



## General Information

### **Mission**

Houghton College provides an academically challenging, Christ-centered education in the liberal arts and sciences to students from diverse traditions and economic backgrounds and equips them to lead and labor as scholar-servants in a changing world.

### **Philosophy**

The philosophy of Houghton College, an educational institution of The Wesleyan Church, builds on the concept of preparing individuals to become Christian scholar-servants who exhibit the scholar's passionate yet humble commitment to the Christian faith and to their chosen academic discipline and the servant's qualities of serving enthusiastically and unselfishly wherever called. The indispensable characteristics of the scholar-servant are the *competence* to serve and the *willingness* to serve.

To acquire the *competence to serve*, the scholar-servant must develop effective skills in listening, reading, written and spoken communication, computation, problem solving, logical reasoning and value discrimination. In addition, the graduate's cumulative knowledge must provide a solid foundation for lifelong learning by a thorough grounding in one or more academic disciplines plus familiarity with fundamental concepts, principles and methods of the basic fields of knowledge. Learning must also relate disciplines to each other and to life in ways that assist in making wise decisions and appreciating one's individual heritage while respecting cultural diversity and the integrity of creation.

To develop the *willingness to serve*, the scholar-servant must encounter positive models through life examples from Houghton's faculty and staff. Their reasoned faith must rest on sufficient knowledge of the Bible and its central doctrines to communicate Christianity effectively to others and produce a world view that infuses Christian truth into knowledge and experience.

To achieve its ideals, Houghton College will sustain a scholarly community of believers who confess the Lordship of Jesus and who actively seek truth and recognize its foundation in Christ. Because of the risks involved in educating the intellect and the character, the faculty and staff will strive to provide a challenging and stimulating environment which is also nurturing and supportive. The community will also be characterized by the historic distinctives of The Wesleyan Church, including purity of heart and life, concern for justice in social issues and unselfish stewardship of time and the material provisions of creation.

### **Creedal Statement**

Christian institutions over the past 2000 years have attempted to articulate the framework of their convictions in cognitive terms called creeds. As an academic institution, we recognize that all learning happens within a framework of assumptions and presuppositions about the ultimate questions of human existence--the meaning of persons and the source and limits of knowledge. At Houghton, as at most Christian liberal arts colleges, we seek to make these assumptions explicit.

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Our framework of conviction draws heavily on the affirmations of the Apostle's Creed. It also reflects the particular concerns of the historical period within which it was articulated.

It is these convictions that we bring into dialogue with our academic studies, in ways that both our faith and our studies may be enlarged and sharpened.

This statement of doctrinal views has been adopted by the board of trustees of Houghton College:  
*We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are fully inspired of God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are of supreme and final authority for faith and practice.*

*We believe that there is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*We believe that God created the entire universe including human beings by special operation of divine power.*

*We believe in the fall of Adam and Eve and the consequent sinful nature of all humanity which necessitates a divine atonement.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ as truly God and truly man, and in His virgin birth, His matchless teachings, His vicarious death, His bodily resurrection, and His promised second coming.*

*We believe in justification by grace through faith and in regeneration by the Holy Spirit, who makes the penitent believer a new creature in Christ and commences His lifelong sanctifying work.*

*We believe that the Christian may be filled with the Holy Spirit, or sanctified wholly, as a definite act of divine grace wrought in the heart of the believer to take full possession, cleanse, and equip for service on condition of total surrender and obedient faith.*

*We believe in the personal existence of Satan.*

*We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead--of the saved to everlasting blessedness and of the lost to everlasting punishment.*

### **Community Expectation**

All community members, including students, commit to Houghton's Community Covenant. This commitment signals our desire to live together in Christian community and fellowship. The Student Guide gives a more complete statement of expectations for community life, including student behavior and lifestyle.

As part of our commitment to community life, the Houghton community gathers for chapel three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). Students commit to attending at least 2/3 of these chapels per semester.

### **History**

In 1883, the Lockport Conference of The Wesleyan Methodist Church of America founded Houghton Wesleyan Methodist Seminary. The school, established largely through the efforts of Willard J. Houghton, began with elementary and academic departments in 1884 and added a department for training of ministers in 1888. In 1896, the school was placed under the management of the Wesleyan Educational Society. The first college-level courses were offered in 1889, and by 1909, advanced standing was allowed to college students transferring to degree-granting institutions. From 1909 to 1923, three years of college work were given.

A provisional charter as a four-year liberal arts college was granted to Houghton in 1923 by the Regents of the University of the State of New York, and the first four-year baccalaureate degrees were awarded in 1925. Houghton College received its permanent charter in 1927. In November 1935, the college was given full accreditation through admission to membership in the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (267-284-5000).

James Seymour Luckey, college president from 1908 to 1937, provided the leadership and constructive planning that brought Houghton's emergence as a strong, properly equipped and completely accredited liberal

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arts college. Dr. Stephen W. Paine was president from 1937 until 1972. During these years student enrollment grew to approximately 1,200.

The leadership of Houghton College continued under the guidance of Wilber T. Dayton from 1972 until 1976 and Dr. Daniel R. Chamberlain from September 1976 - May 2006. Dr. Shirley A. Mullen assumed the presidency of Houghton College in June 2006. Current enrollment is approximately 1,200.

College development has added several major buildings within the past few years, most recently the Center for the Arts. There have been significant improvements and changes to outdoor athletic facilities as well. Substantial increases in endowment have also been realized.

Founded and maintained by The Wesleyan Church, Houghton College recognizes its obligation to make a distinct contribution in the training of leaders and laity for service to that denomination.

### **Locations**

Houghton College's main campus is in the hamlet of Houghton, Allegany County, in western New York, about 65 miles southeast of Buffalo and 70 miles southwest of Rochester. It is in the heart of the Genesee country, rich in historic Archaic, Lamoka, and Woodland Native American cultures. The campus sits on the Allegheny Plateau at roughly the 1,300-foot level, on the site of the former Caneadea Indian Reservation of the early 1800s. Fifteen miles to the north are the Genesee's magnificent Portage Falls and Letchworth State Park. On all sides is the scenic beauty of the rolling hills and northern hardwood forests of western New York State. Allegany County, with extensive state forest land, abundant wildlife, and cross-country and downhill ski trails, is rapidly developing into a leading recreation area of western New York.

When the former Buffalo Bible Institute in West Seneca merged with Houghton College in 1969, the West Seneca campus was created. The programs on this campus have evolved from lower-divisional status to specialized courses and internships designed to complement majors offered on the main campus, particularly those requiring an urban setting.

### **Academic Standing and Regulations**

Houghton College is fully accredited by the Regents of the University of the State of New York and by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (267.284.5000) is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U. S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The most recent renewal of this status was awarded in 2005.

The Greatbatch School of Music is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music, and the requirements for entrance and for graduation as set forth in this catalog are in accordance with the published regulations of the National Association of Schools of Music.

The Education Department is a member of the Teacher Education Accreditation Council.

### **Houghton Graduates**

Each year an average of 65 percent of Houghton's graduates go on to full-time employment. The remaining 35 percent enter graduate school within a year of leaving Houghton. Approximately 16 percent of our graduates go into full-time Christian service. The remainder tend to enter professional fields such as education, business, medicine, law and social services. Post-graduation statistics are available from the career services office.

### **Christian College Consortium**

Houghton College is a member of the Christian College Consortium, based in Concord, NH, which provides valuable cooperative programs. Consortium programs reinforce the unique purposes of Houghton College, and consortium members are committed to the tenets and spirit of evangelical Christian commitments in all areas of educational, faculty, administrative and student activity.

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Consortium activities increase learning opportunities for students by bringing special programs to campus and by creating the opportunity for selected sophomores or juniors to enroll with ease in special programs at other consortium colleges.

The other members of the consortium are: Asbury College, Wilmore, KY; Bethel University, St. Paul, MN; George Fox College, Newberg, OR; Gordon College, Wenham, MA; Greenville College, Greenville, IL; Malone College, Canton, OH; Messiah College, Grantham, PA; Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA; Taylor University, Upland, IN; Trinity International University, Deerfield, IL; Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA; and Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL. All are four-year liberal arts colleges with full regional accreditation.

Further information can be obtained by writing to the President, Christian College Consortium, 255 Grapevine Road Wenham, MA 01984.

### **Council for Christian Colleges & Universities**

Houghton College is also a member of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU), an organization of 105 Christian colleges and universities. The Council's American Studies Program in Washington, D.C. offers students a wide range of study and internship opportunities, usually occupying one semester of the senior year. The Latin American Studies Program in Costa Rica provides an opportunity for cross-cultural study and an exposure to the problems of developing countries. The Los Angeles Film Studies Program engages students in the professional activities, cultural impact, and ethical issues of the contemporary film and television industry. Some details about these programs may be found in the Off-Campus Programs section of this catalog. Further information may be obtained by writing to the President, Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, 329 Eighth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20002. [http://www.cccu.org/members\\_and\\_affiliates](http://www.cccu.org/members_and_affiliates)

### **Western New York Consortium**

The Educational Law and Trustees of New York State Resolution 73-58, dated February 28, 1973, enables state-operated campuses and community colleges to enter into a cross-registration procedure with other public and private colleges in the Western New York Consortium. The process permits full-time students to take and receive credits for courses at another participating college, without payments of tuition beyond the tuition already paid to the home institution (one three-hour course per semester).

Participating institutions are: Canisius College, Daemen College, D'Youville College, Erie Community College, Genesee Community College, Hilbert College, Houghton College, Jamestown Community College, Medaille College, Niagara County Community College, Niagara University, SUNY at Buffalo, SUNY College of Technology at Alfred, SUC at Buffalo, SUC at Fredonia, St. Bonaventure University, Trocaire College, and Villa Maria College. For further information, contact the academic records office.

### **Five-College Committee**

Houghton has established an ongoing consortium relationship with four other colleges serving the northern tip of Appalachia: St. Bonaventure University, Alfred University, Jamestown Community College (Olean) and the SUNY College of Technology at Alfred. Details of cross-enrollment opportunities may be found through the academic records office.

### **Rochester Area Colleges**

The Rochester Area Colleges is a consortium of higher education institutions in the Rochester, New York area. Founded in 1970, Rochester Area Colleges has numerous area public and private colleges as members and provides numerous collaborative working opportunities for colleges and their students. The purpose of the association is to support the functions of career development, placement and experiential education in the region.

Participating institutions are: Alfred University, Finger Lakes Community College, Genesee Community College, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Houghton College, Keuka College, Monroe Community College, Nazareth College, Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. Bernard's Institute, St. John Fisher College, SUNY Alfred, SUNY Brockport, SUNY Empire State College, SUNY Genesee, and University of Rochester. For further information, contact the academic records office.

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### **Army ROTC**

Army Reserve officer training is available through cross-registration for course work at St. Bonaventure University near Olean. The academic courses are complemented with practical field experiences designed to enhance self-confidence, discipline, initiative and responsibility. Houghton students in the program have done well in competition for scholarships, which cover full tuition and books, plus a modest living allowance. Up to eight hours of graduation credit may be earned through cross-registration in this program. The academic records office has further information.

### **Educational Rights and Privacy Act**

This notice is to inform students of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended in 1988 and 1996. This Act, with which Houghton College intends to comply fully, was designed to protect the privacy of education records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings. In light of this federal regulation, Houghton College does not issue grades to parents. However, at the student's request (form available in the Academic Records Office) the grades can be released to parents.

Students also have the right to file complaints with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office (FERPA) concerning alleged failures by Houghton College to comply with the Act. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, students may request that Houghton College not disclose or print directory information and not disclose other information such as major(s), minor(s), Dean's list, other academic honors, and sports information such as height, weight, etc. Students wishing to prevent disclosure of directory information should complete the form available at the Academic Records Office by the end of the second week of classes. Local Houghton College policies concerning compliance with the provisions of the Act can be found in Houghton's Academic Records Office.

### **Crime Statistics Reporting**

The Houghton College Committee on Harassment Policy and Prevention (CHPP) serves in an advisory role for campus safety and will provide upon request all campus crime statistics as reported to the United States Department of Education. This list is also available through the Safety and Security office and can be requested by contacting the Director of Safety and Security at 585.567.9543.

For a list of crime rates at Houghton College, as well as comparative rates with other colleges nationwide, visit the federal college crime registry at: <http://ope.ed.gov/security/index.asp>.

### **Religious Observances**

In compliance with New York's Hevesi-Levy Act, Houghton College will accommodate any of its matriculated students who are unable to register for classes, take an exam, or attend a class because of religious beliefs (taken to mean the doctrinal beliefs of religious organizations which qualify as tax-exempt corporations under federal law).