



CALVIN

MINDS IN THE MAKING



Five ways
this
Christian
college is
not what
you expect

For more information about Calvin, please contact:

Calvin College
Admissions Office
3201 Burton Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4388
800-688-0122 (in North America)
(616)526-6106 (voice)
(616)526-8480 (TTY)
www.calvin.edu

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For more information about Christian colleges, please contact:



Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
www.christiancollegementor.org



If you are bypassing Christian colleges in your college search, it may be because you believe a stereotype.

The thinking goes like this:

Christian colleges are ...

- academically second-rate.
- narrow-minded.
- preoccupied with dos and don'ts.
- too expensive.
- unable to deliver a degree I can use.

At Calvin, we can turn
this stereotype inside-out.

1 Are Christian colleges academically second-rate?

No. In fact, according to the 2006 edition of *U.S. News & World Report: America's Best Colleges*, Calvin College is tied for first place on the list of Midwest Comprehensive Bachelor's Colleges.

Calvin also consistently wins recognition for academic excellence in a variety of other college guides.



Calvin offers a profoundly academic experience. At Calvin, students have access to outstanding faculty, courses and research opportunities that they could typically experience only in a large university setting.

For instance, a team of four senior engineering students, self-titled "Sow What," researched, planned designed and built a small mill that farmers can use to increase their productivity in harvesting amaranth. Farmers in Kenya will use the new, hand-cranked mill to process the broadleaf plant, the grain from which is a versatile cash crop and has high nutritional value.

In another academic discipline, Calvin accounting graduates taking the 2004 CPA (certified public accountant) exam finished among the top ten colleges and universities nationally, compared to all other undergraduates taking the test.

2 Are Christian colleges narrow-minded?

Calvin's approach to learning is this: Knowledge is nothing to fear.

At Calvin we believe God invites us to explore all areas of life, working to make them better.

- Calvin classes provide students with meaningful, real-world experiences. Engineering students design equipment for non-profit organizations; English students tell the stories of World War II vets; biology students eradicate non-native, invasive plants.
- Communications professor William Romanowski's book *Eyes Wide Open: Looking for God in Popular Culture* urges Christians to be discerning consumers of movies, television and other media.
- Calvin's *Festival of Faith & Writing*, award-winning *January Series*, and Student Activities concerts bring to campus world-class authors, speakers,

musicians and artists for education and renewal. Only at Calvin would a typical school year include appearances by Alice McDermott, Nickel Creek, Sigur Ros, and Salman Rushdie.



3 Are Christian colleges preoccupied with dos and don'ts?

Calvin challenges students to thoughtfully develop a Christian "worldview" and trusts them to apply that to the business of living.

At Calvin, you'll find a welcoming community that will support your growing faith. Ultimately, Calvin's goal is to offer an education that will equip each student to make informed, Christ-centered decisions throughout his or her life.

Beginning with orientation and continuing through graduation, Calvin provides support to live responsibly and faithfully, but without dictating anyone's thinking.

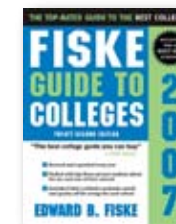
It is that combination – worldview with discernment – that equips Calvin students to live "Christian-ly," both in college and beyond.



4 Are Christian colleges too expensive?

Calvin is consistently recognized for delivering a superior education at a reasonable price.

The *Fiske Guide to Colleges* praises Calvin as an "evangelical Christian institution that ranks high on the private college bargain list."



Barron's Best Buys in College Education also recommends Calvin for both excellence and low cost.



Calvin is committed to making this academically excellent Christian education affordable to all qualified students. Calvin students receive over \$50 million in aid each year from federal, state and college funds.

In fact, over 90 percent of Calvin students benefit from some type of financial aid in packages that combine scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study employment.



5 Are Christian colleges able to deliver a degree I can use?

Whatever your chosen field – scientist, artist, journalist, doctor, pastor, lawyer, author, researcher, teacher, politician, musician, filmmaker – Calvin will help you develop the character, knowledge and skills you need to understand God's world, discover your gifts and excel in meaningful vocations.

And, Calvin graduates offer this world something extra – critical thinking and a heart of service.

Kim Olthoff, a 1982 Calvin graduate, is a liver transplant specialist.



Paul Vanden Bout, a 1961 graduate, was the longtime director of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory and co-discoverer of what may be one of the oldest known galaxies.



And 2001 alum Jennie Nichols started a business selling Zimbabwean art in North America to benefit African artists.



Perhaps it's time you looked at Calvin.