

# IN THE FLESH

### Why Wyoming Catholic? INCARNATIONAL EDUCATION.

We are dedicated to transforming students' hearts and minds through their encounter with God, hidden and revealed in His creation. I like to call this encounter an "Incarnational Education." It takes place in the wilderness and on horseback, through memorizing poetry, reading the Great Books, in conversations with friends and professors, and through our distinctive chaplaincy which offers both a Byzantine and a Roman liturgical life.
It is an education rooted in the riches of Western Civilization, and facilitates the birth of wisdom in the experience of wonder at the many facets of reality. In the pages that follow, you will get a glimpse of that experience. I hope you will one day visit and experience it in person.

Hyle Washet

President of Wyoming Catholic College

WCC awards its graduates a **BA in the Liberal Arts**, which includes:

- 127 credits
- 10 weeks in the outdoors
- Senior Thesis and Oration

#### **STUDENTS**

- 40+ states and 5+ countries represented
- 99% Catholic students

#### FACULTY

- 10:1 student to faculty ratio
- Mandatum for all Theology faculty

find out more at WYOMINGCATHOLIC.EDU



Students memorize many of the poems quoted in these pages as part of their journey into the works of the greatest minds in Western History.

## **BEAUTY PAST CHANGE**

### Where do I start? IN THE WILDERNESS.

The first experience students have at Wyoming Catholic College is not reading a textbook, analyzing an argument, or conducting a mathematical proof. Instead, our students embark on the most unique "freshman orientation program" in the world:

a 21-day backpacking trip in the Rocky Mountains. Why? Because at WCC, we recognize the importance of "God's First Book"–the beautiful natural world that our Creator designed as the first revelation of Himself. WCC students are called to immerse themselves wholly in this "beauty past change," retreating from the luxury and distraction of the man-made world and experiencing the vulnerability and adversity that is inevitable in the wilderness. By persevering and thriving in this challenging environment, WCC students experience profound transformations in their relationships with themselves, with their future classmates, and, ultimately, with their God. Such transformation is the ideal foundation for the WCC four-year curriculum.

#### ON THE 21-DAY TRIP, YOU WILL

- Hike 90-130 miles
- Carry all your gear in a 50 lb pack
- Climb several mountain peaks
- Camp at 10,000-12,000 ft
- Learn wilderness first aid

∠⊥ day wilderness backpacking trip is unique to WCC



# He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change: Praise him.

Hopkins, "Pied Beauty"



Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold, And many goodly states and kingdoms seen. Keats, "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer"

# **REALMS OF GOLD**

#### What do I read? THE GREAT BOOKS.

Following their journey in the wilderness, WCC freshmen immediately return to a community that is grounded in the deepest realities of the human soul. In WCC's academic curriculum, students repeatedly face the major questions of human life: Where did we come from? Whom should we worship? Which political order should we have? What is truth? What is beauty? How should we live? In articulating meaningful and truthful answers to these existential questions, WCC students rely upon the masterpieces of human thought.

130+ great books read by graduation Out of the vast libraries accumulated over the past three millennia, a few dozen works retain a perpetual freshness in answering the "human" questions. They speak as meaningfully to students in Lander, Wyoming today as to the citizens of ancient Athens or Jerusalem, medieval Florence or Elizabethan London. These are the Great Books that inform the curriculum at Wyoming Catholic College—the "realms of gold" through which our students joyfully travel. Under the guidance of their professors, WCC students learn not from textbooks that summarize the thinking of Aristotle, Acuings, or Descartes, but directly from the cuthors themselves.

# BY HEART

### *How do I study the great books?* THROUGH DISCUSSION.

Wyoming Catholic is unique not just in what we study but also in how we study. The classroom is a sacred space, uniquely shaped by each professor with each group of students. For most modern universities, the classroom is an auditorium, and students "participate" by listening to a faculty lecture. While the lecture method can include more contextual and factual information and extended argumentation, it can also turn students into passive learners and mere followers of "expert" opinion. The seminar method provides a strong corrective, wherein students engage in free, active conversation.

However, free-flowing seminar discussion-though a vital tool to inculcate the habits of listening, thinking, speaking, and asserting-can disorient students if it is not accompanied by guidance and direction. Consequently, Wyoming Catholic College embraces the middle path. In all of our classrooms, active conversation is prioritized, where students are able to express themselves under the guidance of excellent teachers—both those in their books and those in the room. Students and faculty sit around large tables and class time is spent in discussion and reflection. Our faculty are neither mere "tutors" nor authoritarian "lecturers." They are true professors, who engage with students in active, constructive dialogue. They are genuine followers of the Socratic Method, engaging in questioning with the definitive goal of pursuing truth.

18 is the average section size for seminar classes



Say something to us we can learn By heart and when alone repeat.

Frost, "Choose Something Like a Star"

## DEAREST FRESHNESS

## Is college just for study? FAR FROM IT.

The freshman 21-day expedition is only the beginning of the Outdoor Leadership Program. Our students embrace the need for continual renewal–continual retreat from the superficialities of the modern world into the spiritual depths of the wilderness.

Every semester, all students are required to venture into the outdoors for at least one week, choosing from a range of backcountry activities. WCC students are go rock climbing, white-water rafting, mountain biking, mountaineering, canyoneering, and snow camping. These excursions, in themselves, are epic adventures that bring great joy and laughter to our student body.

However, they are also part of the deeper philosophy of Wyoming Catholic College: We cannot merely talk or read about what is True, Good, and Beautiful. We must actually pursue experiences of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty in the real world. We must encounter the sights and experiences that take our breath away, that leave us awestruck in the face of our Creator's magnificence.

And for all this, nature is never spent; There lives the dearest freshness deep down things. Hopkins, "God's Grandeur"

### Lead creation. HORSEMANSHIP

By design, our western setting allows us to integrate the cowboy tradition into our program: in a "classroom" where nature is at its most relational, students enter into the horse's world, learn how horses function, and become a benevolent leader over their horses. Horsemanship is not just an optional activity: it's a part of the curriculum, full of fun, sweat, and learning.





## Navigate nature. OUTDOOR TRIPS

As students embark on outdoor trips, they not only immerse themselves in the wonders of creation, but also cultivate essential virtues, learning to lead these trips themselves. With a classroom portion and at least two week-long trips each year, this "Experiential Leadership" portion of the curriculum is a rich environment for learning leadership, endurance, risk management, and communication skills.

# THE MOST INTEGRATED 4 YEA

The curriculum is divided into eight curricular tracks: Humanities, Theology

	ES	FRESHMAN YEAR	SOPHOMORE YEAR
THEOLOGY	HUMANITIES	Ancient Greece through the lens of Homer's Heroes, Herodotus' history, and Plato's dialogues.	Rome's journey into the Middle Ages in the eyes of authors such as Virgil, St. Augustine, and Dante.
		The arc of Salvation is explored through extensive reading of Scripture, Aquinas, and Augustine.	The Fathers of the Church tackle the Mystery of the Trinity.
	<b>VHIOSOTIH</b>	Plato, Aristotle, and Aquinas furnish the tools of philosophical reasoning and study.	What is man? What makes him unique? And what does man's nature tell us about how he must act?
MATH & SCIENCE	PI	Students explore Euclid's Elements, the foundational text of mathematics.	Ancient and modern mathematical study ponders the relationship of math to metaphysics, reasoning, and science.
	TRIVIUM	Freshmen are introduced to collegiate writing, practicing clarity, organization, and rhetoric.	Students practice and apply their skills of writing throughout the curriculum.
LATIN	In the first two years of Latin, students learn via immersion to read, write, and speak Latin.		
ADERSHIP	FINE ARTS	Every freshman is introduced to sight singing, folk music, and simple sacred music.	Sophomores learn to ride and care for their horses in a semester of Horsemanship.
	U	pon arrival, freshmen embark on the 21 day trip, and at the tart of 2nd semester, a week of winter camping and skiing.	Each semester students must take part in one week-lo leadership and interpersonal skills in the field. A once-j

LEADERSHIP

# **R EDUCATION IN THE WORLD**

There are no electives. Students graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts by completing 127 credits 7, Philosophy, Math and Science, Fine Arts, Latin, Trivium, and Leadership.

JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Dickens and others usher in a new vision of man from the late middle ages to the Victorian Age.	The American Vision and the Birth of the Novel is explored in authors such as Jefferson, Twain, Melville, and Dostoevsky.
A guided meditation on Creation, Providence, Sin, Redemption, and the Mystery of the Incarnation.	Numerous Pontiffs and saints elucidate life in Christ via the Sacraments and social teaching.
Having investigated the nature and obligations of each individual man, how is he to best live in common, in his political order?	Through metaphysics we investigate the nature of being itself.
Students explore the use of modern science, from stargazing to calculus to statistics.	Theological, philosophical, and scientific reasoning harmonize to investigate man's place in the cosmos.
Political rhetoric and the common good are studied through practicing the art of public speaking.	Seniors choose a research topic, writing a 20-40 page thesis and delivering a 30 minute oration on it.
Students continue their study of Latin through reading groups	s of various levels, engaging with the great Latin authors.
S An overview of music history and theory leads to discussion	The history of visual art and architecture is told

ong outdoor expedition, learning "hard skills" such as rock-climbing, kayaking, or mountaineering, as well as honing their per-semester practicum classroom component develops leadership by analyzing various leadership theories and models.

from ancient mosaics and Cathedrals to modern art.

of the aesthetics, spirituality, and morality of music.

FINE

## **DELIGHT IN THE LORD**

## What does the chaplaincy offer? A BREATH WITH BOTH LUNGS.

Breathing with both lungs of the Church, Wyoming Catholic's Roman and Byzantine chaplaincies allow students to pray with both Western and Eastern spiritualities. Each rite has a dedicated chaplain, chapel, and full schedule of sacraments and services. The school year reflects this, with feast days from both calendars being celebrated by the whole school. Studying the great books alongside these riches of Western and Eastern liturgies, students broaden their experience of Catholicism. Wyoming Catholic is the only college in America to have a Byzantine chaplaincy.

Blessed the man whose delight is the law of the Lord.



## Western Tradition ROMAN RITE

Regular Confession, Adoration, & Compline

The Roman Rite Chaplaincy offers the Mass in the Novus Ordo and 1962 Missal, Eucharistic Adoration 4 days a week, regular confessions and spiritual direction, and various hours of the sung divine office. The College's Immaculate Conception Oratory is the primary place of worship, with Lander's Holy Rosary Parish also being used occasionally.



### Eastern Tradition BYZANTINE RITE

In addition to providing sacraments to the school's Byzantine Catholics, the chaplaincy enables Western Rite students to experience the tradition of prayer that many of the authors of the Great Books tradition called their own—for example, St. John Chrysostom, St. Basil the Great, and St. Maximus the Confessor, all of whom feature prominently in the Theology curriculum.

The **College Choir** sings a broad repertoire of beautiful sacred music, including Gregorian Chant, polyphony, hymns, and Byzantine music. In addition to singing for College liturgies, they provide semesterly concerts.





O my Luve is like the melody That's sweetly played in tune.

Burns, "A Red, Red rose"

## SWEETLY PLAYED

Are there any campus traditions? BONFIRES, DINNERS, DANCES.

For Wyoming Catholic, community is the instrument of education, with all students studying the same texts and living the same life. The low-tech campus environment and living faith of students, faculty, and staff encourages community gatherings and activities such as bonfires, dances, and music nights.

Wyoming Catholic College has Residence Halls at three locations within a few minutes of each other. Each location is within a short walk of the College's Downtown Center and Holy Rosary Parish. All Residence Halls are single-sex.

#### CAMPUS TRADITIONS

- Formal dinners and dances
- Bonfires with folk music
- Open mic nights and concerts
- Intramural sports
- Pro-life club "Cowboys for Life"

- Reading and prayer groups
- College choir for sacred music
- Brother-sister dorm events
- Shakespeare plays
- Latin speaking lunch tables
- "Spirit week" events

6 all-school dances every year

## **PRESENT MIRTH**

#### What is student life like? FULL OF FRIENDSHIP.

Students at Wyoming Catholic fast from the inundation of screens and from many forms of modern communicative technology in order to engage more fully with each other. Since the inception of the College, this "low-tech" attitude has been central to the College's mission of putting its students in touch with the real, with friends, and with God.

Our technology policy has three parts:

1. No televisions on campus.

2. Internet limited to communal study spaces (i.e. not at the residences).

3. No cell phones or handheld devices with wireless or cellular data.

In such an environment, it begins to make sense how the great poets and thinkers of the past accomplished what they did without ubiquitous connectivity, remembering and thinking more deeply. In the space created by the absence of dopamine-fueled entertainment, our students are free to engage in genuine creativity, vibrant community, and rigorous inquiry.

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# **Present mirth, hath present laughter:** What's to come is still unsure.

Shakespeare, "O Mistress, Mine"



They are the lords and owners of their faces, Others but stewards of their excellence.

Shakespeare, "Sonnet 94"

### **OWNERS OF THEIR FACES**

### What do your alumni do? CHANGE THE WORLD.

Many high schoolers today are faced with an agonizing dichotomy. They must choose between the liberal arts college and the "career college"—between an education that is good and enjoyable in itself and an education that is useful in the modern world.

Our graduates discover that this "choice" is utterly fabricated. Studies and reports continue to surface about how graduates from "career colleges" are actually struggling to find jobs. They painfully realize that the piece of paper indicating their "specialty" is not what employers are actually looking for. Instead, employers today are gravitating towards men and women who have genuine creativity, strong leadership skills, work ethic, and eloquent communication skills. These "human person" skills are precisely the product of a liberal education and they are particularly emphasized in our curriculum. This is why our alumni are finding success in a remarkable variety of fields, including education, medicine, law, politics, journalism, business, and religious life. Our graduates come to find that solid formation as a human person is needed for true success in any career field.

#### 2.5% of our alumni enter religious life or priesthood.

#### TOP CAREER FIELDS

- Primary and Secondary Education
- Law and political science
- Business and finance
- Outdoor guiding and ministry
- Agriculture and the trades

# STEADFAST AS THOU

### Can I become a student? IF YOU HAVE A GREAT SOUL.



#### **COST OF ATTENDANCE 2025-26**

Tuition: \$27.634

Room & Board: \$11.230

Books & Fees: \$2.500

For more information visit WYOMINGCATHOLIC\_EDU/ADMISSIONS

Wyoming Catholic College admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin



Bright star, would I were steadfast as thou art— Not in lone splendour hung aloft the night.

flirt spis

Keats, "Bright Star"



#### Wyoning Catholic College 306 Main Street • Lander, WY • 82520 www.wyomingcatholic.edu • (307) 332-2930



Upon graduation each student— having earned their intellectual spurs in the mountain west—is gifted a Stetson hat. Along with their diploma, they will cherish it for the rest of their lives: a unique symbol of a College like no other.