

{Student Life}



Residence

Single Students

Westminster has twelve rooms on the main campus, housing nine men and five women students. These rooms are only open to full-time first-year students; however, during the summer months vacant rooms can be made available to new and returning students enrolled in summer modular courses. All rooms are furnished, but residents must supply bed linens, blankets, pillow, and towels.

Dorm residents may prepare meals in their dormitory's kitchen. Meals may not be prepared or eaten in dormitory rooms. Students who vacate their rooms at the end of the fall semester because they are not enrolling for winter term can return in the spring semester to the room occupied during the fall semester. However, if a room is vacant during the winter term, it may be rented to another student for that term. Students beginning course work in the winter term or spring semester should be prepared to locate a room off-campus.

Single students can also make arrangements to rent rooms from local families or apartments through housing resources in the Student Affairs and Admissions Offices. New single students should allow at least one month to find suitable off-campus housing. Please see the Westminster website (www.wts.edu) for more information.

Married Students

The Student Affairs and Admissions Offices have online resources for housing and jobs in the area, which admitted and current students may find at the Westminster website (www.wts.edu). New married students seeking housing should plan to secure housing no



2009–2010

{Student Life}

less than one month prior to the beginning of a semester, allowing time to settle into their new home. Students with children or special housing requirements should plan to secure housing and settle into the area even earlier.

Modular Program Students

Students in the D.Min. program who plan to come to Westminster for modular courses during the summer and who want to reserve a room in the dorm must send a \$50 dorm deposit (U.S. dollars only) in the form of a check made out to “Westminster Theological Seminary” to the attention of the Coordinator for Student Affairs after full admission has been granted (for international students, full admission is attained upon the successful completion of the affidavit of support). The dorm deposit should accompany the completed dorm application available on the Westminster website (www.wts.edu). Rooms are awarded on a first-deposits-received basis. D.Min. students should keep in mind that the number of rooms left vacant in the summer is extremely limited and a waiting list often forms as early as the previous summer. New York students attending summer intensive classes will have their housing arranged by the Coordinator for Student Affairs.

International Students on J-1 or F-1 Visa Status

International students on J-1 visas are advised to arrive at least one month in advance of the beginning of their classes to allow sufficient time to settle into a new culture, secure housing, obtain a driver’s license, and open a bank account. Due to immigration requirements, students on F-1 visas may not arrive earlier than one month prior to the beginning of classes, but they are advised to arrive as soon as they are legally permitted to do so. For dorm housing, early arrival must be pre-arranged with the Student Affairs Office.

Cost

Rental costs for housing vary greatly, depending on the size of the rental and its location. Generally, real estate within the city limits is cheaper than in the suburbs, excluding the Center City district; however, car insurance and taxes are higher in the city. Costs range

anywhere from \$300+ per month to rent a room in a person’s home to \$1000+ per month to rent a house. See the Westminster website (www.wts.edu) for more information and page 142 for the Seminary’s dormitory housing costs.

Dining

Students who are not dorm residents are encouraged to bring their lunches, eat at nearby Arcadia University, or at a local restaurant.

The Loft

The Loft is located in the Student Center above the Westminster Bookstore. It provides a place for conversation and respite for the Westminster community. Students can play a game of ping pong, enjoy a cup of coffee or take part in a conversation about applying the Gospel to real life in the here-and-now.



2009–2010



“Our world needs creative biblical thinkers to engage the culture and context of its increasingly globalized society, and the Westminster Spouse Scholarship makes it possible for us to pursue that training together. We’re grateful for the benefit our mutual studies are to our marriage and pray the Lord will use our time at WTS to expand His Kingdom.”— **Cari** (M.A.R. – General Studies, 2010) and **Brad** (M.Div. – Urban Mission, 2011) **Longman**

Devotional Life

The devotional life of the Seminary is nurtured by regular chapel services under the charge of the faculty, and by weekly prayer groups of students and faculty. The root conviction governing all these devotional exercises is that the true guide in Christian worship and Christian prayer, as well as in all other activities of the Christian life, is the Word of God.

The Seminary does not assume to itself the church’s responsibility for the nurture of the spiritual life of the student. Each student, therefore, is urged to associate with the life and work of a particular congregation.

Conduct

Student conduct is under the supervision of the Dean of Students. The institution reserves the right to dismiss from the institution a student whose conduct is found to be unsatisfactory.

Unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on school property, or as part

of any activity of Westminster, is forbidden and will result in dismissal. Smoking is not permitted in any Seminary building. The use of alcoholic beverages on campus is not permitted. Firearms are prohibited on campus. For other specific questions regarding conduct, the Seminary refers to the *Westminster Standards*, as based on Scripture, as a standard for behavior.

Grievance Policy

The Student Affairs Office should be regarded as the umbrella for addressing all complaints. For information regarding the process of filing a grievance or to file a grievance, please contact the Student Affairs Office.

The Student Association is also available to hear students’ concerns. Representatives of the Student Association can be contacted to formally present such concerns to the Dean of Students.

For a full description of the grievance policy, please refer to the Seminary’s website (www.wts.edu).



{Student Life}

Counseling

Counseling is provided by the deans, faculty members, and, when deemed necessary, by professional practitioners. For further details, students should contact either the Dean of Students or the Associate Dean of Students.

Health Insurance

All full-time students and their dependents are required to have health care coverage. International students on a J-1 or F-1 visa, in addition to the medical benefits required for all students, are also required to have Medical Evacuation and Repatriation of Remains (MERR) coverage. If a student chooses not to use the Westminster-sponsored plan, he or she must submit a waiver form with alternative health insurance coverage details. All insurance waiver and sign-up forms, which can be downloaded from the website (www.wts.edu), should be submitted to the Student Affairs Office. For specific information about insurance coverage, premium payments, billing, etc., students should contact an insurance broker.

Student Organizations

The Student Association

The Student Association is student-led and exists for the benefit of Westminster students. The purpose of the Student Association is threefold: 1) to promote Christian growth; 2) to offer Christian fellowship; and 3) to engender a sense of responsibility towards fellow students, faculty, the church, and the world. The Student Association seeks to be a ministry of Christ to the future ministers of Christ who are training at Westminster. Activities of the Association are supported through a student activities fee. Representatives of the Association meet regularly with the Dean of Students to promote the goals of the Association throughout the Westminster community.

Fellowship Groups

Consistent with the purposes of the Student Association, the Seminary offers various student fellowship groups that meet regularly during the academic year for fellowship, prayer, and

campus events. Currently, these groups include the African Student Fellowship, African/African-American Student Fellowship, Chinese Student Fellowship, Korean Student Fellowship, and the Missions Fellowship. More information can be found on the Seminary's website (www.wts.edu).

Women of Westminster

Women of Westminster is a fellowship organization composed of women students, wives of students, faculty wives, and staff women. The objectives of the organization are to nurture and encourage biblical thinking and a Christian worldview, and to provide fellowship and ministry opportunities.

Westminster Bookstore

The Seminary maintains a bookstore for the convenience of faculty and students, where books may be purchased at significant discounts. In addition to textbooks for courses, the bookstore carries a complete line of books relating to theology, church history, apologetics, biblical studies, commentaries, and the Christian life. In the past few years the Internet component of the store has become one of the fastest growing sources for Reformed and conservative evangelical books in the country.

The Westminster Bookstore web store at www.wtsbooks.com displays the entire inventory of the store at the same low prices and adds many helpful features such as reviews, recommendations, and downloadable sample pages. The bookstore maintains a blog at www.westminsterbookstore.com where customers can find new arrivals, interviews, and reviews. Students should inquire at the store about a special additional discount for textbooks ordered online. Both the campus store and online store are open to the general public.

Purchases from the Westminster Bookstore support the work of the Seminary.

