

### 12.5.1.7 Grading System

Christendom employs a 4.0 scale of grades, and uses pluses and minuses with the traditional letter grades, except that grades of “A+” or “D-“ are not allowed for final grades. For purposes of indicating letter grade equivalents of numerical grades, the College uses the following scale:

100-93	=	A	=	4.0	Outstanding
92-90	=	A-	=	3.7	Excellent
89-87	=	B+	=	3.3	Very Good
86-83	=	B	=	3.0	Good
82-80	=	B-	=	2.7	Satisfactory
79-77	=	C+	=	2.3	Fair
76-73	=	C	=	2.0	Acceptable
72-70	=	C-	=	1.7	Barely acceptable
69-67	=	D+	=	1.3	Deficient
66-60	=	D	=	1.0	Seriously deficient
59-0	=	F	=	0.0	Failing
		W			<a href="#">Withdrawn</a> : no credit
		I			<a href="#">Incomplete</a>

Each student’s Grade Point Average (GPA) for each semester, as well as the cumulative GPA, is recorded on the report card and on the transcript. The GPA is computed by use of quality points, which for any given course are computed by multiplying the number of credit hours of the course by the grade point for the course. The total quality points divided by the total credit hours yields the grade point average (GPA). A grade point below 1.7 (C-) in a course does not count toward fulfilling requirements for the major. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 is required for a degree.

At the end of each semester report cards are sent to each student. A student’s report card may be withheld if the student has any outstanding debts to the College.

### 12.5.1.8 Term Papers

All Term papers are usually between ten and twenty double-spaced typewritten pages in length. Neither a term paper nor the total for all papers required in a course should exceed twenty-five pages, freshman composition courses and the Senior Thesis excepted. Extensions for papers, if given at all by the course instructor, will never extend into Finals Week. Because of the 18-hour freshman course load, term or research papers are restricted to ENGL 101-102 and HIST 102 in the freshman year.

All essays, term papers, and research papers at Christendom College are to conform to the format and style mandated by Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (latest edition) and the supplementary guidelines found in the in-house publication, *A Vade Mecum for Christendom Writers of Essays and Research Papers*.

#### **12.5.1.9 Final Examinations**

The Registrar issues a final examination schedule to which faculty and students should adhere. Only when a student has three final exams on the same day may he request a rescheduling of one of the exams; the request should be made to the Registrar. Students or their parents should not make travel plans which require the student to depart campus before the last day of finals announced in the Academic Calendar ([www.christendom.edu](http://www.christendom.edu)).

#### **12.5.1.10 Admission to a Major**

Majors are offered in Classical and Early Christian Studies, English Language and Literature, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Political Science and Economics, and Theology.

Students working toward the B.A. degree normally choose a major upon completion of the first 66 hours of the lower division core curriculum. This ordinarily occurs in the second semester of the sophomore year. To become a major in a particular department, a student must apply on the form provided by the Registrar to the department chairman and fulfill departmental requirements for acceptance into the major. Acceptance or rejection is given in written form and filed by the chairman with the Registrar.

To change a major, the student must notify the former major department chairman, and make application with the chairman of the new department. Selection of courses in the major program is to be made by the student in consultation with his departmental advisor.

#### **12.5.1.11 Senior Thesis**

A senior thesis in the discipline in which the student is majoring is required for the B.A. degree. The 512 Senior Thesis seminar or tutorial is the capstone course for each baccalaureate candidate at Christendom College. The student must have senior status to enroll for the Senior Thesis.

As the culmination of the student's four years of study in the liberal disciplines, the senior thesis is to be a scholarly paper of substance, demonstrating the student's ability to do significant research in his discipline, and employing the senior's developed skills in the arts of discourse, especially mastery of the techniques of research, exposition, and argumentation. The student may as part of the 512 course be required by his department to defend the thesis in an oral examination.