



Thomas Aquinas College
Summer Great Books Program
July 12 – 25, 2020
Student Information – Men

○ **Communication**

Students may use personal mobile phones for calling and texting.

- **In case of emergencies after hours, call (800) 634-9797 or (805) 525-4417 and press 1.**
- Email and internet access are available through College computers in the library.
- Mail should be addressed as follows:

Name of Student
c/o HS Summer Program
Thomas Aquinas College
10,000 Ojai Rd
Santa Paula, CA 93060

○ **Campus Arrival**

Students should arrive on campus on **Sunday, July 12.**

- If you are driving to campus, please plan to arrive between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- If you are flying in, please make every effort to arrive at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. College staff will make multiple trips to and from LAX over the course of the day. If you cannot schedule your flight into LAX before 3:00 p.m., please contact the Admissions Office at (805) 525-4417 or admissions@thomasaquinas.edu for information on alternative means of transportation to the College.
- **Summer Program staff will be at LAX until 3:00 p.m.** to greet students as they arrive at the baggage claim area and drive them to the College.

○ **Campus Departure**

- Students departing by car should plan to leave campus between 8:00 am and 12:00 pm on **Saturday, July 25.**
- For students departing from LAX, the College will provide transportation to LAX on Saturday morning. Please make every effort to schedule your departure flight between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.; the last van to leave the campus will depart in the early afternoon.

○ **Summer Program Staff**

In addition to the College faculty and admissions staff who run the Summer Program, current students and recent alumni serve on the program as “prefects.” They come from around the country and hold in common a deep appreciation for the College and for the intellectual life cultivated on the campus throughout the year. These prefects live in the residence halls with the students and join them in their day-to-day activities outside of class. They are also responsible for the comfort and safety of the students, and to ensure that program rules are observed.

○ **Campus Rules:**

Simply put, students are expected to be considerate of one another at all times. Dress, grooming, and language should reflect respect for others. Christian decency, neatness, and cleanliness are expected of all students both inside and outside their residence hall rooms.

The men's and women's residence halls are always off-limits to the opposite sex. The other residence halls on campus are also off-limits during the Summer Program. Dormitories will be locked at 10:30 p.m. each night — all students must be in by this time.

An important goal of the Summer Program is to provide an intellectually rich and stimulating environment in which students have the opportunity to get to know each other through conversation, both inside and outside the classroom. Our experience has been that electronic media can distract from meaningful conversation and building friendships. For this reason **we ask students to leave tablets, laptops, portable movie players, etc. at home.** Students may use their phones, etc., for music during individual exercise, but we ask that they not use them on the main campus grounds or in common social areas during the Summer Program.

Students may not leave the boundary of the campus at any time without prior permission of a Summer Program staff member. The lower campus is off-limits after dark. The civil law is to be obeyed on and off campus.

Due to COVID-19, this year's summer program staff and students will also need to comply with additional guidelines issued by state and local authorities. The summer program staff has worked hard to implement these guidelines in ways that will provide a safe environment, but that will also have as little negative impact on the program as possible. Notable among these are requirements that students and summer program staff remain on campus for the duration of the two week program, and socially distance, particularly while indoors.

California's climate, thankfully, is quite warm and pleasant in the summer months! With this in mind, we are working to move as much of the program's activities outdoors as possible. Sports, music, swimming and other such activities will remain on the schedule. It does appear at this time, however, that we may not be able to keep swing dancing on the schedule, and that students will need to wear masks during the classroom discussions. The College will provide transparent masks which will minimally impede discussions, though if students wish to bring their own, they may. One thing these changes have enabled is for us to add a number of activities to the schedule which we had not been able to in the past. This program promises to be a memorable one, in the best of ways!

○ **Dress:**

For the sake of formality in the classroom, as well as modesty, the College observes a dress code throughout the academic year, and during the Summer Program.

- **For classes, meals (except dinner), and Mass in the College chapel:**

Men wear presentable khakis or slacks (jeans or similarly casual pants, i.e. pants with pockets on the outside are not acceptable), collared shirts, and dress shoes. **Semi-formal banquet:** Students may wish to bring a suit or coat and tie for a semi-formal banquet at the end of the program.

- **For sports, recreation, and casual wear:**

Men wear jeans or shorts. Shirts are required at all times outside the dorms, except on the basketball courts. Shoes must be worn during soccer and field sports.

- **For study hall and Rosary in the College chapel:**

Men wear pants or jeans and long- or short-sleeved shirts. Shorts are not worn at these times.

- **Hiking & Water Activities:**

There will be opportunities for hiking and swimming in the College's spring-fed, concrete-lined (and clear!) ponds. Please bring comfortable hiking clothing, sunscreen, a beach towel, and appropriate swimwear.

- **Miscellaneous:**

Students will be provided with bath towels, washcloths, bed linens, blankets, and pillows. Laundry detergent, washers, and dryers are available for use in the residence halls, free of charge.

Students should bring:

- Personal toiletries
- Bible for seminars on the book of Genesis
Bibles will be available in the College Bookstore as well
- Sunscreen
- Beach towel
- Water bottle (please label with your name!)
- Thermometer for self-screening temperature
The College will be able to provide as needed

Students may also wish to bring:

- Mask(s)
- Spending money for bookstore purchases
- Camera
- Acoustic musical instruments

Thomas Aquinas College is not responsible for loss of personal possessions. The administration of the College has the authority to determine how rules are to be applied in specific cases. Thomas Aquinas College reserves the right to dismiss students from the program if necessary.