

**THE CATALOG OF  
LUTHER RICE COLLEGE AND SEMINARY  
2026 - 2027**

**Luther Rice College and Seminary**  
3038 Evans Mill Road  
Lithonia, Georgia 30038  
Web Site: [www.LutherRice.edu](http://www.LutherRice.edu)

**1-770-484-1204**  
1-800-442-1577  
Fax: 1-770-484-1155

**Information on the application process is found on page 9.**

**You may also apply online at [LutherRice.edu/apply](https://lutherrice.edu/apply)**

#### **NOTE**

Luther Rice College and Seminary has been incorporated in the State of Florida as a private, independent, non-profit 501 (c) (3) since June 13, 1962. Luther Rice is registered as a corporation with the State of Georgia. Luther Rice is registered as a degree-granting institution by Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (GNPEC). Luther Rice College and Seminary is required to complete and submit the Annual Membership Renewal under the provisions of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Act, O.C.G.A. 20-3-250.3 (a) (10).

Current information, including the calendar, admissions, program and degree requirements, tuition and fees, student rights and responsibilities, policies and procedures, and course offerings, is contained in this catalog. The policy of Luther Rice is to give appropriate advance notice of change, whenever possible, to permit adjustment. However, the Board of Trustees and the Administration reserve the right to modify, revoke, or add policies or procedures at any time. If students drop out of Luther Rice or become inactive and later return, they fall under the jurisdiction of the policies and procedures of the catalog in effect at the time of their return. Finally, failure to read the catalog does not exempt students from the stated regulations and requirements.

Luther Rice College and Seminary is an Equal Opportunity higher education institution open to any qualified individual without regard to race, religion, sex, age, color, national or ethnic origin, or disability. This non-discriminatory policy includes admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other institution administered programs, except where required by specific religious tenets held by the institution.



**Steven Steinhilber, D.Min.  
President**

## **Welcome from the President**

Luther Rice continues to operate on the cutting edge in offering a theologically sound, biblically based, technologically advanced education to students around the world.

### **Luther Rice Advantages**

- All degrees may be completed 100% online or in combination with on-campus classes.
- Luther Rice is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), The Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), and the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE).
- Federal financial aid, grants, loans, and scholarships are available to eligible students.
- Academic credit can be transferred, up to set limits, from any approved institution.
- Our tuition costs are ranked in the lowest 10% of all private, non-profit, four-year schools according to the U.S. Department of Education College Affordability and Transparency Center.
- Online course content is engaging, fresh, flexible and designed for the online learning environment.

Most importantly, our entire faculty and staff believe the Scriptures are the inspired, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God. That's what we believe and that's what we teach! Luther Rice provides students with the tools they need to mature spiritually and realize their ministry goals.

I invite you to Luther Rice. We would love to personally meet you, learn about God's call on your life, and discuss how we can be of service to you.

Steven Steinhilber, D.Min.  
President

For specific information or questions you might have, please use our phone and email contacts below.

**Luther Rice College and Seminary**  
**3038 Evans Mill Road**  
**Lithonia, GA 30038**

**Phone/Fax**

General Information	770-484-1204	Local
	1-800-442-1577	Toll Free
General Fax	770-484-1155	
Finance Office Fax	678-990-5388	

**Email**

Academic Advising	AAO@LutherRice.edu
Admissions Office	Admissions@LutherRice.edu
Registrar's Office	Registrar@LutherRice.edu
Student Accounts	Studentaccounts@LutherRice.edu
Financial Aid	Financialaid@LutherRice.edu
Library	Library@LutherRice.edu
Student Services	Studentservices@LutherRice.edu
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**Luther Rice College & Seminary)**

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1961, Dr. Robert Witty, Pastor of Central Baptist Church, presented the need for a seminary in Jacksonville, Florida to several Southern Baptist pastors. In May 1962, Dr. Witty secured pastors who signed the charter application. On June 13, 1962, the State of Florida granted the charter. Central Baptist Church agreed to provide space and office assistance for the new institution.

Business of the Seminary was conducted until 1968 by the Board of Trustees, with Dr. Witty as Chairman. In 1970, Dr. Witty became the first full-time President. In May 1982, Dr. Gene Williams, an evangelist and former seminary professor, was appointed the second President.

In August 1988, a church building and property in Lithonia, Georgia (a suburb of Atlanta) were donated to the Seminary. In June 1991, construction of new facilities began. In August 1991, the Seminary moved its main campus to this location.

In May 1992, Dr. James Bryant, a former pastor, was appointed the third President.

Dr. James Flanagan joined the institution in 1982, serving as a faculty member and later as Vice President for Academic Affairs. He served as the interim President from April 1, 1993 until May 13, 1994 at which time he was then appointed the fourth President.

Dr. Steven Steinhilber joined the Luther Rice staff in 2012, graduated with his M.Div. in 2015, and served as the Executive Vice President since 2016. Dr. Steinhilber was appointed as the fifth President in July 2021.

## HISTORICAL EXAMPLE

The man Luther Rice (1783-1836) is known in Baptist history for his contributions to missionary endeavor, for his desire to foster cooperation among Baptists, and for his untiring effort to educate ministers. A better name could not have been chosen by the founders. Luther Rice's beliefs provided the philosophical basis on which Luther Rice College and Seminary is built.

*Luther Rice believed in missions.* He was a missionary who felt that every Christian had both the responsibility and the privilege of sharing in the work of world-wide evangelism.

*Luther Rice believed in cooperation between churches.* He devoted his life to traveling from church to church uniting Christians to support missions. His efforts resulted in the formation of the Triennial Baptist Convention (1814).

*Luther Rice believed in Christian education.* He established Columbian College (now George Washington University) in Washington, DC for the single purpose of training Christians to serve Christ effectively. At the time of his death, he was in South Carolina raising funds for the college.

*Luther Rice believed in the authority of the Bible.* While en route to Burma as a missionary volunteer with Adoniram Judson, Rice became convinced, through his study of the Bible, of the necessity of changing his doctrinal position on baptism.

*Luther Rice believed in the power of the Holy Spirit.* He believed that the Holy Spirit is the supreme teacher, the interpreter of Scripture, and the impartor of spiritual gifts to Christians.

*Luther Rice believed in Bible preaching.* He was an eloquent preacher who traveled the eastern and southern states preaching the Bible.

*Luther Rice believed in being a Baptist.* He held to the great distinctive Baptist doctrines concerning the church, its ordinances, its autonomy, and its basis for cooperation.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Luther Rice College and Seminary is to serve the church and community by providing biblically based on-campus and distance education to Christian men and women for ministry and the marketplace with an end to granting undergraduate and graduate degrees.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION**

Luther Rice holds that learning occurs through various means including observation, instruction, and research. Because all truth has God as its source, the entire body of knowledge is consistent with, and not contrary to, God's revelation. Research and study in all disciplines are possible because of (1) the inherent logical structure of the created order, (2) the absolute nature of truth, and (3) humanity's creation in the image of God with the potential to relate to Him by faith and with the ability to engage the mind in academic pursuits.

## **INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES**

In pursuit of our purpose, we seek to cultivate an institutional environment of Christian excellence through which vital core competencies and values are inculcated in each student. The Luther Rice educational experience is designed to transfer to the student all the vital competencies required of twenty-first century Christian leaders. Upon completion of a degree program at Luther Rice, students will demonstrate the following:

- Exegetical/Expositional Competence - the ability to accurately interpret and effectively communicate the Word of God in a variety of contexts
- Theological/Apologetical Competence - the ability to present a reasoned explanation of the doctrines that are integral to Scripture and to defend the historic Christian faith
- Pastoral/Leadership Competence - the ability to shepherd and to lead others in ecclesiastical and workplace contexts
- Evangelical/Devotional Competence - the ability to present the gospel to unbelievers in a clear and winsome way and to disciple believers for spiritual formation in the image of Christ

- Academic/Discipleship Competence - the ability to research and study new subjects for oneself and to cultivate a lifestyle of lifelong learning
- Communication Competence - the ability to communicate effectively and accurately through both the written and spoken word

## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

### *I. The Scriptures*

We believe that the books of the Old and New Testaments were written by men, verbally inspired by God, inerrant in the original autographs, and are the supreme and final authority in faith and life. We believe in the full historicity of the biblical record.

### *II. God*

We believe that God is one in nature and three in Person--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that all three persons, though distinct, share in the divine nature and thereby possess the same attributes and perfections. We believe in the providence of God, but not that he approves sin or destroys human responsibility. We believe the triune God created the universe apart from pre-existing materials.

### *III. Jesus Christ*

We believe that Jesus Christ is the incarnate Son of God, born of a virgin; that He is true God and true man, having two distinct natures co-joined in one Person; that He died for our sins, was buried, was bodily raised on the third day, and has ascended to the right hand of the Father.

### *IV. Holy Spirit*

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and that He regenerates, seals, and baptizes believers into the body of Christ.

### *V. Humanity*

We believe that humanity was created in the image of God. Adam and Eve, the first humans, fell as a result of sin thereby incurring death for all and a curse on the created order.

### *VI. Salvation*

We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ alone and not of works, and that all who believe are eternally secure in Him.

### *VII. Return of Christ*

We believe in the literal, visible, and personal return of Jesus Christ. We believe in the final judgment of the unsaved, who will be sent away into eternal punishment with Satan in Hell, and the final justification of the saved, who will enter into eternal life with the Lord in Heaven.

### *VIII. The Church*

We believe that the New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers with Christ as its head and the Holy Spirit as its guide. New Testament churches promote God's work by cooperating for missions and many other joint efforts. Churches celebrate two ordinances, believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Table. We believe in the priesthood of all believers so that every Christian has direct access to God in prayer through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest.

## POSITION STATEMENTS

Based upon the Institution's interpretation of Scripture, the following specific issues are affirmed further.

### *Creation*

We affirm that the universe, visible and invisible, is a result of God's special creative work. He sustains all things through His power and providence.

### *Last Things*

We affirm the premillennial view that the Lord will return prior to the establishment of His 1000-year earthly reign.

### *Sexuality*

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as either male or female and that these two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

### *Marriage*

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, cohabitation, homosexual behavior, or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrine statements of Luther Rice College and Seminary.

### *Sanctity of Life*

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps. 139.)

### *Affiliation*

Where consistent with the previous doctrinal and position statements, Luther Rice is committed to the Baptist Faith and Message. However, the right of each student to affiliate with another evangelical denomination is respected.

### *Final Authority*

The preceding doctrine and position statements do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and inerrant Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Luther Rice College and Seminary's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Board of Trustees is the Institution's final interpretive authority on the Bible's application.

## **ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION**

1. Luther Rice College and Seminary is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. Luther Rice College and Seminary also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Luther Rice College and Seminary may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).
2. Luther Rice is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) [15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551, Telephone: 434-525-9539, email: [info@tracs.org](mailto:info@tracs.org) ([www.tracs.org](http://www.tracs.org))], having been awarded Reaffirmed status as a Category IV institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on April 21, 2015; this status is effective for a period of ten years. TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).
3. Luther Rice College and Seminary is accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation (5850 T. G. Lee Blvd., Ste. 130, Orlando, FL 32822, 407.207.0808) to grant certificates and degrees at the Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral levels. The ABHE Commission on Accreditation's recognition with the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) includes certificates, diplomas, associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees, including doctoral degrees. The Commission's scope of recognition with the U.S. Department of Education does not include doctoral education.
4. Luther Rice College and Seminary has been incorporated in the State of Florida as a private, independent, non-profit 501 (c) (3) since June 13, 1962. Luther Rice is registered as a corporation with the State of Georgia. Luther Rice is registered as a degree-granting institution by Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (GNPEC). Luther Rice College and Seminary is required to complete and submit the Annual Membership Renewal under the provisions of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Act, O.C.G.A. 20-3-250.3 (a)(10) which states: "Subject to the requirements of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-3-250.6, any nonpublic, nonprofit college or university granting baccalaureate degrees whose principal office and campus are located in this state and its related graduate and professional programs, which have been in existence ten or more years as a nonpublic, nonprofit college or university and is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; provided, however, that such nonpublic, nonprofit college or university shall be subject to the provisions of Code Section 20-3-250.14 for the purposes of satisfying the requirements of 34 C.F.R. Section 668.43(b) and shall designate the commission as the recipient of complaints from students of such nonpublic, non-

profit college or university as a prerequisite for such nonpublic, nonprofit college's and university's acceptance of federal student financial aid funds; and provided, further, that the designation provided for under this paragraph shall be provided solely to the extent necessary for institutional compliance of such nonpublic, nonprofit college or university with the laws and regulations governing federal student financial aid and shall not affect, rescind, or supersede any preexisting authorizations, charters, or recognition."

5. Student complaints should be addressed to the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, 2082 E. Exchange Place, Tucker, GA 30084, (770) 414-3300.
6. Luther Rice College and Seminary has met the requirements to offer distance education in all states plus the District of Columbia. The requirements vary state by state, and in some states there are no requirements.
7. Luther Rice College and Seminary has been approved by Georgia to participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. NC-SARA is a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education.
8. Luther Rice is a member of AACRAO, The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers.

Documents of accreditation and recognition may be viewed at the Office of the President.

## **LUTHER RICE GRADUATION RATE**

The current graduation rate for Luther Rice undergraduate students can be obtained through the following website: <http://nces.ed.gov/> and at [www.LutherRice.edu](http://www.LutherRice.edu): Student Achievement.

## **PRIVACY POLICY**

Luther Rice College & Seminary recognizes the importance of protecting the privacy of personal information. Luther Rice does not disclose or sell any nonpublic personal information about students or prospects to anyone, unless given specific permission by the student or compelled to do so by law.

Luther Rice collects and maintains personal information from individuals who have agreed to provide it to the Institution. The personal information is securely maintained at Luther Rice in accordance with Institution's record retention policies and procedures. Approved personal information provided by an individual will only be used for regular business purposes of the Institution and periodic contact concerning upcoming events, recruitment, admission, registration, and other Luther Rice related items. Should an individual have any questions about record retention policies and procedures, use of personal information, like to "opt-out" of future communication, or pursue their "Right to be Forgotten" in accordance with the E.U. GDPR, the individual must contact Luther Rice at [Registrar@LutherRice.edu](mailto:Registrar@LutherRice.edu).

To ensure you the customer that we take seriously the security of our data, we carefully monitor our compliance with GLBA and GDPR. For more information concerning Luther Rice's compliance, please visit the Privacy Policy at the bottom of our website [www.LutherRice.edu](http://www.LutherRice.edu) or contact us at [Registrar@LutherRice.edu](mailto:Registrar@LutherRice.edu) or the GDPR compliance page on our website.