

THE STUDENT HANDBOOK 08–09

ALMA MATER

“Hail to the Blue and Gold”

Hail to the Blue and Gold
Dear Georgian Court
'Mid stately pines so old
Ideals you brought to us
Of honor and loyalty,
Faith staunch and true;
We pledge fidelity and love
To you.

So through the years to come
Your name will be
Symbol of faith and love
And constancy, dear G.C!
Here in these hallowed halls
Pledge we anew
Our hearts' devotion to the
Gold and Blue.

Alice Piper Kuser '27, Hermine Carpentier Stein '29, and several classmates worked in a group to create the first verse of the Alma Mater. Hermine also helped write the music.

University Colors

The university colors are blue and gold. The color blue stands for loyalty, fidelity, and constancy. Gold stands for honor, loyalty, and royalty.

University Seal

“Bonitas, Scientia, Disciplina—Collegium Aulæ Georgiænsis” translates to: Goodness, Knowledge, and Discipline—Georgian Court University. The Georgian Court University seal is located in the foyer of the Arts and Science Center. The Cross of Christ symbolizes, true Christian character, which is enlightened by the lighted lamp and illustrates the virtues of truth and goodness. These virtues are fostered through the Book of the Arts and Sciences by which courtiers achieve intellectual development. Depicted at the bottom of the seal, the lion signifies moral and physical fortitude united by the laurel wreath—the Greek symbol of victory and triumph.

INTRODUCTION

This handbook is a multifaceted compendium introducing everything from the rich tradition of the Sisters of Mercy to the many services offered to support students. The Student Handbook is also, and most importantly, required reading on academic honesty and other campus policies, the rules by which we govern our lives. Finally, it is a valuable reference for the myriad opportunities available to students, whatever their needs or ambitions.

For a complete version of all University policies, please access: www.georgian.edu/catalogs/index.html.

Those new to Georgian Court university should read it with care. However, returning students should also study this handbook to review and rediscover its contents and to explore all that is new and available on campus. I hope these pages will not only inform but also encourage and inspire readers to explore Georgian Court University fully and to recognize and celebrate the special obligations and privileges we all share as members of this learning community.

Evelyn Saul Quinn

Evelyn Saul Quinn, Associate Provost
Office of Academic Support and Student Life Programs

Core Values

Georgian Court University is committed to the following guiding principles:

Justice: We believe ordering of right relationships with all persons and all creation is fundamental to our advocacy for structures that protect the vulnerable.

Respect: We reverence the dignity of all persons and all life as gifts of God and strive to promote community in our world.

Integrity: We believe that fidelity to moral principles, honesty, and sincerity are the basis of trustworthiness in all encounters.

Service: We joyfully extend our energy and resources on behalf of the poor, sick, and uneducated, working to relieve misery and address its causes possible.

Compassion: We embrace the joys and sorrows of others to whom and with whom we minister and are moved to action in solidarity with the human community.

Dear Student,

You join the dynamic learning community of Georgian Court University during our Centennial year as we celebrate 100 years of Mercy higher education in the Catholic tradition. Our faculty and staff stand ready to work with you to make your experience here at Georgian Court one that will equip you to reach your educational goals and prepare you for a life infused with the Mercy core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion.

This Student Handbook provides useful information and guidelines for various aspects of student life at Georgian Court. I encourage each student to read through and follow these guidelines to fully participate in and support our community in its pursuit of excellence. As you pursue your studies here this year, I hope you take advantage of the programs that prepare you for leadership and service.

May God bless your days of learning and growth during this 2008–2009 academic year.

Sister Rosemary

Sister Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72
President

Mission Statement

Georgian Court University, founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey in 1908 and sponsored by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas since January of 2007, provides a comprehensive liberal arts education in the Roman Catholic tradition. The university has a special concern for women and is a dynamic community committed to the core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion, locally and globally.

Georgian Court University provides students with

- A *curriculum* broad enough to be truly liberal, yet specialized enough to support further study and future careers;
- An *environment* for the entire university community to grow through shared educational, cultural, social and spiritual experiences; and
- The *will* to translate concern for social justice into action.

Vision Statement

“Georgian Court University is a thriving Mercy university in the Catholic tradition contributing to the local and world communities through its merciful and competent graduates who lead and serve.

GCU includes both an outstanding Women’s College and the coeducational University College educating women and men in undergraduate and graduate degree programs.”

History of Georgian Court University

Georgian Court University was founded in 1908 by the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey as a women's liberal arts college in the Roman Catholic tradition. The university began at Mount Saint Mary—now the North Plainfield, New Jersey, headquarters of the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey—and was originally titled Mount Saint Mary's College. With an inaugural class of seven young women, Mount Saint Mary College set out to offer women a quality education rooted in the Mercy core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion.

The student body grew steadily and, in 1924, it was moved from North Plainfield to the George Jay Gould estate in Lakewood and renamed Georgian Court College. Over the next several decades, Georgian Court College's programs and facilities grew, along with its reputation for graduating scholarly women of the highest caliber.

In 1976, the graduate program was launched as the first coeducational program on campus. It was soon followed by the coeducational undergraduate program, which allowed both women and men to take undergraduate classes in the evening hours.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Georgian Court continued to expand its academic offerings and resources. In 2001, Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72., an alumna and former employee of Georgian Court, became the college's eighth president and embarked on a comprehensive planning process to secure Georgian Court's place as a beacon of ethical education and academic excellence.

In February 2004, the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education awarded university status and Georgian Court College became Georgian Court University. Since then, the university has added, expanded, and revised its academic offerings; updated campus resources and technology; and constructed new academic and residence spaces. Today, the women's day program is now the Women's College, while the graduate and coeducational undergraduate programs are part of the University College.

One hundred years after its founding, as Georgian Court breaks ground for new facilities, launches new academic programs, and adopts new instructional technology, the goals and values set forth by the Sisters of Mercy remain at the core of all university decisions and activities. Georgian Court University maintains a student-centered learning environment, offering superior academic opportunities and interactive, personalized education to empower our students as leaders in their careers and their communities. Celebrating its Centennial, Georgian Court University embraces its rich history while growing to meet the unique needs of today's diverse student population.



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The front gates at Georgian Court University.

One can never pay in gratitude; one can only pay “in kind” somewhere else in life. *Anne Morrow Lindbergh*

While every precaution has been taken to assure the accuracy of the information contained herein, Georgian Court University shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors or omissions from the handbook. The Georgian Court University catalog contains additional information.

Georgian Court University supports equal opportunity in recruitment, admissions, educational programs, and employment practices regardless of race, color, age, sex, disability, religion, ethnic or national origin, marital status or sexual orientation. Georgian Court University also complies with all major federal and state laws and executive orders requiring equal employment opportunity and/or affirmative action. Information contained in this handbook is subject to change and revision. The Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Support and Student Life Programs publishes this handbook.



STUDENT AND UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS

The Courtier
Student Yearbook

The Georgian Court Report
Student Newspaper

The Fountain Spray
Literary / Arts Magazine
(Once a year)

**Georgian Court University
Magazine**
News and Happenings at the Court
(Twice a year)

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. *Anne Frank*
