Word of Life® Bible Institute

Dress Code

Dress and Appearance

Our approach to standards for dress and appearance seeks to honor biblical principles of modesty as humility expressed in dress and to provide general guidelines appropriate for a Christ-centered educational institution. The Bible Institute strives to maintain a standard of dress and appearance that communicates modesty and discretion without magnifying or bringing undue attention to the individual. The biblical expectation of modesty is that the conduct of both men and women, which includes but is not limited to dress, serves to enhance rather than detract from the reputation of the Gospel (1 Tim. 2:3–10; 1 Pet. 3:3–4). Manifestation of modesty includes seeking to adorn the Gospel by placing emphasis on the condition of one's heart expressed by living with humility in attitude, behavior, and dress (1 Sam. 16:7). Therefore, students are encouraged to portray servant attitudes toward Christ and other people in their dress and appearance. The specific guidelines included below are shaped by biblical principles and community preferences.

Men's Dress for Students

Men should be modest in their dress and avoid excessively tight-fitting clothes or holes in inappropriate locations. Hairstyles and fashion should avoid extremes. Facial hair, if worn, should be intentionally grown, neatly trimmed and shaped. Earrings and plugs may be worn in ears. No other facial jewelry is permitted. Clothing should not have slogans that are inconsistent with Bible Institute values.

- **Class Dress** is required in Chapel and class. Class dress should be neat and consist of footwear, dress pants or jeans with no holes, and collared shirts/sweaters. Hats or hoods should not be worn in class or Chapel.
- **Casual Dress** is acceptable any time class dress is not required. Casual dress consists of class dress and/or modest t-shirts, tanks (2-finger rule) and shorts (minimum 4-inch inseam), warm-ups, and footwear. Swimwear should be a modest swimsuit (shorts style swimsuit, not briefs).

Women's Dress for Students

Women should be modest in their dress and avoid revealing, sheer, excessively tight fitting or short clothing, and holes in inappropriate locations. Hairstyles and fashion should avoid extremes. Earrings and plugs may be worn in ears and small studs/rings may be worn in the nose. No other facial jewelry is permitted. Clothing should not have slogans that are inconsistent with Bible Institute values.

- **Class Dress** is required in Chapel and class. Class dress should be neat and consist of footwear, modest length skirts or dresses (top of the knee), dress pants or jeans with no holes (including capri/cropped pants), and dress shirts/blouses/sweaters. Hats or hoods should not be worn in class or Chapel.
- **Casual Dress** is acceptable anytime class dress is not required. Casual dress consists of class dress and/or modest t-shirts, tanks (2-finger rule) and shorts (minimum 4-inch inseam), warm-ups, and footwear. Leggings/Tights should have a skirt, dress, or shirt over top that falls to the top of the knee. Swimwear should be a modest swimsuit (one-piece swimsuit or the appearance of a one-piece).

Students are expected to abide by these guidelines both on and off campus when not on official school breaks. In addition, our campus culture supports the professional development of students and allows administration to communicate additional dress guidelines for special events and conferences. We also acknowledge additional guidelines for certain off-campus ministries and/or mission trips.