

2. The Notre Dame Graduate School

The Notre Dame Graduate School (NDGS) is Christendom College's Graduate School of Theology. Its masters-level program offers a comprehensive grasp of the Catholic faith, preparing students for advanced graduate studies and for various ministries in the Catholic Church. The program is flexible and accommodating, allowing students of all ages and from all over the world to attend either part-time or full-time, year-round, summers-only, or winters-only, and also to study at a distance through online delivery of course content.

To teach the Faith involves more than the transmission of information about religion; it also requires a manner of teaching that bears witness to the relationship between faith and life. Along with formal instruction in theology, the Christendom Graduate School offers opportunities for growth in both spiritual and social domains. This comprehensive perspective fosters a genuine family spirit among administration, faculty, staff, and students. First and last, the Christendom Graduate School sees itself as the servant of both the universal and the local Church, avowing its fidelity to that faith "which comes to us from the Apostles."

The Christendom Graduate School is committed to educating in accord with the Vicar of Christ. As an Apostolic institution, the Notre Dame Institute in 1971 was authorized by the Holy See to grant the Apostolic Catechetical Diploma to those students who qualified for it. This diploma signifies the highest ecclesial competency in catechetics. Christendom College continues to award this diploma in addition to its academic degrees.

2.1. *Accreditation and Affiliation*

Christendom College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees. Christendom College also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Christendom College may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website www.sacscoc.org.

Christendom College functions in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and is licensed by the Virginia State Council on Higher Education to grant the Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts, and Master of Arts degrees. Students and prospective students may find the information resources of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) of use in planning for college and careers. SCHEV has created an institutional profile for each Virginia public college and university, and for each independent college or university participating in the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant Program: <http://www.schev.edu/>.

The Graduate School also offers distance learning to students located outside the state of Virginia and accepts the scope of authorization provided under State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA) "Policies and Standards" document issued by the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA). The Graduate School accepts oversight from SCHEV in all SARA-related matters.

Christendom College is located within the Diocese of Arlington and submits to the authority of the Bishop of Arlington regarding the orthodoxy of Catholic doctrine taught at the College.

Inquiries about Christendom College's admissions policies, financial aid, and the like, should be addressed directly to Christendom College.