



Vision of Wake Forest College

Wake Forest College of Arts and Sciences aspires to be a vital and engaging community of learning that:

- Combines the pedagogical intimacy of a liberal arts college with the academic vitality of an internationally recognized research institution;
- Emphasizes exceptional teaching, discovery, and student/faculty engagement within a dynamic academic community;
- Fosters the discussion of ideas and issues, modes of expression, and artistic and cultural exchange;
- Attracts a diverse community of the brightest scholars and students from throughout the country and the world;
- Encourages international education and experiences for its students and faculty;
- Links intellectual curiosity with philosophical reflection, ethical deliberation, and a commitment to service.



View of the Upper Quad from Wait Chapel

Mission of Wake Forest College

Wake Forest College stands as the cornerstone of Wake Forest University. It is a distinctive academic institution that values and maintains the liberal arts tradition within the context of an internationally recognized research university. The College embraces the teacher-scholar ideal, valuing exceptional teaching; a commitment to outstanding and innovative research, discovery, performance, and creative activities; and personal academic interaction between students and faculty both in and out of the classroom.

The College honors the ideals of liberal learning, which encourages habits of mind that ask “why,” that evaluate evidence, that are open to new ideas, that attempt to understand and appreciate the perspectives of others, that accept complexity and grapple with it, that admit error, and that pursue truth. Liberal education also entails commitment to teaching the modes of learning in the basic disciplines of human knowledge; advancing the frontiers of knowledge through in-depth and interdisciplinary study and research; transmitting cultural heritages; developing critical appreciation of moral, ethical, aesthetic, and religious values; and using knowledge in the service of humanity. The College believes in the development of the whole person and is committed to sustaining an environment where beliefs, assumptions, and ideas are examined thoughtfully and critically in a climate of academic freedom.



Professor of Religion, Mary Foskett

Image from the WFU Archive The College embraces the challenges of cultural diversity and pluralism in all their forms and is committed to addressing these challenges through the cultivation of diverse learning communities that reflect the world in which students and faculty live. To fulfill the ideals of liberal education, Wake Forest students, staff and faculty must bring with them differences to be shared and explored. The College promotes a vibrant scholarly community and integrates academics into a broad-based program of intellectual engagement with community service and extracurricular activities.

While Wake Forest College has attained a national presence and constituency, its sense of self is shaped by cultures

that are distinctively southern and North Carolinian, cultures which value service. To this end, the College takes seriously its commitment to serve the community and region wherein it resides and endeavors to expand its awareness and extend its influence by emphasizing international study and international understanding. The College strives to be a dynamic and diverse learning community, valuing knowledge, experience, and service for the benefit of humanity, thus preparing students to be active and informed members of the world in which they live.

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