

THRIVE IN 2017!

Living out one's faith in the real world can be difficult, especially during those first years away from home! The **Thrive Discipleship Program at Bethany College** gives students the Christian support they need to excel at life's challenges! Staff at Thrive and our unique "home-church connection", help students use their heads, hands and hearts to build a life foundation on Christ.

At Thrive, it's more than books. It's 8-months of practical learning balanced with experience to prepare you for a life of being a whole and holy disciple for Christ. Thrive's purpose is to form whole and holy disciples for a role in the world, teaching students to continue the ministry exemplified by Christ in their future careers, families, and communities.

PROPOSED KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Modular in format

For roughly three weeks, students fully immerse themselves in a single topic at a time, allowing for easy retention and for opportunities to integrate knowledge and practical experience. Program is 8-months in length, running September to April.

Community Focused

Students live together in a community-shared campus while participating in the basic rhythms and routines of life as part of the discipleship experience.

Home-church Connected

Connection with a church is crucial to spiritual formation. Students participate in the life of their home church through shared experience, testimony, assignment work, and involvement with a mentor throughout the year.

Mentorship-driven

Staff members are not just teachers but mentors who walk alongside participants through each component of the program.

Experientially Rich

The program integrates learning with a range of experiences and practical ministry opportunities.

Culturally-engaged

Thrive is designed to help participants engage various cultural realities with joy and integrity.



THRIVE'S MISSION

Thrive strives to *form whole and holy disciples.*

What do we mean by this?

Whole

Equipping students to navigate our fragmented culture as a **WHOLE PERSON**, a person who is able to integrate their Christian faith into all aspects of life.

Holy

Inspiring students to a passionate devotion to Christ, to be **SET APART** for God's purposes in the world.

Disciples

Embraces **JESUS** at the center of our lives with our heart, soul, mind, and bodies!

What do weekly rhythms of life potentially look like?

- Communal prayer and worship
- Personal and communal bible reading, devotional experiences, and faith/bible studies
- The infiltration of spiritual disciplines into all aspects of life
- Learning and application of important life skills
- Cultural engagements in the local community
- Missional Engagement (potentially serving with MCC, MB Mission, or in local churches, indigenous communities, prisons, or homeless shelters)

What does Home-Church Connection potentially look like?

- Students invite members of their home church to participate in various spiritual formation practices led by Thrive's staff (either virtual or onsite)
- Program assignments are specifically designed to bless and serve home-churches!
- Home-churches receive regular updates from their students to inform churches what God is up to in their lives
- Close involvement with a home-church mentor through regular briefings (in-person or virtually), common service opportunities, campus visits, and shared readings provided by staff