



Why Become a Colson Fellow?



In 1999, Chuck Colson wrote that “We live in a culture that is at best morally indifferent. A culture in which Judeo-Christian values are mocked and where immorality in high places is not only ignored but even rewarded in the voting booth. A culture in which violence, banality, meanness, and disintegrating personal behavior are destroying civility and endangering the very life of our communities...weary, we are tempted to withdraw into the safety of our sanctuaries, to keep busy by plugging into every program offered by our megachurches, hoping to keep ourselves and our children safe from the coming desolation.”

Years later, the conflict has only intensified. It was out of this concern that the Colson Fellows Program was born. Who among us isn’t concerned that our culture is rapidly abandoning its philosophical moorings and the distinctively Christian ideas that have contributed to both the propagation of the Christian faith and unprecedented human flourishing? Suffice it to say, our culture is abandoning truth in favor of ideas that always and everywhere do harm to the human person and society.

It is our love of God and neighbor that compels us to act on behalf of humanity and the world by protecting what is good, opposing what is harmful, providing what is absent, and restoring what is broken for the glory of God. The Colson Fellows Program will help you better understand the times so you will know how to live and what to do.

Why become a Colson Fellow? Because the world needs you!

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'S. Michael Craven', with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

S. Michael Craven

Vice President of Equipping and Mobilization, The Colson Center

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The Colson Fellows Program

The Colson Fellows Program is a ten-month course guiding participants through the intersections of theology, faith, and culture. Students engage in daily devotions related to contemporary cultural issues, complete curated book studies, and interact with faculty and fellow students from across the country on the Colson Fellows Learning Platform.

Quarter One

Everyone has a worldview. Actually, a worldview has everyone. It is a mark of being created in the image and likeness of God. We are driven to make sense of the world and our place in it. Students will learn how to understand and identify worldviews, how they manifest in the resulting culture, and where they compare and contrast with the Christian worldview.

Quarter Two

We are usually unaware of how deeply our culture shapes us. The Colson Fellows Program helps students recognize the subtle forces of culture on the ideas and values around us. This understanding equips Colson Fellows students to identify areas of need and opportunities to make a difference.

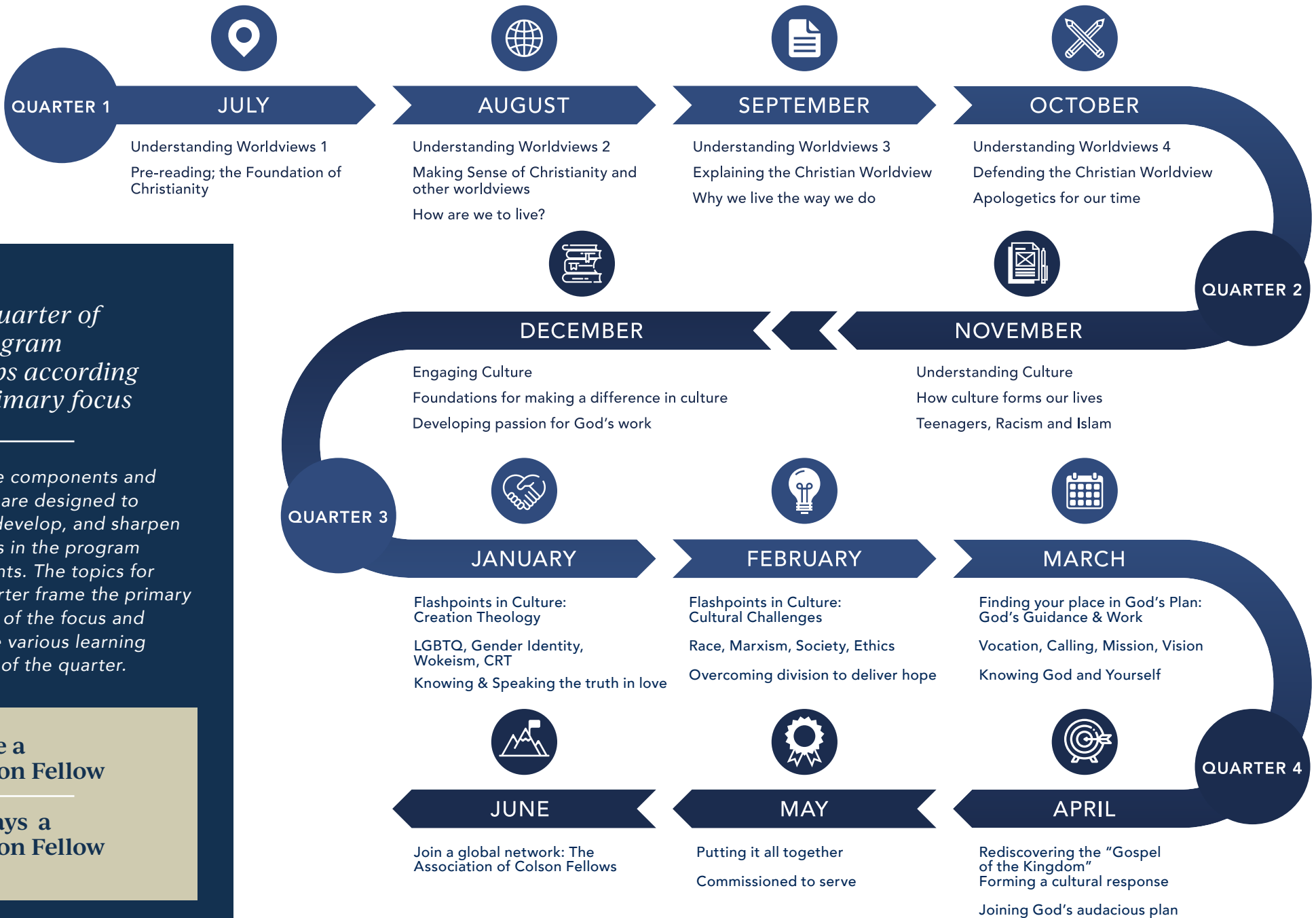
Quarter Three

From this understanding of worldview and culture, students can analyze and interpret current cultural “flashpoints” such as sexual and racial identity, same-sex marriage, religious liberty, and sanctity of life. Students will respond with theologically grounded responses aimed at making a positive difference in the culture around them.

Quarter Four

Students study the idea of calling and bearing the image of God by exercising dominion and care over God’s world and making it better through our creative attention. The program concludes with the development of a personal mission plan that puts into practice all that the students have learned. Upon commissioning, Colson Fellows go on to implement their plans through their vocation, ministry, church, or local community.





Each quarter of the program develops according to a primary focus

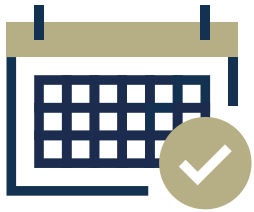
All course components and activities are designed to explain, develop, and sharpen that focus in the program participants. The topics for each quarter frame the primary elements of the focus and guide the various learning activities of the quarter.

Once a Colson Fellow

Always a Colson Fellow

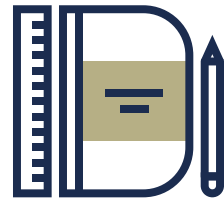
Course Components

Participants read the best books, watch thought-provoking videos, and interact with some of today's leading Christian worldview thinkers and practitioners. Students prepare and implement a teaching practicum based on one of the course topics. Finally, they will be assisted in developing a practical personal mission plan to apply their knowledge and passion within their respective sphere of influence.



DAILY DEVOTIONALS (MONDAY - FRIDAY)

Daily devotionals provide a scriptural thread weaving together the course components as students study the full-orbed story of the Bible that unfolds through four movements or chapters of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.



READING & DISCUSSION

Students read 12-14 books throughout the Program along with a selection of articles and essays. Monthly meetings allow students to discuss and process what they're reading with their fellow students and leaders.



VIDEOS

Cutting-edge videos serve as resources for discussion and teaching. The videos are intended to convey information as well as model approach, tone and attitude. Students are encouraged to pay close attention to what is said and how the speakers present their positions and respond to questions.



WEBINARS

Twice a month, students engage with leading Christian scholars and practitioners via webinar. Many of these leaders are the authors of books that the students are reading. Interacting with these leaders in real time deepens the experience with the most current ideas.



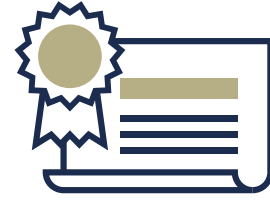
WORLDVIEW TEACHING PRACTICUM & PERSONAL MISSION PLAN

Students will develop a brief teaching practicum, demonstrating a specific depth of understanding learned during the course. Finally, the Personal Mission Plan aids students in discovering their particular purpose in God’s redemptive story and the development of a plan for following God’s calling in their lives.



MONTHLY MEETINGS

Students meet each month to review and discuss what they are learning with their fellow students and leaders to process what they’re learning in a friendly, energetic setting.



COLSON CENTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Colson Center National Conference is the climactic event of the year, featuring a stunning line-up of renowned speakers and the Colson Fellows commissioning ceremony. It also offers times to connect with other dynamic men and women who are changing cities, industries, and mission fields. Registration and travel costs are not included as part of tuition.



Colson Fellows Faculty



Dr. John Lennox
*Professor of Mathematics
University of Oxford*



John Stonestreet
*President
Colson Center*



Os Guinness
*Author/Social Critic
Oxford Scholar*



Paul Gould
Author



Alisa Childers
*Author
Another Gospel*



Jennifer Marshall
*Senior Fellow
Heritage Foundation*



Thaddeus Williams
*Author
Confronting Injustice Without
Compromising Truth*



Dr. Christopher Yuan
*Author/Professor
Moody Bible Institute*



Emily Colson
*Author
Colson Center*

Testimonials

From homeschool moms, public school teachers and college professors to pastors, CEOs, artists, and university presidents, Colson Fellows represent Christians from every walk of life who desire to understand the culture and know how to live and act faithfully within their respective spheres of influence.



“I am a homeschool mom. I don’t have a successful career, I don’t have strategic plans, and some days I don’t leave my home in pursuit of my work. My work is raising and teaching my three sons, caring for my husband, and keeping my home. I consider it a great gift and privilege. My time in the Colson Fellows Program has been a sacrifice for my family financially and in terms of time but the return on the investment is invaluable. I feel more equipped to answer the questions and face the trials and difficulty my family will face in the future than I ever was before by pointing my sons, always, back to their Creator and His purpose for His people and this world.”

Kathryn Miller



“The Colson Fellows Program is an incredible training ground for any and every Christian. Whether you are a new believer or have been following Christ your whole life, this program will take you deeper, give you answers, and teach you how to know truth. In today’s culture, we cannot afford to be biblically illiterate, or to live passively within our small faith communities. We have a call from God to partner with His restoring of all the earth; this is no small task, but includes the entire body, engaging culture in their spheres of influence. This call is accomplished through the power of God and the Holy Spirit, but we must do our part to prepare too. The Colson Fellows Program will help you do just that!”

Katherine Whelchel

“Prior to the Colson Fellows Program, I was the typical Christian who went to church, got baptized, and was sitting around waiting for heaven. The Colson Fellows Program pointed me to biblical truths that have shown me how I can be a part of the restoration of God’s kingdom right now. I don’t have to sit around waiting for heaven because I can be an active member of God’s kingdom here and now where God has placed me.”



Kylie Reed

“The Colson Fellows Program has helped me form my worldview by the story of reality the Bible describes (creation, fall, redemption, restoration), rather than being formed by the hopelessness that surrounds everyday American life. As Christians, we have a bright and certain future. Because we are secure in Christ, we can afford to put it all on the line to bring the good news, the Gospel of the Kingdom, to the world around us that so desperately needs reason to hope.”



Jack Bimber



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