INTRODUCTION TO GUILFORD COLLEGE

Mission

Guilford's purpose is to provide a transformative, practical and excellent liberal arts education that produces critical thinkers in an inclusive, diverse environment, guided by Quaker testimonies of community, equality, integrity, peace and simplicity and emphasizing the creative problem-solving skills, experience, enthusiasm and international perspectives necessary to promote positive change in the world.

Toward that end the College provides:

- student-centered instruction that nurtures each individual amid an intentionally diverse community;
- a challenging academic program that fosters critical and creative thinking through the development of essential skills: analysis, inquiry, communication, consensus-building, problem-solving and leadership;
- a global perspective that values people of other cultures and the natural environment in which we all live;
- a values-rich education that explores the ethical dimension of knowledge and promotes honesty, compassion, integrity, courage and respect for the individual;
- access to work and service opportunities that forge a connection between thought and action.

Guilford seeks above all to create a special kind of learning community. We are not perfect at this. Our goal of creating independent thinkers and change agents necessarily pulls against the needs of community, and our great diversity of backgrounds sometimes works against our professed acceptance and equal respect for all individuals. We are as a community at best in a perpetual state of becoming.

We intend to continue to work toward being that community: a learning community defined somewhat paradoxically by both challenge and nurture, a community that produces compassionate graduates who are independent thinkers, risk takers and change agents possessing a strong moral compass.

- Campus (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/campus/)
- Core Values (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/core-values/)
- Higher Education in Prison Program (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/higher-education-prison-program/)
- Principled Problem Solving (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/principled-problem-solving/)
- Quaker Heritage (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/quaker-heritage/)
- The City and Its Educational Environment (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/city-educational-environment/)
- The Faculty (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/faculty/)
- The Guilford College Community History (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/guilford-college-community-history/)
- The Student Body (https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/introduction/student-body/)