

# CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

7

An education at Point Loma Nazarene University is characterized by the intentional interrelationship of the life of the mind, the development of character and social graces, and spiritual formation for a life of service. Thus, University life includes an array of activities and experiences designed deliberately to be seamless. Academic study becomes an act of one's "reasonable spiritual worship," community life and social relationships move in the context of a family that is intent on loving God with all one's "heart, soul, mind, and strength." Faith is seen not as a compartmentalized activity but as a way of life that embraces love for humanity and life-long learning. Realizing that students spend more time out of class and formal academic settings than in class, the University provides a wide variety of opportunities for undergraduates in co-curricular programming. These include activities directly or indirectly related to academic programs, spiritual life options, and student leadership programs that relate to the University's mission and denominational relationships.

## Academic Affairs

Co-curricular activities in the area of Academic Affairs include, but are not limited to, the following: a nationally ranked forensic team; the annual Sunset Cliffs National Forensics Tournament hosted by the University; California Board of Registered Nursing-approved continuing education courses; the Phi Alpha Theta society for pre-law students; the Point Loma String Project; a wide variety of activities directed by the Fermanian Business Center; and student summer research in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Information Systems, and Computer Science.

Other opportunities directly or indirectly related to specific majors and programs include a host of ensembles in the Department of Music such as Chorale, Concert Choir, Point Loma Singers, Choral Union, Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, and Jazz Band; Urban Term, an intentional living community studying local urban issues in the context of ethnic diversity and low-income environments; radio station KPLR and the University television station, supported by the Department of Communication and Theatre; international study trips sponsored by the Armenian Center; summer marketing research, an honors program in the School of Business; and an annual series of Literary Teas, Poetry Day, and a writer's symposium featuring nationally known personalities, sponsored by the Department of Literature, Journalism, and Modern Languages.

## Spiritual Development

An environment of vital Christianity is central to the Point Loma educational experience. The University covenants with all its constituents to promote a climate of spiritual formation and ministry that leads to growth in Christian discipleship. Students joining the community are expected to embrace the spirit of this covenant and to contribute energetically to the spiritual vitality of Point Loma. Several ministries provide for on-going services and opportunities, including the following:

### WORSHIP MINISTRIES

**Chapel.** Chapel services held each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning are central to the spiritual life of the University. Chapel is a time of worship, devotion, and biblical teaching shared by faculty and students alike. In order to affirm the centrality of our covenant to be faithful to the University's mission, chapel attendance is required for all undergraduate students registered for more than eight units per semester. Chapel attendance policies are listed in *The Mascot* and are managed by the chapel secretary in the Student Development office.

**Time Out.** An informal worship experience, Time Out is conducted every Wednesday in the Recreation Room of the Nicholson Commons. Participants take "time out" from studies and other activities to worship God and connect in community.

**Ministry Teams.** Chapel and Time Out bands are a part of the worship leadership teams at the University. These groups rehearse weekly and play two to three times a month. Students also have the opportunity to travel across the Southwest Region of the Church of the Nazarene. Live music groups minister to churches, summer camps, and youth events. *Cruceros* is a music and drama team that reaches primarily Spanish-speaking churches and camps.

### DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

**Covenant Groups** are made up of students who commit to meet on a weekly basis and are led by older students who are trained in leading small groups in Christian growth and support. Covenant groups provide an ongoing framework for personal growth and mutual support.

**Discipleship Groups.** Designed to help students pursue a life of holiness by exploring spiritual disciplines, these groups are made up of six to eight upperclassmen. They commit to meet on a weekly basis and desire to open their lives to the Scriptures and to others.

**Men's and Women's Retreat.** Held once a year, these are weekend opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to come together. There, they learn from each other and build relationships outside the classroom and University setting.

**Other Features.** Bible studies, retreats, and other types of Christian spiritual growth opportunities are available in the residence halls and other on- and off-campus locations.

---

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

---

**Student Ministries** provides opportunities for taking the love of Jesus Christ off the campus and into the community. A large number of student-led ministries is available. Every day of the week, Point Loma students can be found living out their faith by taking the Good News to some of the forgotten places in San Diego and Northern Baja California.

**LoveWorks Short-Term Missions.** Each semester break finds Point Loma students and faculty in many parts of the world in an opportunity to express Christian love and service. Far from being vacations, these experiences provide excellent opportunities for taking classroom learning and applying it in situations beyond the comforts of familiar language and culture.

**Project YES.** Each year, hundreds of high school students are joined by Point Loma students and adult leaders. Together in teams, they travel to Native American and Baja Californian churches to build and be built through ministry.

---

## CHURCH RELATIONS

---

This arm of the Spiritual Development office promotes the covenantal connection between the University and the churches. Programs that link ministry resources with churches are part of this connection. Additionally, Point Loma seeks to develop ways that the University and the churches can assist each other in fulfilling this mission within the body of Christ.

---

# Student Development

---

Student Development at Point Loma Nazarene University is dedicated to engaging students in the active and energizing process of learning.

Point Loma Nazarene University believes that the most complete education prepares a person to live a full life. This quality education incorporates intelligence and reason as well as character, integrity, commitment, and faith. With this in mind, PLNU strives to educate the “whole” student. This holistic approach challenges students to integrate their knowledge – even as they’re attaining and processing it – with their beliefs, values, and actions.

The holistic way of thinking seeks to encompass multiple layers of meaning and experience. Each

relationship that a student develops with the University community serves to increase the “depth of learning” that occurs in the student’s life. These relationships are built and the learning is accomplished in both curricular and co-curricular settings.

Through their relationships with faculty, staff, and administration, students are motivated not only to acquire specific knowledge in an academic specialty but also to increase personal understanding and make meaning of their own lives emotionally, socially, physically, spiritually, and cognitively. Faculty and staff incorporate the students’ “meaning-making” into the learning process. They help students to work with others, to establish professional relationships, to manage change, to assess self, to clarify values, and to broaden the individual student’s perspective of life.

The total experience for students at Point Loma teaches and shapes individuals. In the experience, students integrate an understanding of themselves and their future. Stimulated by the positive influence of both the environment and people, students are prepared and sent from the University to have a positive and courageous impact on their world.

Student involvement with every aspect of University life is designed to give students the following message: “Learn all you can, shape your life through quality relationships, and serve Christ, church, community, and the world.”

Student Development coordinates a multitude of co-curricular programs in the areas of Academic Support, Athletics, Public Safety, Residential Life, Student Engagement and Retention, and the Wellness Center.

---

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

---

### Academic Advising

The Office of Academic Advising enhances the quality of the educational experience of the student through responsible advising. This advising facilitates the development of an academic program by helping students identify their social, personal, and career goals and to plan an academic program to meet those goals.

Upon admission to the University, each student is assigned an advisor on the following basis: all students with a declared major are advised by a faculty academic advisor from the department of their major; all undeclared majors are advised by the Academic Support Center advisement staff until a major is selected. After a major is selected, the student is advised by a professor in that department.

**Special Needs.** Students having special needs are required to produce documentation of a specific learning disability conducted within the last three years, to be placed on file in the Advising Office. A complete set of aptitude and achievement test