

Mission & Goals

The Mission of the University

Holy Family University, a ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, offers education in the liberal arts and professions through graduate, undergraduate, and non-degree programs. As a Catholic University, Holy Family seeks direction and inspiration from the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, affirms the values of the Judeo-Christian tradition, and witnesses to the dignity of each person and the oneness of the human family. Holy Family University educates students to assume life-long responsibilities toward God, society, and self.

The following core values inform the University as it seeks to carry out its Mission:

Family. Holy Family University welcomes and cares for students, faculty, and staff as members of a diverse but interconnected family. A community united by a common Mission, the University promotes an atmosphere of mutual concern and attention to the spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical needs of all those whom it serves.

Respect. Holy Family University affirms the dignity of the human person through openness to multiple points of view, personalized attention, and collaborative dialogue in the learning process and in the interaction among members of the University community. The University seeks to instill appreciation of and respect for differences so that its graduates can function successfully in multicultural contexts.

Integrity. Intent upon forming persons of integrity who recognize the importance of life-long learning, Holy Family University advocates free and conscientious pursuit of truth and the responsible use of knowledge. It bases education upon a foundation in the liberal arts that highlights the humanities and the natural and social sciences. In keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church, concern for moral values and social justice guides the University in designing programs and activities.

Service and Responsibility. Holy Family University incorporates its motto, *Teneor Votis* ("I am bound by my responsibilities"), into curricular, cocurricular, and extracurricular programs. Reflecting this motto, educational experiences at the University apply theory to practice and course content to serving human needs. The University educates individuals to become competent professionals and responsible citizens.

Learning. Holy Family University seeks to instill in its students a passion for truth and a commitment to seeking wisdom. It promotes values-based education, creative scholarship, informed and imaginative use of research and tech-

nology, and practical learning opportunities such as co-operative education and internship programs. The University seeks to strengthen ethical, logical, and creative thinking; to develop effective communication skills; to nurture an aesthetic sense; and to deepen global, social, and historical awareness.

Vision. Holy Family University envisions learning as a dynamic and fruitful exchange between traditional sources of wisdom and contemporary developments in knowledge. Throughout the teaching and learning process, the University seeks to embody Christian philosophical and theological perspectives. It offers an education grounded in a Judeo-Christian worldview that serves as a foundation upon which to address contemporary problems and to build a vision for the future.

(Approved by the Holy Family University Board of Trustees, November 2000.)

Goals of the Graduate Programs

The graduate programs affirm the Mission of the University. They further support the Mission through their specific goals:

- To foster the development of professionals, scholars, and lifelong learners who can translate advanced study into effective problem-solving skills
- To facilitate the development of critical thinkers who can use their personal, professional, spiritual, and academic experiences in the analysis of current issues
- To produce informed users of research capable of making significant contributions in their chosen fields
- To support and encourage scholarship, intellectual inquiry, and professional responsibility that nurtures the growth and development of others.

The University offers graduate degrees and certification programs that prepare professionals in education, criminal justice, counseling psychology, nursing, human resources management, information systems management, and business administration (accelerated) in an intellectually challenging milieu.

Graduate Studies: Mission and Governance

In the continuum of its Mission, the University offers programs of advanced study in several areas. The programs enable students to acquire depth in selected disciplines, reach advanced competency, and explore connectivity between specialized studies and human endeavors.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs oversees the review and evaluation of policies and procedures as they relate to graduate education in general, the coordination of graduate curricula, the review and evaluation of pertinent academic regulations, and the exploration and development of graduate education opportunities. The Graduate Council, whose membership includes the Asso-

ciate Vice Presidents, School Deans, Directors and Coordinators of academic programs within each school, and relevant academic services personnel, serves in an advisory capacity to the Vice President in this role.

Responsibility for student admission, advising and welfare, graduate curricula, and the day-to-day operation of the respective graduate programs is posited within each of the academic schools or divisions. The School Deans or Associate Vice President (Division of Extended Learning), in collaboration with relevant academic administrators and related services personnel, assume primary responsibility for these functions in the respective graduate programs. Committees within each of the academic units include administrators and representative faculty and students and serve in an advisory capacity to the School Deans or Associate Vice President in the execution of their responsibilities.