

Student Development & Campus Life



The Student Development staff at Anderson University is concerned with the provision of programs and services for students outside the classroom. Anderson University's faculty and staff are committed to assisting students as they strive to develop intellectually, physically, socially, morally, and spiritually. Students are responsible for their own actions, not only to self and to God but also to the university and to fellow students. Choosing to join this campus community obligates each person to a code of behavior guided by the Christian principles of love of God, neighbor, and self. Students in the Anderson University community agree to practice the following:

- Respect for others, by acting in a manner respectful of the rights and privileges of others and upholding that every member of the campus community, regardless of race, sex, age, disability, or religion, has the right to grow and learn in an atmosphere of respect and support.
- Respect for Property, by acting in a way that respects personal, university and community property and refraining from actions wasteful or destructive to individuals, property, or the environment.
- Respect for Truth, by exhibiting high standards of integrity and moral obligation in relation to roommates, friends, students, peers, and family while avoiding all forms of lying, cheating, stealing, and plagiarism.
- Respect for Rules, Regulations, and Law, by abiding by and supporting the rules and regulations of the University Code of Conduct, along with all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.
- Respect for Academic Integrity, by doing one's own coursework, in preparation for all assignments and in the classroom.

All Anderson University students, whether resident or commuting, should expect to find a supportive campus environment with a wide variety of opportunities for learning, growing, and enjoying life. All students are encouraged to take an active part in the life of the university community, to join campus social and academic organizations, to participate in intramural sports, and to enjoy the various musical, theatrical, and cultural events hosted at Anderson University.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

Because all of a student's time is not spent in classes and studying, Anderson University offers a variety of extracurricular activities that provide opportunities for intellectual, physical, and social growth. The opportunities for growth will assist the student in development and maturity in order to help the student become a better campus citizen and perhaps a leader in the world outside the University. With the help of student leaders, the Student Activities Director coordinates campus activities that are designed to provide opportunities for wholesome recreation and personal development. Some of the many events planned are movies, dances, tournaments, short courses, travel, and leadership training.

Campus Organizations

Opportunities for service and fellowship are offered by membership in the following organizations and groups: Alpha Chi, Alpha Phi Omega, Alpha Psi Omega, American Choral Directors Association, American Society of Interior Designers, A.U. Ambassadors, A.U. Echoes (student newspaper), A.U. Equestrian Team, A.U. Ultimate Frisbee Club, Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), Campus Activities Board, Chi Alpha Sigma, Cheerleaders, University Republicans/Democrats, Collegiate Business Forum, Collegiate Music Educators—MENC, Council for Exceptional Children, Dead Poets' Society, Education Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Fine Arts Society, Gamma Beta Phi, History and Government Club, Interim Youth Ministry Teams, International Club, Journey Team, Karate Club, Minorities Involved in Change, National Art Education Association - Collegiate Chapter, National Association of Teachers of Singing, Pep Club, Physical Education Majors Club, Praise Choir, Psychology Club, Pure Gold, Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), Science Club, Spanish Club, Student Alumni Leadership Team, Student Government Association, and Young Life, to name a few.

In addition, all Anderson University students have the opportunity to participate in the various music ensembles on campus. These musical groups include the Anderson University Choir, the Anderson University Chamber Singers, the Anderson University Wind Ensemble, the Anderson University Ensemble, Radiance, the Anderson Symphony Orchestra, the Anderson University String Ensemble, and various choral and instrumental chamber ensembles. Check with the administrative assistant of the Fine Arts Division for information on membership in these organizations.

Christian Life at Anderson University

At Anderson, our goal is to help students enrich their college experience and their lives by providing a dynamic Christian environment and instilling Christian values through higher education.

For many young adults, no other time in life is as critical as the college years, a time when they make choices and decisions that will affect the rest of their lives. Anderson University has a Christian faculty and staff, challenging spiritual programs, and strong Christian organizations – all of which come together to help Anderson students deepen their faith, share in Christ's love, and grow in their relationship with God.

Because Anderson University is a Christian institution sponsored by the South Carolina Baptist Convention, Christ-centered activities are an important facet of campus life. These activities are varied, and all students, regardless of denominational affiliation, can find a means of expressing their faith at Anderson.

- Students at Anderson are given many opportunities to integrate faith with their college experience. *The Journey* is designed to bring our campus family together to worship with a special focus on the hearts and minds of students, and their relationship with God. Students are required to attend eight (8) events in *The Journey* each semester.
- A part of every student's core curriculum is the requirement to complete successfully two (2) religion courses - Introduction to the Bible and The Teachings of Jesus.
- The goal of Anderson University Campus Ministries is to present the good news of Jesus Christ in words and actions that are meaningful and relevant to today's college student. Our desire is to connect college students to the person of Jesus Christ in a way that will help them make a lifelong commitment to follow His calling in a personal relationship.

- Every student is encouraged to participate in Anderson's Campus Ministries. With ministry opportunities available throughout the week, Anderson students find many ways to participate, worship, serve, and lead.

Our Campus Ministries program includes:

- Area churches
- BCM (Baptist Collegiate Ministry)
- Campus Crusade for Christ
- Student-led Renewal Week
- Community Service
- Cohesive Coffeehouse
- FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)
- Ministry Internships
- Ministry Teams
- RUF (Reformed University Fellowship)
- Women's Ministries
- Ministry Leadership Houses (student housing)
- Special concerts/events
- Weekly Campus Worship

Other Christian activities include:

- Anderson University Choir
- Anderson University Gospel Ensemble
- Interim youth ministry teams
- Journey teams
- Praise bands
- Residence hall Bible studies
- Revival teams
- Small group Bible studies
- Worship ministry teams

Campus Ministries encourages students, faculty, and staff to integrate the Christian faith with every aspect of life internally, in their hearts and minds, as well as externally with the community at large. Past mission trips have taken students, faculty, and staff to work with missionaries and needy people in New Orleans, New York City, the Philippines, India, France, Taiwan, Indonesia and other locations. Teams regularly assist local ministries in thrift stores, soup kitchens, and assisted-living centers. Other projects include work with Habitat for Humanity and Calvary Children's Home. Students are also encouraged to get involved in worship, fellowship, and service through a local church during their stay at Anderson University.

Sports, Intramural and Athletics

Anderson University has many intramural sports activities available to all students. Opportunities include air hockey table, basketball, billiards, dodge ball, flag football, ping pong, powder puff football, softball, tennis, ultimate Frisbee, and volleyball. Students are encouraged to participate in the many teams that are organized to provide fun, exercise, and spirited competition.

Students may participate in a wide range of intercollegiate sports while enrolled at Anderson University. Women may participate in cross country, track & field, soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis, golf, and fast-pitch softball. Men's teams compete in cross-country, track & field, soccer, wrestling, basketball, baseball, golf and tennis. Anderson University is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (Division II) and the Carolinas-Virginia Athletic Conference (CVAC). Also under the athletic umbrella are the club teams of Equestrian and Cheerleading.

Facilities: Fitness Center in Abney Gym, Whyte Gym in Vandiver Hall, and Game Room in Student Center.

Student Government

Every student enrolled at Anderson University is automatically a member of the Student Government Association. The object of the SGA is "to foster student interests and activities, to maintain high standards of scholarship and honor among students, to aid in administering regulations, and to transact business pertaining to the student body." The Administration and the Board of Trustees of Anderson University believe that the welfare of the University will be advanced by the development of an efficient system of self-government among the students. Students have been entrusted to share in matters relating to student conduct, loyalty and honor. It is the duty of each student to uphold the highest standards of conduct, loyalty and honor in all phases of college life.

Every student who wants to become involved in the Student Government Association has ample opportunity. In addition to numerous elected positions, the President of the SGA appoints members to committees under the jurisdiction of the SGA. Every student has an opportunity to serve, whether a commuter or a resident and whether a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior. (A complete description of the organization of the Student Government Association may be found in the Student Handbook.)

Student Publications

Student publications include "Ivy Leaves," a literary journal published once a year and "AU Echoes," a student newspaper published each month. "Ivy Leaves," which is sponsored by the faculty in English and Art, solicits short stories, poetry, drama, and art from students. Major staff positions for "AU Echoes" are filled in the spring of each year. However, staff positions are always open for students who wish to serve on the publication staff. In addition, Anderson University maintains a television production studio. All of these student media are designed primarily to be direct extensions of the classroom experience, supervised by faculty members and budgeted as part of the academic program.

Traditions

President's Reception. During the opening days of the fall semester, members of the campus community are invited to the President's home for an outdoor reception, allowing new students the opportunity to meet other students, faculty, and staff.

Christmas First Night. Presented as a gift to the Anderson community to usher in the season of Advent, this tradition highlights student leaders and musical groups in an evening of praise and worship.

Founders' Day. Celebrated in mid-February, this convocation service focuses on the heritage of Anderson University.

Homecoming. Typically held during the spring semester, alumni join students as class representatives are selected to the Homecoming Court and a Queen and King are selected from the senior class; athletic events, dances, concerts, and alumni programming usually accompany the event.

Honors and Recognitions

Students at Anderson University are eligible for many outstanding awards, based on academic achievement, leadership, personal character, and service to the university and the community. These recognitions include, but are not limited to, the following: Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities; Academic Awards in the various Majors; the Denmark Society; the President's Award; Dean's List, and the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities' Student of the Year.

Bookstore and Campus Mail

The bookstore and campus mail office are located in the Student Center. The bookstore carries a wide selection of required and optional reading, course supplies, clothing, and other merchandise. Each residential student is assigned a mailbox and regular mail delivery and service is in operation unless the university is closed.

Dining Services

Martin Dining Room in Merritt Administration Building and the Canteen in the Student Center are the primary settings for food service on campus. Residential students must select one of the university meal plans. Aramark is the contracted food service vendor for the university.

Campus Safety

Maintaining the safety of the campus community is the preeminent concern of university officials. While a university campus is an open environment and no assurance of complete immunity from risk can be made, the University is committed to implementing the highest standards of safety and health promotion in accord with its safety management plan. In compliance with the Federal Crime Awareness and Security Act of 1990, Anderson University prepares an annual report setting forth campus security policies and campus crime statistics. This report, which also contains safety and security tips, is furnished to all current students and employees and to any applicant for enrollment or employment upon request.

The primary purpose of the Campus Safety department is to protect the property and lives of the faculty, staff, students and guests of Anderson University. The department is also responsible for enforcement of parking regulations. The security officers are employees of Anderson University. They are certified by the state of South Carolina, and have the same arrest power of a deputy sheriff. One or more members of the department are on duty 24 hours a day during the time school is in session. The officers are available any time after dark to transport students from their cars to their campus housing or from one building to another on campus. Officers will assist students with dead batteries and keys that are locked inside cars.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to observe the highest ethical standards pertaining to academic achievement. Without honesty there is no achievement. Plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, and academic misconduct are serious offenses and may result in dismissal from the course or the University. Initial jurisdiction in such offenses is with the professor and College involved. The nature of offenses, appeals process, penalties, and consequences are outlined in the Student Handbook.

Student Development

The University provides a comprehensive program of student development. All activities and programs are designed to help students to have positive and rewarding personal growth experiences while at Anderson University. The areas within Student Development include the following: Career Planning and Placement, Counseling, Health Services, Intramurals, Orientation, Freshman Programs and Community Service, Residence Life, and Student Activities.

Career Planning and Placement

The Office of Career Services provides assistance to students by helping them relate their career goals to their educational plans. The staff seeks to meet students at their individual level of need in developing a self-directed career search. This may begin through counseling on career majors, career direction, and career interest inventories. The career resource library provides information on internships, preparation for career fairs, and on-campus recruiting. Students may participate in workshops on the traditional approach to job searching, internet job searching, networking, resume writing, and interviewing. Staff members are available to critique resumes and conduct mock interviews. The office maintains listings of part-time and full-time jobs. If graduate study is an option for students, this office can provide information regarding financial aid and appropriate admissions tests.

Counseling

Counseling is a process of assessing both academic and personal growth, discovering potential, dealing with adjustment problems, and developing plans that will create a more satisfying lifestyle. A variety of counseling services are available to all students. There is no charge for most services, and the highest ethical standards are maintained. Individual, confidential personal counseling is available to students. This type of counseling is useful for those who are having significant problems with adjusting to life changes. It may also be appropriate for those who are having significant distress over interpersonal relationships or personal emotions and feelings. The University has a full-time counselor on campus whose office is located in the Village. Referral service is available for those having needs that cannot be met by the university counseling center.

Freshmen Programs and Community Service

The Office of Freshman Programs and Community Service exists to provide support and assistance to new students in making a successful transition to college. In addition to programs to aid new students, the Office also coordinates activities which provide opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to live out the mission of the University by practicing the Christian principle of service to others.

Health Services

The goal at the Health Services Center is to provide a Christ-centered clinic that will provide care to enhance the educational process, by removing or modifying barriers to learning and to promote an optimal level of wellness. The Center is located on the bottom floor of The Village. A full-time nurse is available to triage students and arrange for a physician referral if necessary. The clinic is available to all full-time, traditional students. (Daily hours and drop-in times are posted at the beginning of each semester.)

Orientation

Through Orientation to Anderson University, new students embark upon a successful transition to university life. The Orientation program is designed for participation by all new students and sets the stage for future success in college. The program is successful in helping students acclimate to college, and students are at a great disadvantage if they do not attend.

Parents and spouses are included in the programming and are encouraged to attend as well. Students may select to attend any one of two dates set for Orientation. The program involves placement testing; get-acquainted activities with other students, faculty, and administrators; introduction to academic majors; academic advising; and first semester course selection.

Housing and Residential Life

The Residence Life staff makes every effort to ensure harmonious and enjoyable living conditions conducive to study and comfort within the resident halls. Anderson University housing includes convenient single sex residence halls and smaller apartment style buildings. Room assignments are made by the Residence Life Office. Students who wish to live in a residence hall must maintain a minimum academic load of 12 semester hours.

Believing that students benefit in personal growth and educational opportunity from residential living, Anderson University requires all freshmen and sophomore students to live in campus housing. Students who desire to live off campus prior to their junior year must meet criteria described in the Student Handbook. Residence halls are staffed by adult area coordinators and student resident assistants. The resident assistants are student leaders who are available to help guide their peers in developing good community living. Students are encouraged to take leadership roles in the residence halls to help maintain a quality environment. Resident students are expected to maintain a clean and healthy living environment. Residing in campus housing is a privilege. Students who fail to meet the standards and expectations outlined in the Student Handbook may lose the privilege of campus housing. The University reserves the right to make all room assignments. No student is guaranteed the same room assignment each year. The University may choose to move a student into another room assignment at any time in the semester if it is deemed in the best interest of the university community.

Conduct and Expectations

As members of the University community, students enjoy the rights and privileges that accrue to such membership. Additionally, students are expected to abide by all University rules and regulations and by the laws of the city, state, and nation. Students are expected to act responsibly and to avoid conduct detrimental in its effect upon themselves and the University, both on and off campus. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action if students are involved in illegal or irresponsible conduct on or off campus.

Statement of Values

The basis of all interaction at Anderson University is the expectation that students, faculty, and staff will behave in accordance with the values of a Christian academic community. Anderson University's ideals are the ideals of Christian people. Each student is responsible for his or her actions, not only to self and to God, but also to the University and to fellow students. Student responsibilities and expectations are described in full in the Student Handbook found on the AU website. (A personal copy may be obtained, if needed, from the Student Development Office). By enrolling at Anderson University, each student makes a commitment to be guided by the Christian principles of love of God, neighbor and self.

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

The person-centered philosophy, which is at the heart of the university's educational mission, affects the lives of all who are part of the campus community. This is based on the assumption that all who live and work here recognize the worth and dignity of all people and the special contributions they make to the university, to society, and to the Christian community. Community life involves both enhancements to and restrictions on our personal and collective freedoms and concurrently necessitates both internal and external restraints. Discipline is the responsibility of all members of the community to ensure the preservation of the common good.

Familiarity with the academic and social guidelines of the University is a responsibility of each member of the campus community. This includes all matters governing academic programs and policies, graduation requirements, student life policies, cooperation with university officials in matters related to institutional effectiveness, and other responsibilities as a contributing member of the campus community. This catalog, various academic program handbooks, the Student Handbook, and official university publications, whether in print or electronic form, exist for the purpose of conveying such information. Membership in the community is a privilege and not a right.

Policies

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. See Student Handbook for policies on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

Controlled Substances. The illegal use, possession, and/or distribution of narcotic or other controlled substances are expressly forbidden. Individuals who violate this policy may be subject to applicable civil law and penalties. (See Student Handbook for details.)

Harassment. Anderson University promotes a learning and working environment free from religious, racial, or sexual harassment and violence. The university's policies address this as well as outline prevention programs, reporting procedures, and penalties for violation of the policy. (See Student Handbook for details.)

Motor Vehicles and Parking. The University controls traffic and parking on campus as conferred by the South Carolina Vehicle Code (SCVC) and the Campus Safety Office administers this. All operators of a motor vehicle, bicycle, or other form of transportation governed by the SCVC must obey appropriate rules and regulations ensuring the safety of all and the continued privilege of campus access. Knowledge of vehicle registration, acceptable parking areas, regulations, fines, and the appeals process are the responsibility of the operator and are detailed in the Student Handbook.

Theft or Damage to Personal Property. The University assumes no liability for theft or damage to personal property. Individuals are encouraged to have insurance to cover such events.

Interim Suspension

When the University Code of Conduct is violated (see full explanation in the Student Handbook), the University may pursue disciplinary action via established campus judicial procedures. In certain circumstances, the President of the University may impose a University or residence hall suspension prior to the hearing before a judicial body. The hearing should be scheduled as soon as possible to make a determination on the case. Interim suspension may be imposed only: (a) to ensure the safety and well-being of members of the University community or preservation of University property; (b) to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being; or (c) if the student poses a definite threat of disruption of or interference with the normal operations of the University. During the interim suspension, students shall be denied access to the residence halls and/or to the campus (including classes) and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the President may determine to be appropriate.

Presidential Right of Dismissal

The President of the University is authorized by the Board of Trustees to dismiss any student whose presence in the University, for reasons of health, conduct, or scholarship does not meet with the approval of the administration, or whose influence, whether by word or deed, is injurious to other students or to the welfare and/or harmonious operation of the institution. A presidential dismissal supersedes all other University dismissal procedures or policies, does not require advance notice, and shall take effect at the sole discretion of the President. A student dismissed under this policy may be required to withdraw from enrollment and/or any or all dimensions of the campus community.

