



The Constitution of Cru at Christopher Newport University

Revised Spring 2023

ARTICLE I—NAME

The name of this student group is Cru.

This student group is a student chapter (hereafter Chapter) recognized by Cru, a California nonprofit corporation with its principal offices in Orlando, Florida.

This student group has applied for and been granted Chartered status as a Chapter of Cru. As long as the student group fulfills the mission set for in the Charter, and otherwise remains in compliance with its obligations under the Charter, the student group has the right to use the name and materials of Cru that are designated for the use of Chapters within the Campus Ministry.

ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

The purpose of the Chapter is to build movements of people who are transformed by Jesus Christ. The student-led movement seeks to introduce students to Christ, help them to grow in faith, encourage them to passionately live life in a manner consistent with belief in the God of the Bible, and inspire commitment to advancing the purposes of God in the world.

ARTICLE III—STATEMENT OF BELIEF

The Statement of Belief for this organization can be found at <https://www.cru.org/us/en/about/statement-of-faith.html>.

ARTICLE IV—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Membership in this Chapter is open to any individuals officially connected to Christopher Newport University as students, faculty or staff as well as those from the community, such as alumni and staff members of Cru, as long as 2/3 of active members are currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate students.

Section 2.

We welcome and encourage everyone to be part of our movement and community, and do not restrict membership based upon race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical and mental disability, medical condition, ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship or veteran status.

Section 3.

A member may be removed from membership and lose the privileges of membership, including the right to attend meetings and events sponsored by Cru, under the following circumstances:

1. If the individual is causing overall disruption to the group, causing an obvious negative effect on the group as a whole.
2. If the individual poses a danger to other students.
3. If the individual's conduct rises to the level of harassment of another member of the group.

Under such circumstances, the Men's and Women's Care Coordinators will meet with the individual, share the concerns, and ask him or her to leave the group. The accused member may then request a hearing before the full servant team. The Care Coordinators will then call a special servant team meeting; they will hear from the accused member as well as other witnesses, confer, and make a decision regarding the accused member's membership rights.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 1.

The officers of this organization, forming part of the servant team (described in Art. VI), will serve as liaisons with the University. The officers of this organization shall be the following:

1. Men's Care Coordinator
2. Women's Care Coordinator
3. Logistics Coordinator

Section 2.

Officers are selected from the general membership and must be enrolled students at Christopher Newport University. Officers serve as representatives of the Chapter and organization of Cru, and, notwithstanding any other language in this constitution, as members of the servant team, must subscribe to the Statement of Belief.

1. Prospective officers must agree to lead the Chapter so as to carry out the mission of Cru and communicate its messages.
2. Prospective officers must also commit to lead Cru by fulfilling the following corresponding obligations:
 - a. Presenting the Gospel in a manner designed to lead others to examine, and to consider accepting the Christian faith as their own.
 - b. Teaching the Bible and using Cru materials to help believers to grow in their Christian faith.
 - c. Leading the members of the Cru community to live lives consistent with Biblical teaching as described in Paul's letter to the Galatians 5:13-26, and other similar passages of scripture.
 - d. Working in collaboration with the rest of the Cru leadership in guiding the Cru club in service to the University community, particularly seeking to care for those in need.

Section 3.

Term of office: An officer shall serve for one year from the start of his term or until his/her successor is appointed.

ARTICLE VI—LEADERSHIP

Section 1.

The leadership of the Chapter is made up of individuals selected, as set forth below, from the Membership.

Section 2.

1. Leadership team members must agree to lead the Chapter so as to carry out the mission of Cru and communicate its messages.
2. Leadership team members must also commit to lead Cru by fulfilling the following corresponding obligations:
 - a. Presenting the Gospel in a manner designed to lead others to examine, and to consider accepting the Christian faith as their own.
 - b. Teaching the Bible and using Cru materials to help believers to grow in their Christian faith.
 - c. Leading the members of the Cru community to live lives consistent with Biblical teaching as described in Paul's letter to the Galatians 5:13-26, and other similar passages of scripture.
 - d. Working in collaboration with the rest of the Cru leadership in guiding the Cru club in service to the University community, particularly seeking to care for those in need.

Section 3.

The leadership of the Chapter will consist of a leadership team, the size of which may vary from year to year based upon the size, needs and desires of the group. The leadership team may consist of both a small group of core student leaders and additional groups of leaders that provide direction for different aspects of the Chapter's purpose.

In addition, small group leaders will head discussion groups or Bible studies in a variety of locations and for various affinity groups on campus.

Organizational details of the leadership team are subject to change without amendment to this constitution.

Section 4.

The current leadership team selects new leadership each year, usually occurring in the Spring. Individual leaders may also be added to the leadership team throughout the year. All prospective leaders must subscribe to the Statement of Belief and Purpose Statement as stated in Articles II and III, notwithstanding any other language in this constitution.

The staff members of Cru serve an advisory role in the selection process, working with the current leadership team to consider and evaluate recommendations for new leaders. The leadership team will then select individuals, inviting them to take the new leadership roles. The leadership team will be responsible to see that all prospective leaders subscribe to the Statement of Belief and Purpose Statement as stated in Articles II and III.

Section 5.

Leaders may be removed from their positions based upon general consensus of the core leadership. Any member of the group may make a complaint against any leader, including a member of the leadership team. The leadership team will meet, confer with the Cru staff members for advice and counsel, hear from the accused leader (sometimes in a private one-on-one setting), and make a decision.

Misrepresentation of initial agreement with or a change in an individual's ability to subscribe to the Statement of Belief and the Purpose Statement of this organization shall be grounds for immediate removal of the leader by the leadership team.

ARTICLE VII—MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held to further the purposes of the Chapter. The leadership team, in consultation with Cru staff, shall determine the frequency, time and place, and agenda of the various meetings.

Large group meetings typically occur weekly during the school year, breaking when instruction ends and during school vacation periods. Small group meetings (Bible Studies, Discussion Groups) also meet weekly within the same parameters. Other meetings necessary to advance the purposes of the Chapter will be held as occasion warrants.

ARTICLE VIII—FINANCES

The Chapter may raise revenues through contributions, fundraising activities or by applying for school funds available to student groups. Dues shall not be charged to members for participation. Students, however, may be charged for such services as special social gatherings, retreats and conferences. The Chapter will hold to high standards of financial integrity. A member or several members of the leadership team will be responsible to carefully administer any school funds granted to the Chapter.

ARTICLE IX—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

This constitution may be amended by a general consensus of the leadership team.

Section 2.

Articles II and III may not be amended without express written permission of Cru.

Section 3.

All amendments, additions or deletions must be filed with the office of Student Activities and will become valid at the time of filing.

ARTICLE X – SIGNATURES

Presidents

Julia Knight, Anna Lynn Thornsberry, and Daniel Scofield

Created: *2/2/2014*

Amended: *4/28/2022*