

# CENTER FOR RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

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## Purpose

The Center for Research & Scholarship/CRS provides administrative coordination and resources to develop new and support ongoing curricular and co-curricular research initiatives at Liberty University, which includes administration of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

## Quality Enhancement Plan

Demonstrating Liberty's commitment to improve the quality of education for all our students, we have initiated a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Our plan, entitled, "Illuminate: Cultivating a Community of Research," is a targeted course of action that promotes learning among the undergraduate residential students of our student body. The QEP is a central requirement implemented by the University every five years to enhance student learning and to fulfill a reaccreditation requirement from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The QEP primarily focuses on improving student learning through research and scholarship. Through this plan, undergraduate residential students will benefit by developing as researchers and practitioners in their fields of study.

## Improves Student Learning

The QEP is grounded in Liberty University's mission and purpose, which emphasizes the importance of helping students to develop knowledge, skills, and behaviors to impact their workplaces, their communities, and the world in accordance with their Christian faith and worldview. This emphasis includes assisting undergraduate students in developing competence in scholarship, research, and communication, as well as in the related skill sets of critical thinking and information literacy.

The QEP focus on research and scholarship also aligns with the 2014-2017 strategic plan. The six themes for the Strategic Plan indicate the main goals for Liberty University. Two of these themes are directly related to the QEP initiative.

## Advancing Academic Reputation

- The efforts a university makes to increase the quality of curriculum, instruction, academic scholarship, and research. This results in higher levels of learning and academic achievement among current students and alumni, which is widely recognized by the community, prospective employers, benchmark institutions, and pertinent stakeholders. This is the foundation for developing and promoting the university as a top educational brand.

## Capitalizing on Human Potential

- The efforts a university makes to recruit highly qualified and innovative personnel and provide them with opportunities to achieve their full potential through training and professional development. Employees are encouraged to utilize their skills to the best of their ability by providing them with a safe and secure work environment. This utilization will provide opportunities for these individuals to fulfill their own mission in life.

Making an intentional effort to establish an exemplary academic curriculum and optimize human capital through hiring and training faculty to equip students for academic and professional success are deliberate themes in the strategic plan. These themes build upon the founder's vision for the University to become a distinguished institution.

Locating research within the curriculum, as the QEP proposes, builds on the University's historic strengths, ideological and philosophical commitments, and evangelical mission in the areas of teaching and learning, while also enabling the University to improve its productivity level and public reputation in the areas of research and scholarship.

## Additional Information

To read more about the Center for Research & Scholarship, including the Quality Enhancement Plan, please visit the CRS webpage.