



## Education at Helderberg College

*Helderberg College is different from many other tertiary institutions because of its education philosophy.* This philosophy recognizes that true education has to do with the wellbalanced development of the whole person. The effectiveness of a College education depends to a large degree on the careful selection of curricular and extra-curricular activities which best cultivate a student's capabilities. The College provides an environment in which a student is encouraged to participate in religious activities, to experience personal and social growth, to develop a pattern of healthful living, and to achieve academic excellence. Each student has the opportunity to develop a well-balanced personality through participation in various campus activities.

The various curricula are founded on the philosophy that “true education means more than the perusal of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being and with the whole period of existence possible to man. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come” (White, Education, p. 13).

## Philosophy

The education philosophy of Helderberg College includes the following:

- It is a Christian institution established on Biblical principles and ascribing to a high level of professionalism in staff and students.
- The goal of education is to prepare students for a life of service to society, not only through academic excellence, but also by spiritual advancement, practical usefulness and social awareness.
- The staff are committed Christians who believe in a philosophy of life that is in harmony with the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
- The College upholds the lifestyle principles of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

- The value and dignity of community service is respected and all students are required to participate in practical/community work experiences as a prerequisite to graduation.
- The importance of fellowship with others is recognized.
- The motivation may best be summed up in the words of Jesus: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind ... and ... love your neighbour as yourself” (Luke 10:27).

## **Basic Principles**

The following principles are fundamental to the smooth functioning of the College programme. They help to maintain the quality of the academic atmosphere of the College and the commitment to academic, practical and spiritual excellence. Those who form part of the Helderberg College family will:

- Honour God in all spheres of life and show respect for others.
- Show Christian refinement in speech and action.
- Respect the religious convictions of fellow students and refrain from spreading ungodly philosophies or beliefs.
- Support the religious programmes that form an integral part of life at a Christian College.
- Be strictly honest in all aspects of living.
- Show good citizenship by respecting the laws of the land and upholding the principles of the College.
- Pursue a healthy lifestyle and abstain from the use of illegal drugs and other harmful substances such as tobacco, alcohol and narcotics, and categorically reject any pornographic material.
- Choose recreation and amusements that refresh and strengthen all the faculties: physical, mental, social and spiritual.
- Exhibit a high sense of modesty, simplicity and cultural refinement in dress, choosing that which is appropriate to the occasion. Classroom dress should be neat and modest, while church dress should be more formal in keeping with the sacredness of the worship experience.
- In keeping with the emphasis in God’s Word on the allure of inner beauty rather than outward adornment, the excessive use of jewellery and cosmetics should be avoided, and students should be responsive to helpful suggestions from the Residence Deans or any staff/faculty members.
- Conduct relationships in a wholesome manner by abstaining from excessive expression of affection in public, from pre-marital sex, and from any other behaviour that could jeopardize future significant relationships and damage self-esteem.
- Use time effectively and meet all appointments punctually and faithfully.
- Respect and value the positive contribution that each culture brings to the whole College family.

## **Values**

**Quality – Services**

**Integrity** – *In all aspects*

**Service** – *Culture*

**Respect** – *For all*

**Whole-life** - *Commitment*

**Christ-like** – *Attitude*

## **Objectives**

In harmony with our philosophy of education, the faculty and staff at Helderberg College have defined objectives in the following areas:

**Spiritual:** Helderberg College places great emphasis upon the role of religion in the personal lives of its students. It seeks to develop a high concept of service to God and man and to emphasize the importance of character development based upon the eternal values of the Word of God. Students are encouraged to develop a Christian philosophy of life as a basis for the solution of both personal and social problems.

**Intellectual:** The College seeks to encourage in its students the ability for independent and creative thinking. It further provides students with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are necessary for pursuing a career, and to instil in them an interest in life-long learning.

**Physical:** The concern for the physical is essential to both spiritual and mental excellence. The College seeks to assist students in developing habits that will promote health and physical fitness. Thus, a balanced programme of study, worship, work, rest, and recreation is emphasised.

**Social:** The development of attractive personalities, enduring friendships, and unselfish attitudes is a priority.