

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE



Tiger Tracks

Studies and career options for
Hampden-Sydney students
interested in the ministry and
other faith-based service

*The critical thinking
skills espoused by
Hampden-Sydney's core
curriculum
teach students to
read, digest, interpret,
and speak to texts of
historical, literary, or
Biblical nature—
skills which come in
very handy in seminary
and as a minister.*

PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN The Ministry

DISCERNMENT PROCESS

- Identifying the Call – Ministry is not a career to be entered flippantly or without seriously considering the implications of a life dedicated to serving others.
- Understanding the Call – Research specific opportunities, discuss them with your trusted mentors, and pray or meditate about where your particular call may be leading you.
- Authenticating the Call – As you participate in potential ministry roles, seek feedback from people who care about you and be honest with yourself. Do you love this ministry? Does it satisfy you?

ACADEMICS AT HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

The Religion Department offers systematic religious inquiry in four areas: biblical study, world religions, Christian theology and ethics, and American and historical studies. But you do not need to be a religion major. Take classes that interest you. Here are a few areas to consider studying as you pursue your academic area of interest: public speaking, bible and biblical languages, classics, psychology as a social science, American history and religion, fine arts (theater, music), and current issues in theology.

ACTIVITIES AT HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

- **Beyond the Hill** – This Dean of Students program organizes service trips to Central America and the Caribbean for small groups of students over holiday breaks. Contact: Dean Klein
- **Community Service** – The many community service options on campus, in Farmville, and in Prince Edward County are organized through our volunteer coordinator, Karin Gollin.
- **Speakers** – Local and on-campus ministries collaborate each semester to bring alumni and guest speakers to campus to discuss careers in ministry.
- **Internships** – Contact Professor Hall for more information about the Religion Department awarding class credit for local internships designed to help students explore vocational ministry.
- **Local Churches** – There are dozens of churches from a variety of denominations within easy driving distance of Hampden-Sydney. Seek out opportunities to get involved in a local church.
- **Bible Study** – Join an existing Bible study on campus or consider starting one with younger students, your fraternity brothers, with guys on your athletic team, or with guys in your dorm.
- **Undergraduates Exploring Ministry Fellowship** – Contact Professor Utzinger to be nominated for this scholarship, which is funded by the Fund for Theological Education.
- **Theta Alpha Kappa** – This national honor society promotes the academic study of religion.

CAMPUS MINISTRIES AT HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

In large group fellowship and worship, small group study, or one-on-one mentoring, you can serve alongside people who have made serious commitments to lives of ministry and who will challenge you to grow in your own faith. Ministries include Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), Catholic Campus Ministries (CCM), Chi Alpha, Cogito, College Church, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), InterVarsity, Jewish Students, Johns Memorial Episcopal, Orthodox Christian Fellowship, Presbyterian Students, the Wesley Foundation, and Young Life.

SUMMER EXPERIENCE

Consider doing a practical summer project before making a multi-year commitment.

- **Mission Work** – Spend extended time serving the least and the lost where they are. Remember that while many mission trips take you abroad, many people are hurting in your own backyard.
- **Volunteer** – Seek out an opportunity to volunteer at your home church or at a local ministry. If appropriate, consider asking your pastor to let you shadow him for the summer.
- **Summer Camp** – Work at a summer camp will allow you to minister to kids all day long. Some camps have religious affiliations; others are directly sponsored by specific denominations.

ENTERING THE PROFESSION

- **Clergy** – Being a pastor, priest, rabbi, or imam typically requires a graduate divinity degree and may have additional requirements, depending on the local church or denomination.
- **Chaplain (Campus/Military)** – Can be a fully-ordained clergy member or an intern with a desire to serve young people by organizing weekly worship, small groups, and one-on-one mentoring.
- **Faith-Based Service** – Work with a church-based not-for-profit or community-building organization allows you to minister as a layperson.
- **Missionary** – Most missionaries work through denomination bodies. In addition to a heart for service, fundraising skills are required.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OPTIONS

Graduate schools for ministry are rigorous in a very different way from graduate schools for law or business. Ministry students study subjects central to existence, to their understanding of themselves, the world, and other people. Not all ministry positions require advanced degrees, and not all people who pursue graduate degrees in divinity choose careers in ministry.

- **Master's of Divinity (M. Div.)** – Often required for ordination, an M.Div. can be pursued at Divinity School at a large university or a free-standing Seminary.
- **Other Degrees** – Master's of Theological Studies (MTS—more academic than M.Div.); Doctor of Theology (Th.D.—advanced MTS); or Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.—for pastors or ministers).

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

Forming good
men and
good citizens
since 1776



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER '35
*20th-century Christian Philosopher
and Church Leader*

Famed theologian and a leading proponent of evangelical Christianity, propounding reason-based defenses of the faith, Schaeffer said he was inspired by J. B. "Snapper" Massey and Maurice Allan while at Hampden-Sydney. Graduating *magna cum laude* in 1935, he then studied at Westminster and Faith Theological Seminaries.

After serving several pastorates, he moved his family to Switzerland where in 1955 he would found L'Abri ("the shelter" in French), a worldwide headquarters for seekers and students interested in reconciling reason and faith. This Christian study center now has branches in eleven countries.

Schaeffer is perhaps the most prolific of Hampden-Sydney's many authors, having written some eighteen books. These and other works have sold millions of copies, been translated into twenty-two languages, and been produced as films and tapes. His book-and-video series *How Should We Then Live?* was widely acclaimed.

KIT MOORE '09

M.Div. Candidate, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey

At Hampden-Sydney, Kit majored in religion while taking as many music classes as he could. The summer before his senior year, he did an interdisciplinary research project, where he wrote a commentary on Romans 12:1-2, and composed and recorded music based on the commentary. Kit was also a founding father of Lambda Chi Alpha, a Sunday school teacher at College Church, and the treasurer for the Classical Liberals. Now he is pursuing new and creative ways for combining his loves for the banjo and the Church.



KENNETH MOOREFIELD '07

Farmville Young Life

While at Hampden-Sydney, Kenneth majored in religion and spent the bulk of his time outside of classes volunteering as a Young Life leader to help establish the ministry in Farmville and the surrounding areas. Upon graduation, Kenneth continued this work by taking a job as the Young Life area director for Prince Edward County and several adjacent counties. In this capacity Kenneth plans

club meetings, organizes bible study groups, leads prayer groups, coordinates volunteers, and plays the guitar during large group worship services.

MCKENNON SHEA '05

Director of Admissions, Duke University Divinity School

McKennon is a United Methodist pastor in the Virginia Conference who served in the local church before being appointed as the Director of Admissions at Duke Divinity School. He received his M.Div. in 2008 from Duke Divinity School after receiving a B.A. from Hampden-Sydney in 2005, majoring in Religion and Psychology. He and his wife, Anna, worship and serve with the Congregation at Duke University Chapel in Durham, and no, he cannot get you free tickets to a Duke basketball game.



THE REV. ALAN COMBS '04

Pastor, Lane Memorial United Methodist Church, Altavista, Virginia

A religion major, Combs was involved in WWHS, the campus radio station, and in the Wesley Foundation, the United Methodist campus ministry for Hampden-Sydney and Longwood. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at Duke Divinity School and then a Master of Theology Degree at the Communion of Saints. His studies focused on the gift of unity for which Jesus prays in John 17. Alan then

became associate pastor of Heritage United Methodist Church in Lynchburg before accepting his current position as Pastor at Lane Memorial United Methodist Church in Altavista, VA. He is an Elder in Full Connection in the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

REV. HENRY "CHIP" EDENS '92

Rector, Christ Church (Episcopal) in Charlotte, NC.

Chip majored in religion and was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity. As a senior, he organized the Special Olympics at Hampden-Sydney. Since graduating from Yale Divinity School in 1996, Chip has continued to take graduate classes at places such as Harvard, Stanford, and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Chip is the rector of Charlotte's Christ Church (Episcopal), one of the largest congregations in the state of North Carolina.



REV. JOSEPH H. METZGER III '84

Priest, Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, Norfolk, VA

At Hampden-Sydney, Father Joe was a 3-year member of the Honor Court, senior class president, and a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity. Graduated with a degree in political science, he then studied sacred theology and dogmatic theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy. Father Joe was ordained as a Roman Catholic deacon in 1990 at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, and as a priest at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond, Virginia, in 1991. He has been serving as a priest in the Catholic Dioceses of Richmond and Norfolk since that time.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH MEN LIKE THESE, PLEASE CONTACT MS. BECCA SNYDER IN THE CAREER EDUCATION ON OFFICE AT (434) 223-6105 OR VISIT WWW.HSC.EDU/CAREER-EDUCATION.HTML