

STRONG.

Discovering Purpose & Potential in the First Year

At Belmont, we prepare you to “engage and transform your world,” and we know this depends upon a strong start. We want your first year to be a strong foundation for the life you are building and a strong statement about what that life is all about.

Specifically, we believe God has equipped you to pursue a particular purpose with unique skills, talents and dispositions. Our goal is to help you discover more of that purpose and to develop your unique potential during your first year at the university.

POTENTIAL.

IT'S NOT ABOUT BECOMING WHO YOU SHOULD BE; IT'S ABOUT BECOMING MORE OF WHO YOU ALREADY ARE...

Since we believe you are already equipped with unique skills, talents and dispositions, we know you have the capacity to do great things, but which things? That's the most important

question. We are convinced that your greatest potential lies in the areas in which you are already gifted— things like your ability to put ideas into words, your way with people, your eye for detail and organization, your ability to see the bright side of everything, your capacity to learn or to imagine the future, etc.

This might sound a little different from what you have heard before because much of your education and even personal development has focused on your weaknesses. They've revolved around the principle that pointing out and working on everything that's bad is the best way to ultimately become good, but good and bad aren't related that way. They aren't simply the reverse of each other. If you manage to reverse “bad,” you don't get “good.” You simply get “not bad.” After all that hard work, who wants to be just “not bad?”

We want you to achieve extraordinary goals and serve meaningful purposes. We work on weaknesses to prevent them from harming you and your plans, but we focus on strengths to make the biggest difference in you and the world.

STRONG

Specifically, we are convinced that your greatest success and fulfillment lies in identifying and making the most of the best talents and dispositions that are already built into you. Discovering these raw talents and developing them into reliable strengths creates a repertoire of “go-to” abilities that will define and distinguish your life and work. It’s what living into your potential means.

PURPOSE.

FINDING PURPOSE AT THE PLACE WHERE YOUR STRENGTHS AND THE WORLD’S NEEDS MEET...

We’re convinced that God created each of us for a purpose. We don’t know the specific purpose you serve, but we know it is bigger than you are, and it is going to take the best you’ve got. For this reason, it’s not enough to simply reveal and develop your own potential; it’s also important to discover and devote your strengths to a meaningful purpose.

The idea that you have a purpose to serve does not mean that there is only one job, one activity, one location or context for you. Quite the contrary, it means that individual jobs, activities and contexts are all part of a bigger, more important question of “calling.” What do you feel like you were meant to do with your life? What are you really all about? We want you to consider these things seriously now because getting a better sense of your own purpose in your first year of college prepares you to make better choices about education, occupations, relationships, and other commitments for the rest of your life.

We’re committed to helping you develop a sense of your purpose and to shape your life to live it out.

During your first year at Belmont, keep your eyes open for programs and opportunities that prepare you to get the most out of your time here, to make the most of the strengths God has given you and to give the most to the purposes you will serve.

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