



American Baptist College

Institutional Effectiveness Report 2023-2024—Consumer Information

Mission Statement

The mission of American Baptist College, a Historically Black College with a liberal arts emphasis, is to educate, graduate, and prepare diverse students for Christian leadership, service, and social justice in the world.

Teaching Philosophy

The teaching philosophy at American Baptist College will help students develop a rigorous spirit of curiosity that connects theory to praxis, promotes community and inclusion as well as cultivates habits of life-long learning through continuous self-reflection and self-evaluation. To accomplish these aims we will teach our students to grow ethically and spiritually by expanding their vision to include the principles of social justice, equity, advocacy, and leadership in order to build their analytical and interpretative skills in both faith communities and the broader society.

Accreditation Statement

American Baptist College is accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) Commission on Accreditation (5850 T. G. Lee Blvd., Ste. 130, Orlando, FL 32822, 407.207.0808) to grant certificates and degrees at the Associate and Baccalaureate levels. ABHE is a nationally approved agency by the U.S. Department of Education and is a recognized agency of the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), a private, nonprofit “umbrella organization” that coordinates accreditation activity of the voluntary accrediting agencies in the United States.

Institutional Assessment/Effectiveness Data

(Source: [IPEDS Data Center](#); [2022 Data Feedback Report to ABC](#))

Enrollment Rates

| Category | 2022-2023 | 2021 – 2022 | 2020 - 2021 | 2019 - 2020 |
|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Traditional (18-24) | 22% | 31% | 36% | 46% |
| Male | 68% | 58% | 71% | 61% |
| Female | 32% | 42% | 29% | 39% |

Fall enrollment is a measure of student access to higher education at traditional institutions. Data are collected for all students enrolled in credit-bearing courses/programs which could potentially lead to awards ranging from postsecondary certificates of less than 1 year to doctoral degrees. [IPEDS Fall Enrollment Rate](#)

Graduation Rates

| 2022 - 2023 | 2021 - 2022 | 2020 - 2021 | 2019 - 2020 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 16% | 27% | 64% | 33% |

IPEDS graduation rates (GR) are reflective of full-time, first-time, degree-/certificate-seeking students who started and finished at the same institution. [IPEDS Graduation Rates](#)

Persistence Rates

(Source: [OSS Google Drive](#); CAMS Reports Manager)

| Degree Program | FA-19 | SP-20 | Persistence Rate | SP-20 | FA-20 | Persistence Rate |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| Bachelor of Theology | 2 | 1 | 50% | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| Behavioral Studies | 15 | 10 | 67% | 10 | 10 | 100% |
| Bible & Theology | 31 | 22 | 71% | 22 | 17 | 77% |
| Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies | 8 | 6 | 75% | 3 | 2 | 67% |
| General Studies | 1 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| Music and Arts | 2 | 2 | 100% | 1 | 1 | 100% |
| Grand Total | 59 | 41 | 69% | 36 | 30 | 83% |

| Degree Program | FA-20 | SP-21 | Persistence Rate | SP-21 | FA-21 | Persistence Rate |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|------------------|
| Bachelor of Theology | 0 | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| Behavioral Studies | 11 | 8 | 65% | 9 | 9 | 100% |
| Bible & Theology | 20 | 13 | 65% | 15 | 15 | 100% |
| Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies | 2 | 0 | 0% | 3 | 3 | 100% |
| General Studies | 0 | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| Music and Arts | 1 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0 | N/A |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Grand Total | 34 | 21 | 62% | 27 | 27 | 100% |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|

| Degree Program | FA-21 | SP-22 | Persistence Rate | SP-22 | FA-22 | Persistence Rate |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Bachelor of Theology | 0 | 0 | N/A | 1 | 1 | 100% |
| Behavioral Studies | 12 | 12 | 100% | 11 | 11 | 100% |
| Bible & Theology | 23 | 20 | 87% | 18 | 18 | 100% |
| Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies | 5 | 4 | 80% | 4 | 4 | 100% |
| General Studies | 1 | 1 | 100% | 2 | 2 | 100% |
| Music and Arts | 0 | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| Grand Total | 41 | 37 | 90% | 36 | 36 | 100% |

| Degree Program | FA-22 | SP-23 | Persistence Rate |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Bachelor of Theology | 1 | 1 | 100% |
| Behavioral Studies | 13 | 16 | 100% |
| Bible & Theology | 27 | 23 | 85% |
| Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies | 5 | 7 | 100% |
| General Studies | 3 | 3 | 100% |
| Music and Arts | 1 | 1 | 100% |
| Grand Total | 50 | 51 | 90% |

ABC defines persistence rates as a student’s ability to continue on to the next term. For more on the topic of student persistence a [Precision Campus Persistence Rates](#)

Retention Rates

| 2022 - 2023 | 2021 – 2022 | 2020 - 2021 | 2019 - 2020 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 64% | 100% | 40% | 77% |

The IPEDS retention rate for four-year institutions is designed to identify the percentage of first-time bachelor’s degree-seeking students beginning in a Fall that are still enrolled for credit in that same institution the following Fall. Retention rates are calculated separately for full-time and part-time students. [IPEDS Retention Rates](#)

Transfer Credit Procedure

Transferring credits refers to the practice of applying credit hours earned at one educational institution toward the completion of an academic program at another institution. The Office of the Registrar will evaluate all college transcripts for transferable credit based on an American Baptist College degree plan in a declared or intended major in the first Semester of enrollment. Upon completion of this review, the student will be notified of transferable credit. Assessment of potential credit hours awarded is provisional until the student enrolls and presents Official transcripts from all Institutions previously attended. The transfer must equate to a similar course where the student earned at least a grade of "C-". A Maximum of 30 credit hours may be transferred for an Associate of Arts degree, a maximum of 60 credit hours may be transferred for a Bachelor of Arts degree, depending on degree program. The College reserves the right to accept or deny any or all credits from another institution.

ABC accepts transfer credit from institutions accredited by an agency approved by the United States Department of Education. Credits from other institutions are subject to the College's Transfer Credit Procedure. Transfer decisions are applied consistently. Decisions are not made solely on the source of accreditation of a sending program or institution.

If ABC offers an equivalent course to one taken at another institution, the transfer credit may be substituted for the ABC course requirement. Lower division transfer credits will not satisfy upper division course requirements. Students may be required to submit documentation as to course content and duration of course prior to transfer credit being approved.

Undergraduate Students

- o American Baptist College requires undergraduate students to complete all courses required by their selected program. ABC may allow for substitution up to 9 credit hours in the major at the time of admission. Any student receiving a bachelor's degree from American Baptist College must earn a minimum of 30 semester credit hours at this institution.

- o Transfer credit is only granted for courses in which a grade of "C" or better was earned. Courses not repeated at the same institution will be calculated in the overall GPA for admission. Transfer credit is not granted for developmental courses or for continuing education units.

- o International transcripts must be in English or be accompanied by an acceptable English translation. If you need translation services, contact World Education Services (WES) at <http://www.wes.org>.

Institutional Goals

The College's Institutional Goals align with the College's Mission Statement and College's SEAL vision. The College promotes SEAL as a theologically grounded vision for civic engagement and learning opportunities for students to connect understandings of the justice of God to transformation of community social problems and quality of public life. It inextricably connects academics, Christian leadership, ministry and preaching to the core meaning of the justice of God in the world. Its goal is to teach individuals how to become advocates for justice in society through collaborative leadership and civic learning and social justice projects for the well-being of vulnerable communities. *(President Forrest E. Harris, introduced for review and comment, October 2022.*

1. Academic and Scholarship: Excellence in Education

Maintain a high quality collegial, supportive, and educational environment to motivate and engage faculty, administration, staff, and students to achieve their personal and professional goals and the expected institutional outcomes.

2. Student Engagement and Success: Excellence in Christian and Ethical Leadership

Developing practices to support a student-centered and justice-oriented culture of Christian vocation rooted in leadership, service, and ethical living.

3. Institutional Advancement: Excellence in Data and Resource Management

Utilize best practices in resource management and allocation to support American Baptist College's commitment to sound stewardship. (Includes continuous institutional strategic planning)

4. Strategic Partnerships and Alliances: Excellence in Community Partnerships

Pursue alignments with business, industry, government, religious and civic organizations to create experiential education to facilitate a pathway to economic, social, and educational success for our students and the advancement of the College.

5. Institutional Sustainability: Excellence in Organizational Rightsizing and Leadership Responsibility

Incorporate sustainability into business model and institutional decisions by developing an institutional sustainability matrix to monitor and improve institutional performance, and leadership alignment for institutional effectiveness and success.

6. Cyberspace Infrastructure for Digital Humanities: Excellence in digital technologies for archives and disciplines of the humanities.

Prepare students to hone their content knowledge in particular fields of study and to use and design digital tools in areas of history, theology, philosophy, and English.

7. Justice Education: Excellence in Student Civic engagement

Develop an interdisciplinary program to weave applied scholarship, biblical liberation ethics and theology for student's civic engagement, leadership and Christian service.

Academic Assessment Indicators

American Baptist College offers five degree programs: General Studies (Associate), Bible and Theology (Bachelor), Behavioral Studies (Bachelor), Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies (Bachelor), and Music and Arts (Associate). The following tables depict both the mission and goals of each degree program.

General Studies Program

| Academic Program Mission Statement | Goals |
|---|---|
| <p>The General Studies program is the foundation for all American Baptist College degree programs and creates learning opportunities across liberal arts as well as natural and social science disciplines to encourage lifelong learning. Students will develop thinking, reasoning, and communication skills while discovering new ideas and expanding their views for Christian leadership and social justice.</p> | <p>1. Students will learn to analyze and interpret concepts, contexts, and theories across natural science, social science and the humanities.</p> |
| | <p>2. Students will learn to communicate discipline-specific information and concepts, analyze texts, and use credible sources to support a topic or argument orally or in writing.</p> |
| | <p>3. Introduce students to Black religious and Black critical thought.</p> |

Bible and Theology Program

| Academic Program Mission Statement | Goals |
|---|---|
| <p>The Bible and Theology degree program prepares students to build a solid biblical and theological framework through in-depth study and analysis of the biblical text and practical experiences for vocational or academic opportunities within or outside of the church.</p> | <p>1. Identify and apply biblical and theological concepts and reasoning to analyze historical, social and ecclesiastical issues.</p> |
| | <p>2. Synthesize and differentiate between historical and contemporary contexts when interpreting the Bible.</p> |
| | <p>3. Develop leadership praxis and fiscal responsibility with various audiences in ecclesial and community settings.</p> |

Behavioral Studies Program

| Academic Program Mission Statement | Goals |
|--|---|
| <p>The Behavioral Studies degree program prepares students to understand human behavior and analyze social problems through research, critical thinking, evidence-based practice (e.g., experiential learning), for a variety of careers in clinical, educational, and industrial environments as well as advanced graduate training in psychology, counseling, sociology, criminal justice and law.</p> | <p>1. Compare and contrast theoretical frameworks of behavioral studies utilizing evidence-based methods.</p> |
| | <p>2. Analyze and examine the influence of values, ethics, and culture, through the application of scientific methods.</p> |
| | <p>3. Demonstrate the ability to implement research methods utilizing the anthropological sociological approach to understanding societal dilemmas, personality, social structure, stratification, community, and deviant behavior.</p> |

Entrepreneurial Leadership Program

| Academic Program Mission Statement | Goals |
|---|---|
| <p>The Entrepreneurial Leadership degree program prepares students to be ethical and effective problem-solvers and value-creators in a world of churn and uncertainty by providing the opportunity to explore entrepreneurial leadership potential and to develop an entrepreneurial mindset within a Christian ministry framework.</p> | <p>1. Apply ethical leadership principles and values for community and business leadership.</p> |
| | <p>2. Strategic leadership training for solving problems collaboratively through critical thinking, creativity, and innovation to meet consumer and organizational needs.</p> |
| | <p>3. Provide biblical and theological foundation for all aspects of leadership independent of the setting in which it is exercised.</p> |

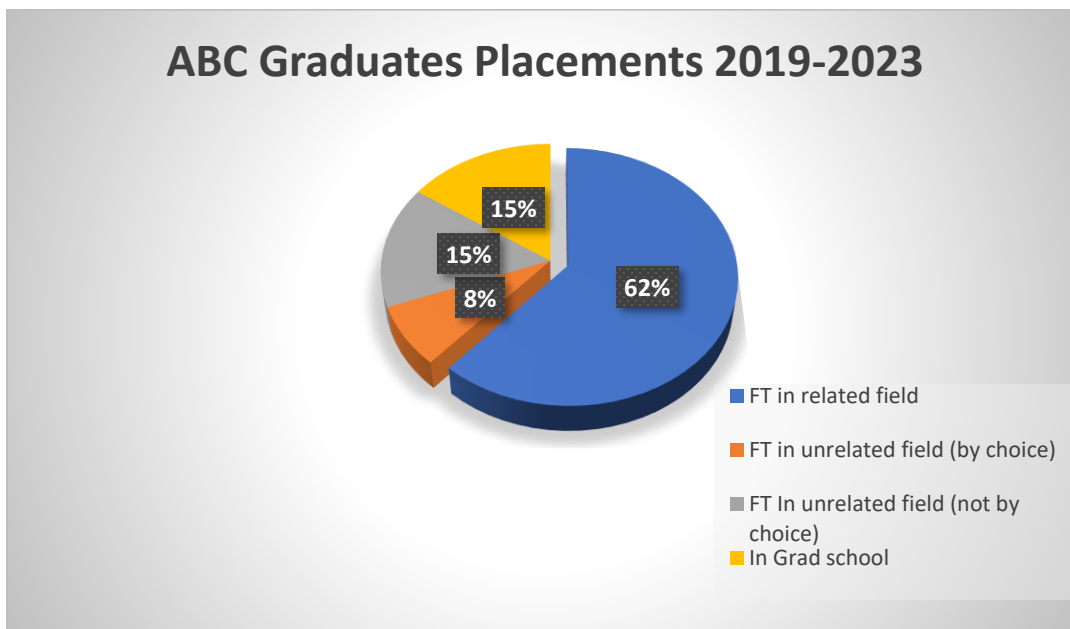
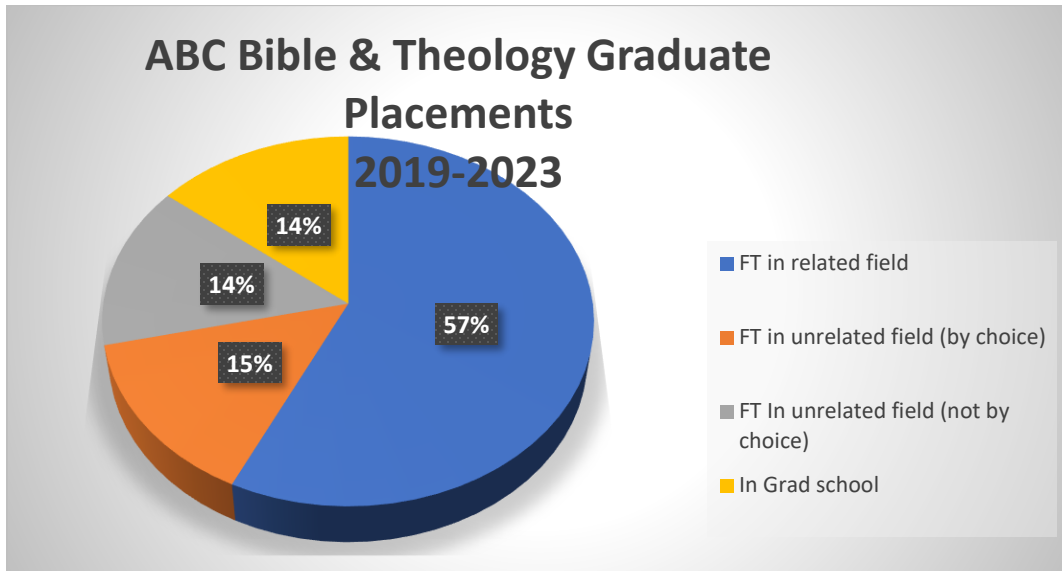
Music and Arts Program

| Academic Program Mission Statement | Goals |
|---|---|
| <p>The Music and Arts degree program prepares students to deepen their understanding of music theory, music history, and performance while developing Christian leadership skills through the required biblical, theological, and leadership development courses.</p> | <p>1. Learn music history and its cultural sources and fundamental music concepts and terms.</p> |
| | <p>2. Identify sub-genres and characteristics of church music such as anthems, hymns, and gospel music.</p> |
| | <p>3. Utilize technology to support composition and performance.</p> |

Employment and Placement Outcomes

American Baptist College does not track employment of all students because the school does not offer professional placement programs. However, beginning with the Academic Year 2023-2024, the College will begin offer students and recent graduates the opportunity to engage, track, and report post-graduation employment, graduate school enrollment, and accumulated hours of mission-driven community, congregational, and civic service hours.

In August 2023, 72 ABC students who graduated in the five years from 2019 to 2023 were surveyed by Alumni Affairs and the Office of Strategic Services with the following results:



In a parallel survey, ABC alumni who graduated more than five years ago report that over 75% graduated from the Bible and Theology programs, 80% were employed full-time within one year of graduation, and 40% were employed within their field of study. ABC alumni reported working within the following sectors:

| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Church | 36.00% |
| Education | 28.00% |
| Government | 32.00% |
| Private Sector | 16.00% |
| Self Employment | 12.00% |
| I am currently not working | 8.00% |
| Total Respondents: 25 | |

Further, ABC alumni report pursuing further studies and graduate degrees at the following institutions:

- Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School
- Fisk University
- Howard University
- Interdenominational Theological Center
- Lipscomb University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Morehouse School of Religion
- Samford University
- South Carolina State College
- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
- Tennessee state university
- Trevecca Nazarene University
- University of Georgia
- Vanderbilt University Divinity School
- Virginia Union University
- Wesley theological Seminary