



STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2015-2016

## **The Heritage of Blueridge College of Evangelism**

After much prayer and planning, Bluefield College of Evangelism was chartered as a nonprofit religious educational institution incorporated in the state of North Carolina on June 8, 1971. The prior October 1970 had witnessed the establishment of Christian Acres, a Christian service camp, by the Christian churches/churches of Christ in the Bluefield, West Virginia area. It was believed that a ministerial educational institution in Southern Appalachia would be a vital strengthening force for churches in the Restoration Movement in this area.

Bluefield College of Evangelism thus began with the vision of providing a practical education for various church-related ministries. For several years Christian Acres Christian Camp, with chapel, classrooms, dining hall, kitchen, dormitories, and administrative buildings served as BCE's first home. Founder David Branholm served as BCE's first president as the college began its first year with a student enrollment of twenty-three men and women on September 7, 1971.

By 1986 the college had outgrown these facilities and purchased property adjacent to Christian Acres where a single multi-purpose unit housed the chapel, administrative offices, classrooms, library, and kitchen/dining facilities. Though this location provided a scenic mountaintop view for the college and of the surrounding Bluefield area, navigating problematic roads in the winter and visitor difficulty in finding the campus led to the decision to relocate the college. In 2002 the college campus adjoining Christian Acres was sold.

In December 9, 2002, BCE's Board of Directors, in partnership with the Crossroads Church of Christ, purchased property and a former church building on West Lee Highway in Wytheville, Virginia, to become the college's new location. Joint sharing of the facility provides a worship auditorium, kitchen/dining in a fellowship area, library, classrooms, and administrative office space for both the church and the college. Following the May commencement exercises of BCE's class of 2003, the college's campus was transferred to the Wytheville location where, as a subsidiary of the original college, the new name, Blueridge College of Evangelism, became official.

The dreams of her founders continue to be realized as BCE's program offerings have expanded to include two certificate programs and several degree programs, including extension, independent studies, directed readings, and graduate programs. Loving links have been established with the Christians in Southern Appalachia and with students from throughout the United States and around the world.

## **The Mission of Blueridge College of Evangelism**

Blueridge College of Evangelism is an institution where students are given the opportunity to grow spiritually, academically, and socially through participation in an environment where they are led by a faculty that sets Christ before them as Lord of their lives. Thus the mission statement for Blueridge College of Evangelism is as follows:

**To equip preachers to preach and workers to work for Christ all around the world.**

To "be prepared in season and out of season" (II Timothy 4:2) to carry out this mission, BCE provides a comprehensive academic program in Bible and other ministry-related courses to prepare evangelists and others for Christian service.

## **The Vision of Blueridge College of Evangelism**

As an academic institution in the Restoration Movement tradition, BCE believes in the principle: "Where the Scriptures speak, we speak; where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent." In doing so, the Board of Directors, faculty, and students acknowledge the supremacy of God's Word as the basis for Christian faith and living.

The following goals have been established as a guide for BCE's educational program, with the intent that

each brings glory to God. BCE proposes to:

- nurture spiritual formation and growth by providing a Christian worldview
- carry out the “great commission” through worldwide evangelism
- adopt a lifelong love for and discipline to the study of God’s Word
- commit to moral, spiritual, and ethical values as recorded in the Bible
- appreciate and work to achieve unity in believers as promoted in the plea of the Restoration Movement
- communicate Christ’s love and gift of salvation to a world in need of hope

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

In keeping with the principle of the brotherhood of all Christians as set forth in the Holy Bible, BCE will not deny admission or access to facilities or programs to any person on the basis of ethnic background or economic or social condition. Any person of Christian character who meets the admission requirements of the college as outlined in this catalog and who desires to study for Christian ministry or other Christian service shall be welcomed as a student.

## **The BCE Community**

Blueridge College of Evangelism assumes high standards of moral and ethical conduct and character as portrayed in the New Testament. Therefore, it is understood that all students who enroll, by so doing, are in agreement with the college’s purpose and policies as outlined in this catalog, and agree to abide by them. If a student violates the rules of the college, BCE reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary action, including placing on probation, suspension, or expulsion from the learning community. Specifically, but not conclusively, this includes observing approved conduct as to attendance, courtesy, and responsible care for financial obligations, as well as issues such as plagiarism.

“Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation. -- **I Peter 2:11-12 [NASB]**

## **Admissions Information**

### **Entrance Requirements:**

A high school diploma or high school equivalency issued by a state department of education is required. Home-schooled applicants who have completed their secondary education should submit documentation required by their state’s department of education in its assessment of their home school program. A student who lacks a high school diploma or G.E.D. equivalency may be considered for admittance as “special” or “probationary” on a case-by-case basis.

### **Application Procedure:**

The prospective student must submit all the following to be considered for admission:

- Admission application
- Non-refundable \$25.00 application fee
- Official transcripts from high school(s) and college(s)
- Results of the ACT or SAT college entrance tests to BCE, if taken
- Signed recommendation forms (to be sent and returned by the college to the ones providing recommendations)

These documents should be sent directly to BCE’s address:

Blueridge College of Evangelism  
P.O. Box 979

## Transfer Students

Acceptance of transfer credits is dependent on BCE's evaluation of courses for harmony with BCE's purpose and program. Credit may be accepted only for grades of "C" or above. Students must present evidence of having departed the prior institution in good standing. Quality points will be calculated only for courses taken at BCE.

## Financial Information

(Subject to change)

### Tuition and Books

Tuition (per semester hour)	\$	55.00
Audit (per semester hour)	\$	35.00

### Other Applicable Fees

Application (non-refundable)	\$	25.00
Registration (per semester)	\$	15.00
Withdrawal from class (after 4 <sup>th</sup> week)	\$	50.00
Withdrawal from college	\$	100.00

### Payment of Student Account

Registration is considered to be incomplete until satisfactory financial arrangements have been made with the business office. Neither transcripts nor diplomas will be released until a student's account has been paid in full.

### Refund Policy

- **Withdrawal from the college**  
If a student **withdraws or is dismissed from the college**, a portion of his tuition will be refunded in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Week of Semester</u>	<u>Percentage of Refund</u>
End of Week 1	50%
End of Week 2	40%
End of Week 3	30%
Week 4 and after	no refund

- **Withdrawal from a class**  
Students who withdraw from individual classes by the end of the fourth week of a semester will receive a 50% refund. After the fourth week of a semester, withdrawal from an individual class, but not from the college, will result in no refund.

## Academic Information

### Class Attendance

Regular class attendance is expected since it is part of the criteria for evaluation of student achievement. Absences are allowable (one per class per semester) only when absolutely unavoidable. An excess of three (3) unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action.

## Grading System

Grades and quality points are as following:

Letter Grade	Description	Percentage	Points
A	Excellent	94-100	4
B	Good	87-93	3
C	Average	80-86	2
D	Passing	70-79	1
F	Failing	0-69	0
WP	Withdrew-Passing		0
WF	Withdrew-Failing		0
I	Incomplete		0

The student's quality grade point average (GPA) is computed by dividing the total number of credit hours into the total number of quality points earned. Any proper withdrawal from a class does not affect the grade average. However, if a student fails to follow the correct withdrawal procedure, a grade of "F" will be recorded.

The policy for courses identified as "incomplete" is as follows: Incompletes must be removed by the end of the following fall or spring semester. Any incompletes not removed by that time become "F." This policy applies to all students for classes taken in fall, 2015 and following.

## Student Classification

A full-time student is one taking twelve (12) or more hours or courses per semester.

Classification	Hours Completed
Freshman	0 - 33
Sophomore	34 - 67
Junior	68 - 104
Senior	105 and above

## Academic Probation

A student admitted to the college on academic probation must attain at least a 1.67 grade point average the first semester in order to remain enrolled. Students failing to achieve at least a 1.67 GPA by the end of the first semester and a 2.00 cumulative average for any further work will be placed on academic probation.

## Academic Suspension

If a student has been academically suspended, he or she may not enroll for at least two semesters, after which he/she may re-enroll with the permission of the college administration.

## Dismissal

BCE reserves the right to require the withdrawal of, or to deny re-admission to any student at any time, if this action is deemed necessary to maintain the college's ideals of scholarship and Christian standards. Dishonesty in any phase of college work, failure to give honest testimony to a college official or faculty member, disregard for the rights and safety of others, or any other un-Christian behavior may lead to

dismissal. BCE students are expected to maintain the highest Christian behavior both in the churches and the local community.

## Adding a Course

An additional course may be added within the first two (2) weeks of the beginning of the semester by permission of the professor and the college administration. The appropriate form may be obtained from the registrar.

## Withdrawal from a Course

### Weeks 1-3:

A student may drop a class before the fourth week of the semester with the permission of the professor and the college administration. A notation indicating “withdrawal” shall be made to the student’s transcript with no reflection on the student’s grade point average. A refund as delineated in the college catalog shall be made. The proper form may be obtained from the registrar.

### After the Fourth Week:

Any class dropped after the fourth week of the semester shall be governed by the following conditions:

- **Withdrawal, while Passing**  
This notation shall be made to the student’s transcript with no penalty levied against his/her grade point average.
- **Withdrawal, while Failing**  
This notation, “WF” will be included on the student’s transcript and GPA.
- **Unofficial Withdrawal, while Failing**  
This notation shall be made to the student’s transcript for failure to withdraw from a class according to the guidelines stipulated above. This notation shall affect the student’s grade point average.

## Graduation Requirements

1. The student’s grades must have attained the following standards:
  - The cumulative grade point average for the 138 semester hours for the Bachelor of Biblical Studies and the Bachelor of Sacred Literature must not be less than 2.00.
  - The major area of study (Bible) must reflect a cumulative average of at least 2.50.
2. The student must have the recommendation of the joint faculty for Christian character.
3. All financial obligations must have been settled satisfactorily with the business office.

## Graduation Honors

Graduation honors are reserved for students who have completed all requirements and who have achieved the following level of course work:

<b>Summa Cum Laude:</b>	“With highest honors”	= 4.00 cumulative GPA
<b>Magna Cum Laude:</b>	“With high honors”	= 3.75 cumulative GPA
<b>Cum Laude:</b>	“With honors”	= 3.50 cumulative GPA

## Diplomas

BCE offers the following diplomas:

- Christian Service Certificate (15 hours)
- Christian Leadership Certificate (39 hours)
- Associate in Biblical Ministry (69 hours)
- Bachelor of Biblical Studies (138 hours)
- Bachelor of Sacred Literature (138 hours)
- Master of Biblical Ministry (30 hours)

## Programs of Study

### Christian Service Certificate

**Purpose:** It is the purpose of this program to provide a course of study and instruction which will best enable the member of a congregation to become active and effective in serving in Christ's church. On completion of the program the student should be able to do the following::

1. Will have and be able to present kindly but forcibly a thoroughly Biblical statement of the Biblical plan salvation.
2. Will have the knowledge necessary to answer some of the more common non-Christian or cultic objections to New Christianity.
3. Will have knowledge of ways to approach people with the claims of the Gospel.

A total of 15 hours is to be satisfactorily completed in the following specified courses:

#### Required Courses:

CD 101	Basic Christian Doctrine	3 hrs
MI 221	Cults in America	3 hrs
NT 132	Acts	3 hrs
NT 210	New Testament Survey	3 hrs
PM 100	Introduction to Evangelism	3 hrs.
	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15 hrs</b>

## Christian Leadership Certificate

**Purpose:** The Certificate of Christian Leadership is awarded on completion of 39 hours of course work. The program is designed to provide college-level Biblical study for church leaders, Sunday School teachers, elders and deacons, and others interested in furthering their knowledge and understanding of the Scripture. The program works effectively through extension courses taught on off-site locations, in church settings, and with special seminars, as well as through on-campus courses. A total of 39 hours to be completed in the following courses/categories:

<b>◆ Required courses:</b>	<b>Total: 27 hours</b>
CD 101	Christian Doctrine 3 hrs
CE 201	Foundations Christian Ed. 3 hrs
NT 121	Harmony of the Gospels I 3 hrs
NT 122	Harmony of the Gospels II 3 hrs
NT 132	Acts 3 hrs
NT 420	Pastoral Epistles (I-II Tim., Titus) 3 hrs
PM 100	Introduction to Evangelism 3 hrs
PM 211	Speech 3 hrs
PM 410	Church Leadership 3 hrs

<b>◆ Electives</b>	<b>Total: 12 hrs</b>
• New Testament	6 hrs
• Old Testament	3 hrs
• Other electives	3 hrs
<b>Total credits</b>	<b>39 hours</b>

## Associate in Biblical Ministry

**Purpose:** This two-year program of study is designed for the individual who has considerable experience in church work and who is interested in establishing a secondary profession in Christian ministry, such as supply preaching while congregations search for ministers, preaching for congregations who are unable to support full-time ministers, etc. Those individuals who are considering service during retirement or who are already established in livelihoods may find a four-year program to be impractical. The associate degree may be an adaptable alternative. A total of 69 hours to be completed in the following categories:

<b>• Required courses:</b>	<b>Total: 27 hrs</b>
CD 101	Basic Christian Doctrine 3 hrs
CD 110	Hermeneutics 3 hrs
EN 101	College English I 3 hrs
HI 220 or 230	Medieval or Reformation History 3 hrs
HI 420	Restoration Movement History 3 hrs
NT121	Harmony of the Gospels I 3 hrs
NT122	Harmony of the Gospels II 3 hrs
NT 132	Acts 3 hrs
PM 100	Intro to Evangelism 3 hrs
<b>• Specified Electives:</b>	<b>Total: 30 hours</b>
Missions	3 hrs
New Testament	12 hrs
Old Testament	12 hrs

Practical Ministries

3 hrs

• **Other Electives:**

**Total: 12 hours**  
**Total credits 69 hours**

## Bachelor of Biblical Studies

**Purpose:** The Bachelor of Biblical Studies is designed to prepare evangelists to:

1. teach and preach the Scriptures effectively
2. develop compassionate skills of pastoral care
3. seek wisdom and vision for leading with integrity
4. strengthen the passion for evangelism
5. develop effective communication skills

This program requires a successful completion of a minimum of 138 hours of course study from the following areas:

• **Required courses:**

**Total: 57 hours**

BL 251	Greek I	3 hrs
BL 252	Greek II	3 hrs
BL 351	Greek III	3 hrs
BL 352	Greek IV	3 hrs
CD 101	Basic Christian Doctrine	3 hrs
CD 110	Hermeneutics	3 hrs
EN 101	College English I	3 hrs
EN 102	College English II	3 hrs
HI 220 or 230	Medieval OR Reformation History	3 hrs
HI 420	Restoration Movement History	3 hrs
NT 121	Harmony of the Gospels I	3 hrs
NT 122	Harmony of the Gospels II	3 hrs
NT 132	Acts	3 hrs
OT 111	Early Hebrew History I	3 hrs
OT 112	Early Hebrew History II	3 hrs
PM 100	Introduction to Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 101	Methods of Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 102	Problems in Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 211	Speech	3 hrs

• **Required electives:**

**Total: 69 hours**

Christian Doctrine	3 hrs
Christian Education	3 hrs
English	3 hrs
History	3 hrs
Missions	3 hrs
New Testament	27 hrs
Old Testament	18 hrs
Practical Ministries	6 hrs
Social Sciences	3 hrs

• **Other electives:**

**Total: 12 hours**

**Total credits 138 hours**

## Bachelor of Sacred Literature

**Purpose:** The Bachelor of Sacred Literature is designed for students who consider the study of Biblical languages beyond their opportunity or abilities. We believe that excellence in Biblical interpretation requires a knowledge of the original languages and that the only inerrant versions of the scriptures are the Greek and Hebrew originals, but offer this degree program as an alternate for those students who do not consider themselves able to complete the language study. The requirements for the two bachelor degrees match except that additional New Testament credits are substituted in this Bachelor of Sacred Literature in lieu of biblical language credits in the Bachelor of Biblical Studies.

This program requires a successful completion of a minimum of 138 hours of course study from the following areas:

<b>• Required courses:</b>	<b>Total: 45 hours</b>	
CD 101	Basic Christian Doctrine	3 hrs
CD 110	Hermeneutics	3 hrs
EN 101	College English I	3 hrs
EN 102	College English II	3 hrs
HI 220 or 230	Medieval OR Reformation History	3 hrs
HI 420	Restoration Movement History	3 hrs
NT 101	Harmony of the Gospels I	3 hrs
NT 102	Harmony of the Gospels II	3 hrs
NT 132	Acts	3 hrs
OT 111	Early Hebrew History I	3 hrs
OT 112	Early Hebrew History II	3 hrs
PM 100	Introduction to Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 101	Methods of Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 102	Problems in Evangelism	3 hrs
PM 211	Speech	3 hrs
<b>• Required electives:</b>	<b>Total: 75 hours</b>	
Christian Doctrine	3 hrs	
Christian Education	3 hrs	
English	3 hrs	
History	3 hrs	
Missions	3 hrs	
New Testament	33 hrs	
Old Testament	18 hrs	
Practical Ministries	6 hrs	
Social Sciences	3 hrs	
<b>• Other electives:</b>	<b>Total: 18 hours</b>	
<b>Total credits</b>	<b>138 hours</b>	

## Master of Arts









and events that shaped the Old Testament world. Effects of geographical location and archaeological findings applicable to the historical regions and to the context of the writings will also be addressed.

<b>OT 111</b>	<b>Early Hebrew History I</b> Genesis and Exodus	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 112</b>	<b>Early Hebrew History II</b> (Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 211</b>	<b>History of Israel I</b> Joshua, Judges, Ruth)	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 212</b>	<b>History of Israel II</b> I-II Samuel	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 311</b>	<b>History of Israel III</b> I-II Kings, I-II Chronicles	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 320</b>	<b>Post-Exilic Israel</b> Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 330</b>	<b>Wisdom Literature</b> Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 420</b>	<b>Survey of the Minor Prophets</b> Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah; and post-exile books of Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>OT 440</b>	<b>Survey of the Major Prophets</b> Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel	<b>3 hours</b>

## **Practical Ministries**

<b>PM 100</b>	<b>Introduction to Evangelism</b> A study of information and methods of winning persons to faith and obedience to Christ with an emphasis on person to person contacts. Field experience is included.	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>PM 120</b>	<b>Speech</b> The principles and practice of speech communication, including teaching and preaching. Introduces students to the art of being effective Bible preachers and teachers and to practicing speaking skills for a variety of settings in the church and community.	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>PM 200</b>	<b>Methods of Evangelism</b> This course considers various methods and techniques for successful evangelism. Field experience is included.	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>PM 230</b>	<b>Homiletics</b> This course uses exegetical skills to study, design, and practice the art of sermon construction for various occasions, including formal, devotional, evangelistic, and other special events.	<b>3 hours</b>

<b>PM 250</b>	<b>Youth Ministry</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A survey of the methods for working with youth (primary through college)	
<b>PM 300</b>	<b>Problems in Evangelism</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	This course studies problems that are common to evangelism, how to deal with them, and how to develop solutions.	
<b>PM 350</b>	<b>Practical Ministries: Home &amp; Church</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A practical examination and application for highlighting kinds of ministries for different settings and locations and among diverse groups and age levels. Includes how to effectively engage and nurture Christian growth in the community.	
<b>PM 410</b>	<b>Church Leadership</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A class to help preachers and church leaders work together efficiently in designing and clarifying job descriptions and responsibilities to strengthen their congregations. Includes topics such as shepherding, evangelism, baptism, revivals, missions, and educational programs.	
<b>PM 421</b>	<b>Church Administration</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A practical study introducing the students to the many facets of administration in the local congregation, including conducting programs, establishing policies, and managing problems through conflict resolution techniques, etc.	

## Social Sciences

<b>SS 101</b>	<b>Christian Living</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	An examining of issues relating to life stages, families, marriage, singleness, personal ministries, professions, mentorship, establishing godly Christian homes and relationships.	
<b>SS 200</b>	<b>Introduction to Psychology</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	Survey of the fundamentals of the nature and the scope of psychological principles.	
<b>SS 250</b>	<b>Sociology</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A study of basic concepts of sociology with focus on how to apply these understandings to life and relationships.	
<b>SS 300</b>	<b>Marriage and Family</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A study of dating, marriage, family, and relationships with focus on biblical principles for building, strengthening, and maintaining Christian homes	
<b>SS 320</b>	<b>Human Growth and Development</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	An examination of the growth and development of individuals, with emphasis on the entire life span. Attention to physiological and psychological progressions and changes, as well as to spiritual aspects that impress upon these different stages of growth.	
<b>SS 400</b>	<b>Principles of Counseling</b>	<b>3 hours</b>
	A foundational study of the basic principles, theories, and techniques involved in	

the counseling process, including methods of conflict resolution in relationships and situations, skills in for growth and maturity despite conflicts and potentially negative circumstances. Emphasis on professional ethics in all counseling situations.

“...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you  
to give an account for the hope that is in you,  
yet with gentleness and reverence....”

1 Peter 3:15 (NASB)