-year college with a two-year general education base and a major in Bible. In 1964, the College and Seminary moved to a new 64-acre campus and the same year the College was received as a member of the American Association of Bible Colleges. The campus is now 119 acres.

In 1972, with the development of facilities, faculty and finances, the institution was approved by the State of Michigan as a degree-granting college of arts and sciences. In 1977, the institution was accredited by what is now The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2514, 312-263-0456). Information and documents relative to accreditation are available for public inspection through the Executive Vice President's Office.

In 1993, Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music was joined to the institution for the preservation of its rich heritage and academic records. The following year (June 1994), the name of the institution was changed from Grand Rapids Baptist College and Seminary to Cornerstone College and Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary. In 1993, the College also instituted an Adult and Continuing Education program. On July 1, 1999, following approval by the State of Michigan, Cornerstone College and Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary became Cornerstone University.

Cornerstone University holds memberships in the Council of Independent Colleges, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Michigan, the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA, since 1977).

## The Mission and Purpose of Cornerstone University

Cornerstone University is a theologically conservative institution of Christian higher education that enables individuals to apply unchanging biblical principles in a rapidly changing world.

### Philosophy of Christian Liberal Arts Education

The general purpose of Christian education is to educate persons to live the life of faith. Faith is the appropriate response of the human person to God's self-disclosure in general revelation and in special redemptive revelation. To respond appropriately to this revelation means to believe in the person of Christ as revealed in Scripture. It is to place one's loyalty, allegiance, and confidence in Christ to such an extent that life gets its meaning and decisions get their pattern from the primacy of this personal relationship. This Christian life is lived in two basic communities – the Christian community and society.

Christian liberal arts education is comprised of extensive and intensive study of certain academic disciplines. Disciplines have a particular content, a conceptual framework, and methods for discerning truth. Christian education in the disciplines implies study of God's creation, illumined and directed by God's special revelation in Scripture. The professor will integrate the discipline and biblical revelation with a view to a Christian understanding of the discipline and the formation of a Christian worldview in the learner.

The general education core provides extensive study of many disciplines in order to rightly interpret reality and live out one's faith in all areas of life. The major provides the intensive study of a specific subject area to have precise knowledge and facility in the discipline. In both areas the study of the disciplines should be illumined and directed by special revelation.

Education also seeks to develop certain competencies in the learner. Communication skills include reading, writing, speaking and listening. These skills are necessary for disciplined study of any aspect of reality. Critical thinking skills and personal well-being transcend any specific discipline and are necessary for scholarship and a healthy life, respectively.

The graduate of a Christian liberal arts education ought to have developed a Christian worldview, intellectual skills, community skills necessary to function in the Christian community and society, and skills and attitudes conducive to spiritual formation.

### University Goals

- Students will develop an integrated Christian worldview.
- Students will develop spiritual, intellectual, emotional, aesthetic, physical, and social maturity.
- Students will acquire the knowledge and abilities necessary to engage in meaningful vocations and ministries.

- Students will cultivate the critical thinking skills and learning competencies which foster lifelong learning.
- Faculty will research, critique, and contribute to the knowledge associated with each academic discipline.

## Curricular Goals

Education at Cornerstone University is about more than mere mastery of a particular subject or body of knowledge. It is about preparing the whole person for a lifetime of vocation and service. To that end, our curriculum aims to address several critical areas of learning in very intentional and focused ways:

Worldview: Students will develop...

- A Christian worldview as a continuous, lifelong process of intellectual integration, behavioral integration, and values integration.
- A biblical worldview that recognizes the responsibilities inherent in a Christian community. Home and church are just two Christian communities to which we owe allegiance, and from which we can take the message of reconciliation in Christ out into the marketplace.
- Their personal lives as ones of responsible stewardship of time, fiscal resources, personal wellness, and environment.
- An aesthetic appreciation of God's creation and human expression of it.

Intellectual Skills: Students will develop...

- Effective oral and written communication skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.
- The mathematics and computer skills requisite for success in their culture.
- Critical (analytical) thinking skills: information gathering, remembering, organizing, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating.
- The ability and desire to engage in independent learning on a lifelong basis.

Community Skills: Students will cultivate...

- A balanced awareness of their own strengths, weaknesses and values with a view toward self improvement.
- Sensitive and effective interpersonal skills.
- Leadership skills consistent with the biblical model.
- An understanding of and appreciation for ethnic, racial and gender diversity while recognizing that believers are one in Christ.
- An attitude of ministry toward others.

Spiritual Formation: Students will develop...

- Intrinsic motivation to mature spiritually.
- A knowledge of God, Scripture and other basic doctrines as a foundation for spiritual formation.

- Spiritual attitudes of obedience to God, humility toward self, and service toward others.
- The hermeneutical skills necessary to interpret the Bible appropriately.

## Co-Curricular Learning

All learning at Cornerstone University falls into the categories of curricular or co-curricular. Curricular learning is associated with classroom activity and its various extensions out of the classroom such as internships, student teaching, and field trips. Co-curricular learning supports and enhances the formal curricular learning of students through a variety of programs and activities. These include informal discussions with roommates and friends, Bible study groups in the residence halls, programs on such topics as personal safety, biblical discernment, and leadership as well as participation in athletics, missions projects, and community service. The primary administrative area responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the co-curriculum is Student Development.

## Co-Curricular Goals

As professionals called to participate in the stewardship of students' educational experience, Student Development seeks to advance the mission of Cornerstone University by providing a wide range of programs and services that cultivate students' spiritual formation, learning, and development.

To this end, each member of the Student Development team will:

1. Provide excellent support services which remove barriers to spiritual formation, learning, and development.
2. Challenge and support students in the process of integrating their faith with all of their learning.
3. Develop a challenging and comprehensive co-curriculum.
4. Assist students in the development of leadership skills in preparation for lifelong service.
5. Promote an understanding and appreciation of diversity within the unity of Christian community.

## Cornerstone University Distinctives

All college and universities say they educate students. Most colleges and universities offer an abundance of academic programs. Many colleges and universities provide beneficial co-curricular programs and a few colleges and universities even include a unique Christian emphasis.

What, then, makes Cornerstone University distinct? Two things: our commitment to Christian worldview and our commitment to leadership development.

### Christian Worldview Initiative

First, worldview formation is crucial in this post-Christian age. To help meet this challenge, Cornerstone University has established the Christian Worldview Initiative. In order to assure that all personnel understand and are able to teach and serve with a Christian philosophy of learning and life, the institution has initiated a program in which all faculty, staff and trustees complete a two-level course of instruction. Individuals completing the Institute will have participated in approximately 20 hours of instruction along with related reading assignments and writing projects.

It is also our intention to provide Christian worldview instruction to all students at the university. As part of a new student's coursework, he or she will be required to take COR 100, which includes a significant focus on the subject of worldview. In addition, faculty members will be integrating more worldview elements into the courses and programs offered by the university. It is our desire that graduates of Cornerstone University know how to differentiate between Christian and non-Christian worldviews, and that they would live and work according to biblical principles.

### Leadership Initiative

Second, recognizing the need for a new generation of Christian leaders, the university has launched the Leadership Development Initiative. This new effort, just begun in the Spring of 2001, will bring together the curricular and co-curricular elements of the university in new and exciting ways. Believing that leadership is learned both in the classroom and in the experiences of life, this initiative will engage students at both a theoretical and practical level. Faculty and staff mentors, special lecturers and opportunities to practice leadership both on and off the campus will serve, we believe, to equip our graduates with the knowledge and skill necessary to serve as leaders in their churches, their work places and their communities.

Cornerstone University is committed to grounding its graduates in a Christian worldview and sending them into the world as Christian leaders. While we believe we may be one of the only Christian universities in the country to implement this type of shared emphasis, our desire goes beyond being "the first" or "the only." Our desire is to glorify God and to prepare our graduates for Kingdom service through these emphases.

## **Asia Program**

Cornerstone University provides graduate level theological education to eligible national church leaders and cross-cultural missionaries ministering in Asia. This program offers the means whereby these individuals may earn the In-Ministry Master of Religious Education degree from Cornerstone University while remaining in Asia. Working in connection with the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE), Cornerstone has full-time faculty and staff in Singapore administering this program.

Students earn their degree through a combination of distance education and resident seminars which are held in major Asian cities. The seminars are taught by full-time Cornerstone University Asia Program faculty, Grand Rapids campus faculty, and

adjunct faculty living and/or ministering in Asia. Tuition levels for both extension courses and resident seminars have been adjusted to fit the economics of the Asian countries. Although the academic work is accomplished through the Asia program office in Singapore, the completed degree is awarded by Cornerstone. The Asia Program is approved and accredited by North Central Association of College and Schools.

For further information regarding the Cornerstone University Asia Program or to contact the Singapore office, direct your inquires via e:mail to [grbscu@singnet.com.sg](mailto:grbscu@singnet.com.sg) or by writing GRBSEP (Asia), 63 Hillview Ave., #10-03, Lam Soon Industrial Building, SINGAPORE 669569.

## Cross-Cultural Ministries

The Cross-Cultural Ministries program exists to give students exposure to and ministry in a culture different from their own both nationally and internationally. Students will go out both in teams and individually to work with pastors, missionaries, national church leaders, and local agencies. A variety of ministry programs will be served depending upon the needs of the given location. Recent trips have included Singapore, Romania, Philippines, Hong Kong, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Ukraine, Chicago and Atlanta.

## Foundations of Inquiry

“Foundations of Inquiry” (COR 100) is offered as a two-hour course required for new students. The professors lead students in developing a Christian philosophy of learning and life, or what is called a Christian worldview. In addition, students will learn critical thinking skills, spiritual discernment, life and career assessment, the development of a personal mission statement, basics of the Christian faith, how to deal with change, the value of and how to succeed in higher education and more. This course, offered at the beginning of a student’s education, will provide an important spiritual, theoretical and philosophical springboard for the rest of the student’s higher educational experience.

## “Laptop University”

Not long ago in higher education, cutting-edge technology meant computer work stations in fixed locations. Today, the more powerful and compact laptop computer is a portable communications tool that stands to revolutionize the learning process for both the professor and the students.

Cornerstone University was the first university in West Michigan, and one of only two schools in the entire state, to implement a plan to provide this technology to all enrolled full-time students. In evaluating cost versus benefits from instituting the Advanced Communication Initiative (ACI) at Cornerstone, the university saw that laptop advancements would positively and significantly impact our mission. In fulfilling its mission, Cornerstone University must prepare men and women for professional life in fields that are now being transformed by new information technology.

To accomplish this, Cornerstone not only teaches its students a particular art or science, but also prepares them to utilize the latest technology in their chosen field.

Beginning with the Fall 2000 semester, all first-time freshmen were issued the use of a laptop computer. Over the course of four years, all full-time enrolled students will have access to laptops through the phase-in process.

## Residence Hall Discipleship Programs

We value community discipleship and work to enable students to experience spiritual development in their own lives and then reproduce that growth in others. Each residence hall has a Spiritual Life Director (SLD) with staff from the Discipleship Ministries Office mentoring the SLDs on a weekly basis. The SLDs are committed to discipling and encouraging the Discipleship Coordinators (DC). The Discipleship Coordinator is responsible for establishing small groups within their section of the residence hall, along with providing leadership and mentoring to small group leaders. One of the goals of the university is that every student be given the opportunity to receive discipling and mentoring. Those students then have the opportunity to disciple others, thus enabling the Cornerstone community to grow and mature in Christ.

## Spiritual Formation

Spiritual formation is the dynamic, transforming process of being apprenticed to Christ, beginning with the event of Christian conversion, continuing daily in a walk of obedience from the heart that integrates faith and life, culminating ultimately in Christ likeness. This spiritual journey is nurtured under the direction of the Holy Spirit in the midst of a caring Christian community that challenges and prods followers to see beyond the horizons of their prevailing comfort zones and grasp new dimensions of what a relationship with Jesus Christ means.

Therefore, spiritual formation remains a critical component of the mission of Cornerstone University.

## The Cornerstone Confession

Cornerstone University affirms a core confession of convictions in common with the creeds of the early church, the confessions of the Reformation and all conservative, evangelical Christians.

1. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, truth without error, clear and powerful in its message, sufficient for all of our needs, and the final authority for faith and life.
2. We believe in the triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – who is holy, loving, good, wise and almighty; who has created all things by His word out of nothing, who sustains, provides for and rules all things, who is our only Redeemer and who will judge all people.
3. We believe that God created men and women in His image and likeness for fellowship with himself and to carry out the creation mandates; that Adam sinned and that by his disobedience the entire race was alienated from God, depraved and totally lost.
4. We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ who added full humanity to His perfect deity, obeyed God perfectly, died for our sins on the cross, rose again to defeat Satan, returned to heaven to pour out the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and to intercede for His people.
5. We believe that the triune God has provided a great salvation for those who repent of their sins and trust Christ and His finished work; that He calls, regenerates, justifies, forgives, adopts, sanctifies, keeps and will glorify them.
6. We believe in the Holy Spirit who has been sent to complete and perfect in us all of the works that Jesus did for us. He convicts of sin, regenerates, sanctifies us, gifts us for ministry and assures us of our salvation.
7. We believe in the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ, the bodily resurrection and final judgment of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting, conscious punishment of the lost.

While many fellow Christians affirm the above truths, we affirm them from within the Baptist tradition as developed at the end of the twentieth century and as reflected in the following beliefs:

1. We believe that the church is a new people of God born at Pentecost, distinct from Israel, and manifest in local congregations of baptized believers who are committed to carry out the great commission.
2. We believe that Jesus gave two ordinances to the church, baptism of believers by immersion and the Lord's Supper.
3. We believe in the autonomy of the local congregation, the priesthood of all believers and in leadership by elected pastors and deacons.
4. We believe in the continued expression of the spiritual gifts. The more demonstrative or "sign gifts" such as healing, raising the dead and speaking in tongues were essentially given for the authentication of the apostolic generation and are not normative for today.

5. We believe that Jesus Christ may return at any moment to deliver His people from the coming wrath, defeat the kingdom of Antichrist, and establish His millennial kingdom.
6. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment and that we are responsible to be good citizens. However, should civil government command us to violate God's Word, we must obey God rather than man.
7. We believe in the reality of Satan and his kingdom of darkness, and that our confrontation of Satan demands belief and trust in God and the effective use of Scripture and other resources God has made available to us.

We are an educational institution and would forfeit our mission if we attempted to be a local church or if we failed to interact with the contemporary world. Therefore:

1. We are committed to do this from a thoroughly biblical worldview in which "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."
2. We are responsible to engage with the world of education, business, economics, politics, the sciences, the humanities, and everything else that is included in the contemporary world cultures.
3. We are responsible to prepare our students to have an effective influence in this wider world. To accomplish these goals it is often necessary for us to listen to and critique people and ideas that are influential in this world and yet may be in significant disagreement with our convictions.
4. On this foundation, we desire to prepare students for a Christian life, ministry and service in the various cultures of the global community.

## Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy Toward Students

Cornerstone University does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, sex, age, or disability in its policies and programs.

The provisions of this catalog are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and Cornerstone University. Changes and modification in educational policy are implemented when deemed appropriate and not necessarily with the issuance of a new catalog. This catalog has attempted to present information in as accurate and up-to-date a fashion as possible. Changes will be publicized through normal channels and will be included in the following catalog.

All material in this catalog applies to the 2002-2003 academic year and reflects information available on the publication date. Cornerstone University reserves the right to revise all announcements contained in this publication and, at its discretion, to make reasonable changes in requirements to improve or update academic and non-academic programs.

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