

# Samford University

A NATIONAL PILLAR FOR EDUCATING  
WITH STRENGTH AND PURPOSE SINCE 1841





# realized

**To know that your talents are great—and that you are capable of even more.**

**To devote remarkable effort—and find remarkable delight along the way.**

**To invest in your whole self—and in the community that inspires you.**

At Samford University, we celebrate the gifts within you, and we help you sharpen them into extraordinary offerings to the world.

At Samford, your journey is rooted in faith, guided by deep learning and inspired by wise leaders and mentors. It's a journey we embrace together, bringing out the best in each other, step by step, chapter by chapter.

**This is what it means to realize your true potential.**



# excellence realized

The discussion is so riveting that no one wants to stop when the class adjourns, so you gather afterward with your classmates and professor. The ideas stick with you, driving you to keep learning, keep digging, keep striving. This is more than a passing interest; it's an untapped passion that ignites something within you. Your professor ultimately becomes a trusted mentor, inspiring new growth and opening your eyes to new possibilities. So you change course, switch your major and commit yourself to pursuing this path as far as you can.

This is what it means to realize excellence within yourself. At Samford, we believe that excellence isn't only about reaching the highest standard in everything we do. It's about finding joy in the process, even amid extraordinary effort. It's about finding the meaning within our pursuits. We study because true knowledge leads to wisdom. We cultivate skills so we can serve others. And we strive together because excellence becomes so much more powerful when we share it.



**DR. BARBARA CARTLEDGE**  
 SENIOR ASSISTANT DEAN  
 OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS  
 BROCK SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**CASSIDY GOBLE**  
 CLASS OF 2021  
 ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

## FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING

At Samford, your education begins with a firm foundation in the liberal arts—classes that help you build the essential skills of thinking critically and communicating clearly. Wherever you go, whatever you do, those strengths serve you well.

attention, supported by an average class size of 19 and a student-to-faculty ratio of 14:1. They help you gain the practical skills to succeed in a vast array of careers. They help you identify your passions, sharpen your gifts and turn your talents into valuable professional abilities.

Our faculty are leaders in their fields and passionately committed to your success. They give you personal

Along the way, the excellence you realize within yourself becomes an incredible contribution to the world.

### 180+ MAJORS, MINORS AND CONCENTRATIONS

Samford offers a depth and breadth of programs unmatched at schools of our size.

Find your major at [samford.edu/excellence](https://samford.edu/excellence).

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Samford’s close access to the bustling urban hub of Birmingham means you can begin your experiential learning right away. Students earn internships at financial and biomedical organizations that lead to job offers before they graduate. They perform and create in Birmingham’s

eclectic arts scene. They gain insights at nonprofits and ministries across the city. Most of all, they find that true learning never stands still—it leads ever outward toward new opportunities, new discoveries and a greater sense of the gifts you can offer.

**“My Samford professors are some of the most driven, compassionate and well-connected leaders I’ve ever met. Dr. Barbara Cartledge is consistently willing to meet for coffee, talk about faith and business and introduce me to internship opportunities. She exemplifies the highest ideals of a strong woman in business, and is an inspiring role model to me as I start my own career.”**

CASSIDY GOBLE

MEANINGFUL TRAVEL

Samford's beloved Daniel House in London gives students a home for life-changing explorations across England. Our research trips to the Caribbean island of Saba inspire students to make breakthroughs in marine biology. Our Global Engagement Office connects international students with Samford and provides more than 50 international study programs in 19 countries.

We provide carefully curated international programs that are rooted in our faith and mission. We give students the support they need to thrive during their travels, enabling students to experience new cultures as they cultivate their own excellence, both at home and across the world.

**AT SAMFORD,  
WE TRAVEL NOT  
ONLY TO DISCOVER  
NEW PLACES  
BUT TO DISCOVER  
OURSELVES ANEW.**



ANDRE'A ROPER  
CLASS OF 2021  
ENGLISH

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

Samford's service to our community arises from our faith and mission. It thrives because of the generosity of our students. And it bears fruit in countless forms, from urban ministry in Birmingham to ecological restoration across Alabama to mission trips across the globe.

Andre'A Roper ('21) joined Samford's Micah Fellows program, a four-year honors program grounded in the call of Micah 6:8 to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God. Andre'A used her gifts in communication at the Birmingham Education Foundation, working to improve schools across the city. Interviewing high school students helped her develop her journalistic research skills, and writing about their lives helped the city better understand the experience of its students. Along the way, she realized a new vision for her future in editing and publishing.

At Samford, we know that true service is never a one-way street. When done in love and mutual respect, it enriches everyone involved.

**“My experience volunteering reshaped my plan for my career. I knew I wanted to impact my community, and now I see I can do that through my professional skills. I feel grateful and humbled by the discovery.”**

ANDRE'A ROPER

A group of diverse young adults, including a Black woman in a black top, a white woman in a white dress, and a man in a blue shirt, are smiling and talking outdoors in a park-like setting. The background shows other people and trees.

# connection realized

**It starts on Move-In Day, with your RA and dorm-mates swarming your car, carrying your things to your new room and offering the warmest welcome you've ever received. It grows through Connections weekend, with one new classmate after another introducing themselves and telling you—with unmistakable warmth—that they're glad you're here. It continues all fall as new acquaintances turn into friendships, spontaneous gatherings fill Ben Brown Plaza and you gain a new awareness that these new classmates aren't just classmates—these are friends and companions for life.**

This is what it means to realize true connection within your community. Community isn't just an idea at Samford; it's the rhythm of our lives. It's spirit that unites us. By committing to our shared well-being, we find ways to celebrate our differences, overcome challenges and invest in our mutual growth. It makes us all stronger.

## LASTING BONDS

True friendship runs deeper than being classmates, roommates or teammates. True friendship speaks to an essential part of all of us, reminding us that we are created for relationship. True friendship brings joy and delight. It brings distinction and strength.

That's why Greek life at Samford is like nowhere else. It's why our student organizations bring students together around a broad range of interests. We create a caring, accepting community because we are enriched by each other. And we gather because we become something greater than the sum of our parts.

**OUR RELATIONSHIPS GIVE US MEANING, AND OUR FRIENDSHIPS SUSTAIN US FOR A LIFETIME.**

**14**

**FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES**

Our Greek organizations commit to your full development as a person. They focus on service, leadership, character and—most of all—bringing out the best in each other as we forge connections that last for life.

See them all at [samford.edu/greeklife](http://samford.edu/greeklife).

**166**

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Our undergraduate and graduate students lead a vast collection of professional, religious, cultural and social organizations that invite you to develop your interests and form powerful connections.

See them all at [samford.edu/go/clubs](http://samford.edu/go/clubs).

UNFORGETTABLE TRADITIONS

There's a reason we have so many distinctive traditions at Samford. They connect us to a deep and enduring legacy that stretches back more than 175 years. They summon something noble in us—even when they involve the ridiculous costumes of Step Sing, our annual dance competition. And they create lifelong bonds, forged in the shared experience of giving our all together.

**YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR CITY**

Concert and back-to-school festivities on a beautiful summer evening.

**FAMILY WEEKEND**

Samford families gathering from all over to share their pride and build new memories.

**TAILGATING**

The smell and taste of victory—and delicious barbecue on the quad.

**HOMECOMING**

Reunion, reconnection, celebration and football, for more than 150 years.

**HANGING OF THE GREEN AND LIGHTING OF THE WAY**

Sacred music and Christmastime beauty lighting up Centennial Walk.

**STEP SING**

Choreographed dancing showing our best moves. Samford at its most colorful.

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SOUTHERN  
CONFERENCE  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SINCE JOINING  
IN 2008

16

CLUB AND  
INTRAMURAL  
SPORTS

17

NCAA DIVISION I  
SPORTS

MEN'S

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Tennis
- Track & Field (Indoor)
- Track & Field (Outdoor)

WOMEN'S

- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track & Field (Indoor)
- Track & Field (Outdoor)
- Volleyball

## PASSIONATE COMPETITORS

From our NCAA Division I varsity teams to the 9 intramural and 7 club sports that welcome students of all levels, we find in athletics a source of pride, delight and shared dedication. In every training session, every rally and every victory, we join together in spurring each other to a higher level of achievement.



**You always knew you wanted to be a doctor, and now you finally know why. It happens in chapel, where John Donne's words cut through the air and speak directly to you: "No man is an island." That's why you dive into your organic chemistry studies. That's why the road ahead through medical school fills you with hope. Because the welfare of one person connects to the welfare of all. There are countless ways to contribute to the healing of God's world, and medicine will be yours.**

This is what it means to realize true purpose within yourself. At Samford, we know that our ambitions are not for our own glory but for a greater good. For some, the discovery arrives during reflection or prayer. For some, it's a moment in class that gives shape to something you've long felt but never named. For all, it's a sense of clarity that gives direction to our drive. Realizing our purpose gives us strength. It gives us meaning. And it brings us together.

# purpose realized



**JEREMY TOWNS, M.D.**  
EMERGENCY MEDICINE RESIDENT  
FORMER NFL PLAYER  
FOUNDER OF RANSOM  
(RADICAL ATHLETE AND  
STUDENT OASIS MINISTRY)  
CLASS OF 2013  
SPORTS MEDICINE

## POWERFUL MENTORING

At Samford, you are never alone on your path of growth. We walk alongside each other, inspiring, challenging and reminding each other of the true purpose behind our ambitions.

That's how Jeremy Towns ('13) found success in both medical school and professional football. His dedication is remarkable. But if you ask him how he did it, he won't tell you about himself—he'll tell you about the people who mentored him.

First it was Coach Pat Sullivan calling to offer a scholarship to Samford. Then his professor Carol Ann Vaughn Cross, after he struggled on his first test, urged him to rise to the challenge. A doctor showed him how medicine could bring hope to communities. And an older teammate convinced Jeremy, an unbeliever at the time, to embrace his potential as a leader in Christ.

Through their guidance, his faith sparked to life, inspiring him to launch a ministry for student athletes. The group blossomed at Samford and spread to campuses across the Southeast. Jeremy's mission to witness to others sustained him as he overcame injuries and training camp cuts, persevering until he reached the field with the Buffalo Bills. He raised his arms in gratitude to his God and the people who brought him there.

Now he's thriving in a rigorous medical career, drawing strength every day from the sense of self he cultivated at Samford.

**“I left Samford with more than an education. I left with wisdom. Character can get you in doors that your achievements never will.”**

**JEREMY TOWNS, M.D.**

# LIVING FAITH

At the center of our mission, at the core our being, inspiring everything we do, stands our faith in Jesus Christ. Whatever our individual callings may be, we come together as a worshipping community, praying, serving and learning together. Our faith flourishes through the beautiful music of our praise bands, the eloquent messages of our leadership and the Office of Spiritual Life home groups and ministries that empower us to grow together. Even as we find our purpose in life, we step forward to serve others in love.

## SAMFORD UNIVERSITY MISSION

**Samford University nurtures persons in their development of intellect, creativity, faith and personhood. As a Christian university, the community fosters academic, career and ethical competency while encouraging social and civic responsibility and service to others.**





**It happens just before dawn. On a morning run, you're dwelling on the internship you've been offered—challenging, but potentially life changing. Your friends and favorite professor say to go for it, but you're not sure. As you pass Sherman Oak, the cool autumn air clears your head and the rhythm of your legs settles your mind. You bound up the steps of Centennial Walk when it hits you. Generations of Samford students have come before you, each taking their leap into the world. With the support of your friends and mentors, you can do it too. Just then the sunrise flares above Reid Chapel, brilliant and orange. You've got this.**

This is what it means to realize empowerment within yourself. At Samford, empowerment takes the form of deep confidence, hopefulness and powerful trust in the community that supports you. It's a feeling that makes anything possible. It's a feeling you want to share with others. Wherever your path is headed, you're ready to go.

# empowerment realized

## IMPACTFUL CAREERS

Your Samford education prepares you to rise in any career—including in professions that don't yet exist. In a complex, ever-changing world, these things will serve you well: foundational critical-thinking and communication skills, robust experiential learning and a passionate, wide-ranging Samford network looking out for you constantly.

Those traits propelled Whitney O'Steen-Loehr ('07) into the competitive field of sports-television production. Her drive at Samford as a student videographer—and a recommendation from a trusted professor—earned her a prestigious internship in New York. That led to positions at ESPN, CBS and NBC Sports covering Wimbledon, Monday Night Football and the Olympics. At each stop, she created meaningful stories about the human dimension of elite athletes, giving viewers a sense of the deeper quest behind each competitor they cheer on.

**“To me, success means never being satisfied with where you are in your craft but appreciating the journey along the way. Samford was a part of shaping me into the person I am today. It gave me the confidence to know that I may not have all the answers, but I can get them, and with that mindset I can learn to do anything.”**

WHITNEY O'STEEN-LOEHR

**WHITNEY O'STEEN-LOEHR**  
PRODUCER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR,  
LOEHR PRODUCTIONS  
CLASS OF 2007  
JOURNALISM AND SPANISH

# #1

IN ALABAMA

*(Wall Street Journal, 2021)*

# 95%

OF ALUMNI ARE  
WORKING OR  
IN FURTHER  
STUDY WITHIN  
SIX MONTHS

*(Class of 2020)*

# 54,000+

ALUMNI  
WORLDWIDE

# #1

IN THE SOUTH AND

# #2

IN THE NATION  
FOR STUDENT  
ENGAGEMENT

a key measure for how students  
are prepared for life after graduation

*(Wall Street Journal/*

*Times Higher Education, 2021)*

# 5,729

STUDENTS FROM  
47 STATES,  
WASHINGTON D.C.  
AND 30 COUNTRIES

## ENDURING LEGACIES

Since 1841, Samford has invited students to realize empowerment within themselves. For some, becoming a Bulldog means joining a legacy of grandparents, parents and siblings whose lives were transformed here. For others, coming to Samford means becoming the first in the family to attend college, blazing a path for others. For all, coming to Samford means joining a deep and enduring tradition that began long before you and continues long after you.

**We sit in the shade of trees  
we did not plant. We drink  
from wells we did not dig.**

TRADITIONAL PROVERB,  
FROM DEUTERONOMY 6

# it's your turn

**You come to Samford with passions and ambitions.**

**You come with talents and gifts.**

**Let's strengthen them together.**

**And see your true potential realized.**

FIND YOUR MAJOR • VISIT • APPLY

**Take the next steps to your future at**

*[samford.edu/realize](http://samford.edu/realize).*

REALIZE YOUR TRUE POTENTIAL  
AT *SAMFORD.EDU/REALIZE.*



Samford  
University



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