



# THE CROSSING BIBLE COLLEGE

Student Handbook  
2023-2024



# THE CROSSING BIBLE COLLEGE

## A Message from the President

Welcome to The Crossing Bible College!

The history of the Church is the history of men and women responding to God's Word. There are lots of examples of good hearts who bore multiplied fruit; other examples of thorny hearts who began well but ended in failure.

We, the staff and faculty, are eager to provide you with an opportunity to listen to God's Word, read great books from leaders from the past and present (Matthew 13:52), and to find your God-given purpose in your generation (Acts 13:36).

Our methods are simple and focused. You'll read your weekly assignments, watch assigned videos and do your best to write a "Discussion Post" in answer to the discussion question that week. Once you submit your post, you'll be able to see those of your classmates. The final part of the week's assignment will be to make comments on two of your classmates posts – to encourage and to explore and expand on what they wrote.

All of our teaching and learning is in light of Paul's encouragement to Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:5:

*"The goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart  
and a good conscience and a sincere faith. "*

If the goal of our instruction is love, then it should also be the goal of our learning. We'll discover together that love is far more than what we think it is. We are pleased to have you as part of our outstanding student body. God bless you, and may the Lord anoint your heart, your mind, and your spirit to increase in all that is required of you to grow in Him.

Again, welcome to the great adventure!

Pastor Keith Marsh  
President of the College

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## **Our Vision**

Our vision is to effectively equip the saints for ministry by being an academically recognized and accredited college providing theological studies and training to students around the world.

## **Our Mission**

Our mission is to equip men and women with Biblical knowledge and practical skills to become Spirit-led, kingdom-minded servants of God. Graduates will be ready to do ministry at an effective level within the church, in their communities, and around the world.

## **What We Believe**

The Crossing Bible College is a ministry of The Crossing Church. As such, we adhere to these beliefs and practices of The Crossing Church.

### **About God**

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

*Genesis 1:1, 26-27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14*

### **About Jesus Christ**

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus was born of a virgin and lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

*Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; John 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; Titus 2:13*

### **About the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. The Christian seeks daily to live under His control.

He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer gifts to be used in ministry to other Christians and to the world.

### **About the Bible**

The Bible is God's Word to all men. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:10-160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5*

### **About Man**

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates man from God. *Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2*

### **About Eternity**

Man was created to exist forever. After death, one will either exist eternally united with God in heaven or exist eternally separated from God in hell. The gift of eternal life is offered to every individual. Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence.

*John 3:16; 2:25; 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; Matthew 18:8; Matthew 25:44, 46*

### **About Salvation**

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

*Romans 5:1; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6, John 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26*

### **About Eternal Security**

Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives this security.

*John 10:28-29; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5*

### **About the Priesthood of Every Believer**

"To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father..." Revelation 1:5-6

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9

The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to "full time" Christian service, regardless of his or her vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. Every believer has direct access to God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, prayer, and Bible reading.

### **About Spirit-led Living**

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

We believe the only way possible to live the Christian life is by God's power within us. So we seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right.

*Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 5:18*

### **About Baptism by Immersion**

"having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead." Colossians 2:12

We practice baptism by immersion in water in the same way Jesus was baptized.

### **About Telling Others About Christ**

"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." 1 Peter 3:15

As believers, we understand that we are to prepare ourselves to share the hope of salvation in Jesus with others.

### **About Ministry**

It is the Pastor's responsibility to lead the church and to equip the membership for ministry. Each member has the responsibility to discover and employ their gifts in the life of the church. Every Christian needs to discover and be faithful in their ministry for Jesus Christ. *1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:11-13; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 4:10-11*

### **About Praise and Worship**

The Christian exists to minister to the world, to other Christians, and especially to God through praise and worship. We exist for the praise of His glory. Worship is celebrative, reflective, and inspirational.

*Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:12; Psalm 63:3-4; Psalm 150; Psalm 126:2-3*

### **About Autonomy of Each Local Church**

"And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent." Colossians 1:18

Christ is the recognized head of our church; not any person, group, or religious organization. While recognizing the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, we believe every local church should be self-governing and independent from any denominational control.

### **About Tithing**

"Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine." Proverbs 3:9-10

"Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD's; it is holy to the LORD." Leviticus 27:30

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

At The Crossing Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's Body, the church.

As a final thought...

**In essential beliefs, we have unity.** "There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:4-6

**In non-essential beliefs, we have liberty.**

"As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions."

"Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master<sup>[a]</sup> that he stands or falls."

"So then each of us will give an account of himself to God."

"The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God." Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22

**In all our beliefs, we show charity.**

"And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:2

All Scripture quotations are from the ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version)



## **Accreditation**

We are accredited by the [Transworld Accrediting Commission International](#). For 35 years, Transworld Accrediting Commission is an international, non-governmental, educational accrediting body, federally recognized as a non-profit church organization. Transworld has established high standards of excellence and shared Biblical Doctrine. Transworld accredits and assists Theological Schools, Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Programs throughout the World. On Campus, Online and Distance Learning.

You can view our accrediting information and status [here](#).

The College is not recognized by the United States Department of Education, but it is recognized by the State of Florida Commission for Independent Education as a Religious Institution that has met the requirements of state law and is not subject to governmental oversight.

Recognition of credits and degrees awarded by TCBC by other institutions, including other colleges and employers, is at the sole discretion of those respective institutions.

# Admissions

## New Students

The Crossing Bible College welcomes students who are seeking Associate and Bachelor's degrees, as well as students who wish to enroll in courses but not work toward a degree.

Applicants enrolling in a degree-seeking program at The Crossing Bible College must provide one of the following:

- High School Diploma
- General Equivalency Diploma (G.E.D.)
- Official transcript as proof of college attendance or degree

Non-degree seeking students are not required to submit proof of previous education.

## Application Process

To enroll in The Crossing Bible College, follow the steps below:

- Visit [www.CrossingBibleCollege.com/Admissions](http://www.CrossingBibleCollege.com/Admissions), complete and submit the online Application Form.
- Read the Student Handbook. Submitting the application indicates that you agree to the standards and policies within.

## Students Seeking Transfer Credit toward a TCBC Degree

Students who have earned college credit from another institution for courses equivalent to those offered by TCBC may apply for transfer credit. Up to 30 hours of transfer credit may be awarded for grades of "C" or higher.

If a student wishes to have their transcript evaluated for transfer credit, the college transcript must be submitted at the time of application. Please have the transcripts emailed to [TCBC@CrossingOnline.org](mailto:TCBC@CrossingOnline.org)

## Student Conduct

The Crossing Bible College has adopted a Student Conduct Code to protect the rights of students, faculty, staff, and the College itself. This code ensures that the learning community is characterized by mutual respect, civility, and good citizenship. The Crossing Bible College students, as members of the academic community, are expected to accept and adhere to these high standards of personal conduct.

- Live in accordance with the practices and beliefs of The Crossing Bible College as outlined in our Statement of Belief.
- Maintain behavior that is above reproach.
- Treat all people with courtesy, respect, love, and dignity.
- Fulfill obligations through honest, independent effort, and with integrity.
- Accept responsibility for and consequences of actions and encourage responsible conduct in others.
- Respect your instructors, your classmates, and The Crossing Bible College by making your best effort to be on time for assignments and complete coursework entirely.
- Academic honesty, as outlined in the Academic Integrity section, is expected from all students.

## Academic Information

### Academic Terms

The Crossing Bible College's course of study is offered entirely online. Because students are not required to attend classes in a traditional classroom, they can complete coursework whenever and wherever they like.

- TCBC offers classes in 5 terms each school year. These typically begin in August, October, January, March, and May. The academic calendar may be viewed at <https://crossingbiblecollege.com/academic-calendar>
- Each term is 8 weeks in length. This allows students ample time to study and understand the material and complete assignments designed to help them apply it.
- Students have the option of full-time enrollment of 2 courses per term or part-time of 1 course per term.
- All assignments will be graded, and grades will be posted within 1 week of the due date.
- Students will be given access to their course on the Friday before the start of class, and courses close on Friday of week 8.

## Technical Requirements

TCBC utilizes Canvas, an online learning management platform. Students will access course content and submit assignments through Canvas. To successfully participate in TCBC courses, the student will need:

- A desktop computer, laptop, or tablet
- High-speed broadband internet
- An up-to-date web browser such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Mozilla Firefox
- Microsoft Office, including Microsoft Word
- Adobe Acrobat Reader for viewing PDF documents
- JavaScript and Cookies must be enabled in the browser settings
- A valid email address

## Academic Standards

### Grading Scale

Grade	Description	Percentage Range	Grade Points
A	Superior	90-100	4.0
B	Good	80-89	3.0
C	Average	70-79	2.0
D	Below Average	60-69	1.0
F	Failing	0-59	0.0
W	Withdrawn		0.0
IP	In process		0.0
I	Incomplete		0.0

A "D or better is required in order to pass a course.

If a student receives an "F" in a course, and the course is retaken at a later date, the higher grade will replace the "F" on the transcript.

### Unsatisfactory Student Performance

The Crossing Bible College is committed to helping every student succeed. However, recurrent unsatisfactory academic performance, such as course failures or late/missed assignments or exams, may lead to academic probation or termination of a student's enrollment. Students terminated for unsatisfactory academic performance will not be entitled to a tuition refund.

## **Course Dropping or Withdrawal**

A student who desires to withdraw from a course must contact the College Administrator to formally withdraw.

A student who formally withdraws before the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of class will receive a partial refund of tuition, and the course will not appear on the student's transcript.

A student who formally withdraws from a course after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week but before the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> week of class will receive a "W" grade, which does not affect the student's GPA. No refund will be issued. If the student retakes the course at a later time, the earned grade will replace the "W."

A student who stops participating in a course without formally withdrawing will receive an "F" in that course.

## **Academic Integrity**

TCBC expects students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. In a community of believers committed to truth, dishonesty violates the Christian ethic by which we live and is considered a serious offense subject to disciplinary action. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to the following:

- Knowingly furnishing false or misleading information.
- Falsification, alteration, or misuse of college forms or records.
- Any form of cheating. This includes joint effort on examinations, assignments, or other academic activities unless authorized by the instructor.
- Willfully aiding another student in any act of academic dishonesty.
- Plagiarism in any form: the intentional or unintentional use of another's phrase, sentence, or paragraph without quotation marks; using another's ideas or structure without properly identifying the source; or using the work of someone else and submitting it as one's own.
- The use of identical or slightly altered work previously submitted by the student at this or any other institution to fulfill academic requirements in any class is considered self-plagiarism, and is not allowed.

Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of 0 on the assignment and academic probation. Other consequences of academic dishonesty may include having to retake the course or dismissal of the student from The Crossing Bible College.

## **Make-up Policy**

Students are strongly encouraged to plan ahead and complete assignments early in the case of a known scheduling conflict. Instructors are not required to accept late work. Students who advise their instructor in advance that they need additional time for an assignment for excused reasons such as military service, serious illness, and personal or family-related emergency MAY be allowed to make up a missed assignment at the discretion of the instructor.

If such an emergency results in the student being unable to complete assignments before the end of the term, the student should contact both the instructor and the college administrator. In approved cases, a grade of "I" (Incomplete) will be recorded. When the remaining assignments are submitted, the "I" will be replaced with the student's earned grade.

## **Graduation Requirements**

### **General Requirements**

The requirements for the conferring of diplomas and degrees are as follows:

1. Each student must have completed or transferred in all required coursework for their chosen degree prior to graduation.
2. Each student must have a 2.0 or higher cumulative grade point average (GPA).
3. Each student must have paid all tuition and fees before graduation.
4. Each graduate must complete their graduation application online before the deadline.

## **Tuition & Fees**

### **Tuition Rates**

#### **Degree Seeking Student Tuition:**

- \$150 per course

#### **Non-Degree Seeking Student Tuition (Certificate Program):**

- \$50 per course

Should a student enroll in the non-degree-seeking certificate program and decide at a later date that they wish to pursue a degree, they may pay the difference in tuition to convert their completed courses to credit hours that will meet their degree requirements.

A student may take as many Bible College courses as they wish at the reduced non-degree seeking rate.

### **Payment Deadlines**

Payments must be made through the payment portal on The Crossing Bible College website.

Tuition is due on the Monday before the start of each course.

If payment is not received by the due date, the student will be dropped from the course roster. All tuition must be paid in order for the student to access the course; absolutely no exceptions.

## **Refund Policy**

If a student formally withdraws from a course before the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week, a partial refund will be granted. For degree-seeking students, \$130 will be refunded; for non-degree-seeking students, \$30 will be refunded. Withdrawals during weeks 3-8 will receive no refund.

## **Book Costs**

Book lists will be provided prior to the start of each term. Students are responsible for purchasing their own books and can do so from any merchant of their choosing, including Amazon hard copy or Kindle version. Note that a Kindle reader is not required; Kindle books may be read on the free Kindle app for PCs, Macs, and smartphones.

## **Commencement Fee**

The commencement fee covers the graduation ceremony and reception, diploma with cover, and graduation attire. Any graduate who chooses not to participate in the commencement ceremony will receive his or her diploma by mail.

## **Degrees Offered**

The Crossing Bible College offers certificate programs and degrees for individuals seeking to increase their biblical knowledge and become better equipped for personal ministry, or those who desire additional qualification for their currently held ministry position.

### **Certificate in Theology**

This program is offered to students not seeking a degree. A Certificate in Theology is awarded to a student who successfully completes 10 courses of academic study at TCBC. Students may continue their enrollment and will be awarded additional certificates for every 10 courses completed successfully.

Students enrolled in the Certificate program will participate in classes along with degree-seeking students and are required to complete the same coursework, but will pay a reduced tuition rate.

### **Associate of Theology**

An Associate of Theology (AT) degree is awarded to students who successfully complete 60 credit hours of academic study (20 courses) at TCBC. Up to 30 credit hours toward this degree may be granted as transfer credit for equivalent courses taken at other institutions.

### **Bachelor of Theological Studies**

The Bachelor of Theological Studies (BTS) degree is available to students who have previously earned an Associate or Bachelor's degree from another institution, or have completed 60 or more credit hours in any subject area from another college or university. A BTS degree will be awarded when such students successfully complete 60 credit hours of academic study (20 courses) at TCBC.

Up to 30 hours toward this degree may be granted as transfer credit if the student has college credit for courses equivalent to those offered at TCBC; a minimum of 30 credit hours must be taken at TCBC. Transfer hours and TCBC hours must total 120 credit hours.

### **Bachelor of Theology**

The Bachelor of Theology (BT) degree is The Crossing Bible College's full course of study. It is awarded to a student who successfully completes 120 credit hours of academic study at TCBC. Up to 30 hours of transfer credit (of equivalent TCBC courses) may be granted; a minimum of 90 credit hours must be taken at TCBC.



# Personnel

## Board of Trustees

Greg Dumas.....Chairman of Trustees  
Lead Pastor

Jonas Alday..... Trustee  
Executive Pastor

## Administration

Keith Marsh.....President of the College

Rick Hernandez .....Dean of Students

# Contact Information

## The Crossing Bible College

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[www.CrossingBibleCollege.com](http://www.CrossingBibleCollege.com)