

Student Life



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Trinity College offers education designed to equip men and women for Christian service in a number of occupations. This sort of equipping demands growth and development in every facet of life and recognizes that true Christian maturity goes beyond academic achievement to include one's lifestyle. At Trinity College, we are committed to complementing classroom instruction with Biblical values and lifestyles.

Trinity College provides many opportunities for Christian fellowship and for the enrichment of Christian personality through a balanced program of social events throughout the year. The social program is coordinated through the Office of the Vice President for Student Development. These events include a series of all-school activities and service opportunities led by the Student Leadership Collective. Devotionals and interpersonal relationships in the residence halls provide shared experiences leading toward maturity. All of these are a vital part of the student experience at Trinity College.

Student Handbook

"Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe." (1 Timothy 4:12) In order to do this, clearly defined principles and guidelines are necessary. The Trinity College Student Handbook will be each student's source for information regarding the College's principles and guidelines. We acknowledge that it is impossible to create a community with cultural diversity and convictions with which each member totally agrees, but we believe that it is essential to specify certain priorities that will assist the community in realizing its objective to love one another.

It is the desire of the College that true freedom of thought and action be enjoyed by the students, but there can be no effective freedom without organization. This is particularly true of large groups of people living in close contact and interdependence. The guidelines set forth in the Trinity College Student Handbook are designed to regulate the activities of the student body so that the basic rights of all are protected. Scriptural commands and principles, which are the foundation of Christian community, have been taken into consideration in the formation of all guidelines. It is the hope of the College that each student will develop a value system based on scriptural concepts which will be reinforced by the power and work of the Holy Spirit resulting in self-control.

The College expects, therefore, that all students will read and carefully observe the policies in the Student Handbook. (A complete copy of the Trinity College Student Handbook can be on the Trinity College of Florida website).

Classroom Expectations

Ideally, a college education is both voluntary and cooperative. There is a common focus on the subject at hand and a common appreciation for the privilege of learning in an exciting and challenging atmosphere. But in our society, such cooperation and appreciation are often neglected. At a minimum, the professor is charged with the responsibility of designing, creating, and maintaining an atmosphere where students feel safe and free to hear the lecture and ask sincere questions without fear of reprisal, intimidation, or repeated interruptions from disruptive students. The classroom is a formal setting for learning and should be regarded as such. Respect for the professor and their education/knowledge of the subject being taught should be reflected in the appearance and attention of the students and in the avoidance of any distraction from self or group learning. In most cases, a word of correction given in class, or a brief warning after class, is sufficient to correct the misbehavior. Nevertheless, disrespect or abuse directed toward any faculty member, school administrator, or staff person is prohibited and disciplinary action will follow.

Chapel

Chapel is a vital part of the biblical education of Trinity College and is designed to teach the campus community to love and worship God in a context of understanding and appreciating the biblical, historical, cultural, and corporate expressions of devotion to God. Priorities of confessing truth and pursuing holiness in music, declaring dependence and offering honor in prayer, submitting to authority with obedience in response to the exposition of God's Word, and stirring one another to gospel proclamation and good deeds, gives us a clear understanding of engaging the heart, mind, soul, and strength in biblical worship. Chapel services take place on Wednesday, with discipleship groups on Monday and Tuesday. All full-time students are required to attend. Students who are enrolled part-time, and who have a class the day of Chapel are also required to attend. Chapel participation is required for graduation from Trinity College of Florida. *Failing Chapel will prohibit a student from participating in athletics or extracurricular activities and can be grounds for denial of re-enrollment and/or graduation.*

Volunteer Hours

The heart of true Christian Service is rooted in a love for Christ and his people demonstrated in the body of Christ (the local church). At Trinity College, Volunteer Hours involves weekly participation in a specific local church ministry, parachurch ministry or community service activity approved by the Vice President for Student Development. This is required for full-time students at the College. Freshmen and Sophomores will minister in a variety of local church ministries. Juniors and Seniors will be encouraged to minister in a ministry or service area corresponding to their chosen major. Volunteer Hours participation is required for graduation from Trinity College of Florida. *Failing Christian Service will prohibit a student from participating in athletics or extracurricular activities and can be grounds for denial of re-enrollment and/or graduation.*

Social Activities

Trinity College provides many opportunities for Christian fellowship and for the enrichment of Christian personality. In addition to the usual associations of residence hall life, the College sponsors special events such as bonfires, worship nights, game nights, movie nights, concerts, and other activities in which the entire College participates. These activities provide an opportunity for students to mature in their relationships with others and their Lord. Through these activities, the College seeks to develop the whole student in social, physical, mental, and emotional areas.

Student Leadership Collective

The Student Leadership Collective is a Christ-centered development community that equips students to grow in character, competence, and calling through intentional investment, hands-on experience, and a team-oriented approach. Students who join SLC not only will grow in their leadership skills and capacity through mentorship, but they will also have the opportunity to collaborate, lead, and plan activities and service opportunities for the greater TCF community. This group is open to any student who wants to join and is led by an executive team of interviewed and approved students by the Office for Student Development.

Recreational and Sports Activities

Athletics

The Athletic Department at Trinity College of Florida is dedicated to excellence both on and off the court. Practice, hard work, and commitment are key to developing successful teams which generate winning results. Our highly motivated coaching staff believes in mastering sports fundamentals, incorporating proven strategies, and creating positive team cultures which produce great achievements. Trinity College of Florida is a new member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) and participate in the Small Bible College National Invitation (Basketball) Tournament (NIT). Our men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, and women's volleyball teams will currently participate in the USCAA. If you share a desire for excellence in athletics, then Trinity College of Florida invites you to become part of its athletic program.

Student Fitness Memberships

All traditional students will have membership in the James P. Gills Family YMCA or the New Port Richey Recreation and Aquatic Center. The YMCA has the latest fitness equipment, a gym, two swimming pools, and the other usual YMCA programming available to members. The YMCA is adjacent to the College campus. The New Port Richey Recreation and Aquatic Center is located about 6 miles north of the college and has two indoor gyms, a state-of-the-art fitness center, multiple pools (plunge, lap, and diving), tennis and pickleball courts, a skate park, and multiple programs and leagues.

Residence Halls

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7:12) The experiences and relationships in the residence hall environment will become some of the most important of the student's educational career. These opportunities enable the student to put into practice Christian principles that are learned in the classroom setting, enabling the student to grow and minister at the same time.

As a result, all students under the age of 21 are required to live on campus, with the exception of married students and persons living with one or both parents. Priority will be given to freshmen and international students. Room assignments are made through the Student Development Office and room deposits should be made as early as possible.

Discipline

Philosophy of Discipline

The purpose of discipline at Trinity College is to assist in the maturity of its members and to aid the College in maintaining an atmosphere conducive to Christian growth. Discipline is designed to help students assume responsibility for themselves as mature Christians in the Trinity College community in particular and the Christian community in general. The biblical model reconciliation taught in Matthew 18 is the primary model that College personnel seek to follow in their work with students. The requirements that may follow are intended to be developmental and redemptive, rather than merely punitive.

Trinity College students are expected to conduct themselves in compliance with the Trinity College Student Handbook and in such a way as to adorn the high calling of the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives. Accordingly, students are expected to assume responsibility for their personal conduct, and also to accept reasonable Christian responsibility for the behavior of others. If the conduct of a student appears to be inconsistent with these standards, the Student Disciplinary Procedure will be employed in the investigation and disposition of the matter.

The Vice President for Student Development and his staff, the Student Development Disciplinary Committee, and/or the Student Disciplinary Review Committee, may make student disciplinary decisions. The Trinity College Student Handbook gives detail to the policies and procedures for carrying out or responding to matters that require discipline.

Students discovered violating the College requirements as expressed in the Trinity College Student Handbook should expect a response, which will assure the maintenance of College standards and the call to integrity and responsibility on the part of the offender. The administration of Trinity College of Florida reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to evaluate any conduct it deems detrimental to the purpose and mission of the college.

Campus Safety and Security

Respect and responsibility of every member of the Trinity College campus community are the foundation of experiencing a safe and secure environment. Growth in the stewardship of each life, transformation of the heart to love Christ and others, discipleship and discipline in developing community, help to create a culture of care and concern for one another. This provides a culture of Christian community that advocates for one another with Christ-like character, communication, and concern for one another. Common secular college campus experiences do not have a place at Trinity College of Florida. Hazing, harm, manipulations, intimidations, bullying, etc. are not acceptable and prohibited. The Trinity College Student Handbook provides guidance for addressing any type of harmful behavior including compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act by Amendment of 1989.

Trinity College of Florida is committed to the safety and security of the campus community and property. Safety assessments are regularly conducted by the county sheriff's department to provide a basis of improving the technology, resources, and personnel to practice and maintain a safe and secure campus.

Grievance Policy

A grievance is a complaint of an alleged unfair or discriminatory practice or decision by faculty, administration, or administrative staff. The central focus of a grievance is not a policy, but rather the actions of the one against whom the grievance is filed. A grievance must be supported by evidence that the unfavorable decision is in violation of institutional policy or practice, or that the person has been treated in a different way than other persons in similar circumstances have been treated. Any student wishing to file a grievance may do so by following procedures provided in the Trinity College Student Handbook.