



MISSION & IDENTITY

Like a beautiful piece of artwork, there is an inexhaustible depth to our Catholic, Franciscan tradition. It is a wellspring of inspiration that never runs dry and a timeless source of wisdom that speaks across cultures and generations throughout history. Here at Hilbert College, our Catholic, Franciscan mission has guided us from the very beginning, spoken to us in times of difficulty, and has manifested itself anew in every era of our story. The same is true today and, as we hope you will discover, it can also be true for you.

Each of us comes to Hilbert with different sets of skills and expertise within the roles we play. Whether you are faculty or staff, part time or full time, IT or HR, our Franciscan mission has something to offer. It can provide a unique spirituality, approach, or lens with which to do your work. It can stretch you, inspire you, and strengthen you. Indeed, one could spend a lifetime exploring the intersection between our mission and the practical day to day efforts of each office, department, and employee at the College. During your time at Hilbert, we will invite you to explore these connections. However, for now, as you begin your journey, let us offer just a few broad themes and ideas that are applicable for everyone.

1.

A FRANCISCAN EDUCATION AT HILBERT COLLEGE PLACES AN EMPHASIS UPON THE GOODNESS OF THE HUMAN PERSON AND OF ALL CREATION, ROOTED IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD.

To that end, we honor the inherent dignity of every individual, foster the unique talents and gifts of every student, celebrate diversity as an expression of God's goodness, and promote good stewardship of creation with all of its resources.

2.

A FRANCISCAN EDUCATION AT HILBERT COLLEGE STRONGLY EMPHASIZES RELATIONSHIPS AND HUMAN FLOURISHING.

Among other things, this means that we pay attention to individual needs and learning styles. It means that we consider students holistically by being mindful of their life beyond the classroom and cognizant of their personhood beyond mere intellect. We pay attention to the common good and seek to build community by creating opportunities for reflection, dialogue, and mentorship. Finally, it means that we attempt to create an environment characterized by mutual respect and civil discourse.

3.

A FRANCISCAN EDUCATION AT HILBERT COLLEGE EMPHASIZES SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. FOR THAT REASON, WE REGARD EDUCATION AS A GIFT TO BE SHARED, RATHER THAN AN END IN ITSELF.

We encourage service learning and civic engagement as a way of promoting solidarity. We prioritize the voices of the poor, suffering, marginalized, and underrepresented. In the end, the value of a Franciscan education is measured by its impact upon others.

Guided by these principles, we endeavor to stimulate free academic inquiry, foster holistic well-being, encourage the work of diversity and social justice, and provide a common point of departure in a shared dialogue about meaning and purpose. We look forward to hearing your voice and we are grateful for your interest in joining the conversation.