

# Student Development

In keeping with the mission of Taylor University, the purpose of Student Development is to provide a life-changing student development program and services within a decidedly Christian residential community by caring for the needs of a diverse student body in ways that foster the holistic growth of each individual.

Student Development is committed to the following objectives:

- Provide the environment, resources, and programs that maximize the potential for Christian students to grow in their understanding and expression of their Christian faith.
- Provide programs that promote ethnic and cultural understanding.
- Provide professional counseling and healthcare services for students.
- Create a residence life program which encourages personal growth and fosters a living out of the Life Together Covenant.
- Provide safe, attractive, and comfortable housing facilities for students.
- Provide wellness programs, experiences, and information which help students to live healthy and balanced lives.
- Provide a campus community which is safe and secure for students.
- Provide orientation services that will aid students in their transition to Taylor University and college life.
- Enhance the overall educational experience of students through development of, exposure to, and participation in social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, athletic, and leadership programs.
- Assist students with career planning that will result in professional preparation for placement.
- Ensure a student body profile, both in numbers and quality, that is supportive of Taylor's strategic educational and institutional planning.

## Courses

### **SDV 210** **1 hour** **Chapel Worship Leader Ministry**

To prepare for chapel band leadership, students study foundational worship concepts, audio-visual requirements, Scripture engagement in corporate worship, and creative worship planning. Group worship is a prized aspect of this training. If feasible, a field trip to a multi-ethnic worship experience will be included. Rehearsal techniques, team-building, historical worship, and musical excellence are also addressed. *Enrollment by permission of instructor. Offered Fall and Spring semesters.*

### **SDV 216** **1 hour** **Exploring Your Calling**

Exploring Your Calling is designed for students who are seeking further clarity on their chosen path of study. This course will provide assessments, curriculum, and individual guidance to students to provide support toward the identification and selection of major or minor.

### **SDV 217** **1 hour** **Vocation: Life After Taylor**

This course is designed to engage students from every discipline seeking to maximize their internship experience. Through lectures, networking sessions, and practical assignments rooted in best practice research, students will be better prepared to effectively seek and prepare for, participate in, and build upon a quality internship experience. *Offered Fall semester.*

### **SDV 252** **1 hour** **Reflective Practices in Leadership**

This course is designed to provide theoretical foundations and experiential opportunities structured toward personal growth and organizational effectiveness. *Strongly recommended for all students interested in on-campus leadership positions. Not available for audit (AUD) credit. Offered Interterm and Spring semester.*

### **SDV 352** **1 hour** **Student Development Seminar**

This course is designed to provide instruction and study in topics relevant to specific student leadership positions on campus. *Prerequisite: SDV 252 or permission of instructor. Offered Spring semester.*

## Calling and Career

The Calling and Career Office, located in the LaRita R. Boren Campus Center, connects students to people and experiences that equip them to live a faithful response to God's call. Staff members assist students in exploring how their values, interests, personality, and skills connect to potential career paths and assist students in creating a plan to achieve their goals. The staff reviews resumes and cover letters, prepares students for professional interviews, conducts workshops, and facilitates networking opportunities to connect students with alumni and employers.

Taylor's calling and career resources are available to serve students, faculty, and alumni. Resources include self-assessment tools, online resources, books, graduate school information, and employer and alumni contact information. The Calling and Career Office utilizes both Strong Interest Inventory and StrengthsQuest assessments to assist students in identifying their passions and abilities. The CCO maintains online databases that connect students and alumni to current full-time, internship, and part-time positions. For information, contact the Calling and Career Office at (765) 998-5382.

## Campus Ministries

The Campus Ministries office is an integral part of Taylor's whole person education. The Office of the Campus Pastor oversees the chapel program and provides for the pastoral needs of the University. Chapel for the entire community is held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10:00 AM throughout each semester as well as Interterm. Spiritual renewal is held at the beginning of Fall and Spring semesters.

## **Counseling Center**

The Counseling Center offers students professional counseling services. Individual, couples, group, and crisis counseling are available, along with workshops and mental health wellness programs. The goal of the Counseling Center is to enhance the mission of Taylor University by supporting students as they navigate academic, personal, and spiritual growth. The Counseling Center is located on the second floor of the Student Center. Students are seen by appointment, as well as on an emergency basis. Referrals can also be made to other qualified Christian professionals in the area. For more information about the Counseling Center, please visit the website <https://www.taylor.edu/about/offices/counseling-center/>. If a student is interested in setting up an appointment, they can contact the Counseling Center at [counselingcenter@taylor.edu](mailto:counselingcenter@taylor.edu) or at (765) 998-5222.

## **Health Services**

A full-time student pays a health service fee each Fall and Spring semester and January interterm. This fee may be waived only if the student is married, a commuter from his or her parent's home, or studying away from campus. In order for this fee to be removed from the bill of an eligible student, a waiver must be obtained from the Office of Student Accounts and signed by the end of the second week of classes each semester. Health services are not available during Summer sessions.

If a student has an illness that results in missed class(es) and is treated, he or she should obtain verification of the treatment and provide this as documentation along with a request for an excused absence. For details, refer to **Class Attendance** in the **Academic Policies and Regulations** section in this catalog. Only documentation as to the treatment administered should be provided.

## **Housing Information**

Taylor University is a residential campus by design; therefore, each single undergraduate student must live in university-owned housing or with his or her parent or legal guardian in their home and commute from a distance of no greater than 50 miles. Students who have been admitted to Taylor University and have paid the \$200 matriculation deposit will receive a residence hall application from the Admissions Office. This material is to be completed and returned to the Admissions Office before housing assignments will be made. Charges for damage to residence hall property and other university-administered facilities are deducted from this housing deposit.

In order to accommodate the entire student body, it is sometimes necessary to supplement campus residential facilities. Off-campus housing is considered overflow housing and is limited to the number of upperclassmen who cannot be accommodated in the residence halls. The number of students approved to live off campus is dependent on projected enrollment and retention. Because these figures change from year to year, an application and approval process has been established. Upperclassmen who have met the eligibility requirements are given the opportunity to apply (in February of a given year) to live off campus the following year. Students living off campus are expected to abide by both the biblical and Taylor University responsibilities outlined in the Life Together Covenant.

Married students and students over the age of 25 are automatically approved to live off campus. They must arrange to do so through the Center for Student Development but may select housing that meets their particular needs.

## **Residence Life**

Taylor University is a residential campus with a strong emphasis on community living. The purpose of the Residence Life program is to provide safe, attractive, and comfortable physical facilities, structured educational programming, and an atmosphere conducive to unstructured learning experiences. In addition, Residence Life seeks to create an environment that fosters the values of Christian community. The residence halls serve as living-learning communities where students are challenged to grow and apply their faith through interaction with their neighbors. As living-learning communities, residence halls at Taylor are designed to fulfill two goals: the first is to provide a living experience where students are exposed to a variety of educational opportunities that transcend their academic courses; second, they provide the resources and professional staff necessary to assist students in developing a high degree of self-direction and responsible citizenship.

There are eight residence halls and two University apartments housing over 1,700 students. The halls have different room and floor configurations, affording students the opportunity to choose a living environment that best suits them. Room assignments are made prior to the beginning of the Fall term. Room and roommate preferences are honored within the limits of available space. The University reserves the right to assign rooms when deemed appropriate. Individual rooms are furnished with window coverings, beds, mattresses, desks, chairs, and dressers.

Each residence hall has a leadership team that includes personnel assistants, discipleship assistants, and representatives who serve on Student Senate. These student leaders are supervised by residence hall directors who work as educators, counselors, and members of Taylor University faculty.

## **Intramural Sports and Recreation Program**

The Intramural Sports and Recreation Program, coordinated by the Taylor Student Organization, provides a wide variety of activities for meeting the recreational and competitive needs of the entire Taylor student body. Team events may include both a men's and a women's league for flag football, soccer, dodge ball, ultimate Frisbee, and basketball; coed leagues exist for volleyball and softball. Many other individual tournaments, such as ping pong, tennis, pickleball, and 4 on 4 sand volleyball are held throughout the year.

Taylor's Intramural Sports and Recreation Program has high participation rates. For example, flag football alone has more than 300 men and women participants each year. Residence hall competition has been the driving force behind these high numbers. Intramural sports serve as another venue for our community to holistically grow in worship of the Lord through fellowship, upright competition, and stewardship of the body, mind, and spirit.

## **Student Clubs**

Student clubs exist to provide a wide array of co-curricular experiences that meet social, academic, and practical needs of the Taylor University community. Club interests range from academic (e.g., Psychology, Social Work, Environmental Science, Chemistry, and Pre-Med) to club-sports (e.g., Equestrian, Rugby, Tennis, and Women's Lacrosse) to special interest clubs. Students who have special interests and hobbies not represented on campus may contact the Student Senate to learn more about the club approval process.

## **Taylor Student Organization**

The mission of the Taylor Student Organization (TSO) is to provide a dynamic learning experience that develops faithful and hospitable student leaders. Through leadership education, personal development, and team building within the organization, TSO students create missional programs and services for campus that celebrate our Christ-centered community, explore the liberal arts and contemporary issues from a faith perspective, represent diverse peer voices and concerns, and enhance the overall climate of the University.

The Director of Student Programs and the Student Body President provide the leadership for the Taylor Student Organization (TSO). Through innovative and educational opportunities, activities, and services, TSO addresses diverse student needs, encourages whole-person learning, and builds community. TSO is comprised of over 100 students serving in the following areas:

- Birrama Creative
- Integration of Faith and Culture Programs
- Inter-class Council
- Intramural Sports and Recreation
- Mainstage
- Office of Global Engagement
- Student Activities Council
- Student Body President's Office
- Student Senate

## **Taylor University Police Department**

Taylor University Police Department provides a variety of services to the students, faculty, and staff of Taylor University. The University employs full- and part-time police officers and security officers to provide around-the-clock law enforcement and security services year round. As the chief law enforcement office for Taylor, the Chief of Police works in conjunction with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to ensure a safe campus environment. Taylor University Police Department, located in the LaRita Boren Campus Center, also oversees the identification card system and lost and found, as well as the after-hours telephone, motor vehicle registration, and parking programs. Taylor University complies with the *Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990*.

## **Taylor World Outreach**

Taylor World Outreach (TWO) emphasizes practical experience in ministry and leadership. Four student-led departments are committed to leadership development, outreach, and service learning:

- Community Outreach
- Lighthouse (*sponsoring January interterm mission trips*)
- Spring Break Missions
- World Opportunities