

FINAL PROJECT

A top-down view of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with a frothy beverage, casting a dark shadow on the light-colored surface below. The shadow is shaped like a heart, with the cup's handle forming the left side and the foam inside the cup forming the right side.

FINAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

All schools conclude with the submission of a Final Project. The purpose of the Final Project is to give GoLife, GoBusiness, and GoCitizen students the opportunity to apply and demonstrate the principles you have learned throughout the course in a tangible way. This project is not intended to be merely an academic exercise but a chance to demonstrate the real impact and positive fruit that biblical principles produce.

Whether you choose to write an **ESSAY**, implement a **SERVICE PROJECT**, or complete a **CASE STUDY**, the focus is on practical application. By showing how what you have learned can be applied to real-life issues, put into action, and measured for results, you will deepen your own understanding of these Kingdom truths and inspire others to apply them in meaningful ways.



Option 1: Essay

Students may opt write an ESSAY as their Final Project. The essay must be between 750–2000 words in length, professionally presented, and display correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and formatting. It should thoughtfully and meaningfully incorporate relevant concepts and ideas from the course curriculum.

Please choose one of the following essay types:

1. WRITE A REFLECTIVE ESSAY on how the course has impacted your life and how you plan to implement some of the key principles. In considering your response, please incorporate impacts on your perspectives and relationships, as well as practical shifts in your daily life (family, business, etc.).
2. WRITE AN EDITORIAL OPINION PIECE on a current "hot topic" or global crisis, addressing it from a worldview perspective that incorporates presuppositional analysis.
3. WRITE A TRADITIONAL ESSAY on the topic of your choice, or choose from one of the following pre-defined topics:
 - *An issue a friend or peer has discussed in which their perspective is not biblically based*
 - *An evaluation of a current ideology from today's culture that does not align with the Bible*
 - *A strategic plan for revitalizing the values of your nation*
 - *An evaluation of an economic crisis from a biblical perspective*
 - *"What Is a Christian Business?"*
 - *"What is Success?"*



Essay Grading Criteria:

- COMPREHENSION & THESIS: The essay demonstrates the student's comprehension and synthesis of the curriculum and begins with a strong and easily identifiable thesis.
- ANALYSIS & APPLICATION: The essay illustrates analysis of the topic through the lens of biblical worldview and provides practical application of Kingdom principles, establishing their relevance to real-world issues.
- ARGUMENT & CONCLUSION: The major points clearly and effectively support the thesis with minor points strengthening the argument. The conclusion reinforces the thesis and summarizes how the evidence supports it.
- SOURCES & CITATIONS: The essay includes a bibliography citing research from 3+ credible sources relevant to the topic; all references, citations, and quotations are consistently documented using footnotes or endnotes. For reflective essays, sources may be drawn from the course curriculum and referenced by lesson number.
- FORMAT & MECHANICS: The paper is professionally presented, meets the formatting guidelines (750–2015 words), and is free from grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors.

Option 2: Service Project

Students may opt to implement a SERVICE PROJECT as their Final Project. The Service Project is a tangible act of service in the community that addresses a specific need, directly impacts identifiable individuals, and produces measurable results. You may partner with an existing organization, or it may be an independent project of your own design. It can be a new undertaking or something you are already involved with. Remember to filter the work through the lens of the course materials and principles.

A Biblical Approach to Service: Service to others flows from the character and nature of God; it is essential in the life of a Kingdom leader and a lifelong component of modeling Christ in our communities.

Service Project Overview: Prayerfully create or select a plan of service within your local community. Consider the needs around you, the resources and giftings you possess (Exodus 4:2: "What is in your hand?"), and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Present your project in a manner that may inspire and mobilize others to engage in similar acts of service.

Service Project Report Guidelines: Your final report should be organized into the six sections outlined below with a 1-2 paragraph response for each question or directive:

1. IDENTIFY THE NEED:
 - ☐ What inspired or motivated you to choose this service project?
 - ☐ Did you have existing relationships or connections with those involved?
 - ☐ What key issue or need is being addressed?
 - ☐ What is the potential impact if the issue/need is not addressed?
2. CREATING A PLAN OF SERVICE:
 - ☐ Describe the mission and goals of this project.
 - ☐ What solution is being implemented to meet the need?
 - ☐ How does this project demonstrate a biblical response?
 - ☐ In what specific ways will you personally contribute?
3. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:
 - ☐ Clearly outline 3-5 actionable goals that will guide the project's purpose and direction.
4. CREATING A TIMELINE:
 - ☐ Map out an overall timeline and key implementation steps for this project.
 - ☐ Detail the resources needed and how they will be acquired.
 - ☐ Note any ongoing maintenance or follow-up required for the project's success.
5. RESULTS & IMPACT:
 - ☐ Summarize your service project: include location, time invested, primary decision makers, the number of people influenced or served and how.
 - ☐ Describe the outcome, impact, and overall response to your efforts.
6. ANALYSIS & REFLECTION:
 - ☐ Did you stay aligned with your mission statement and accomplish your strategic objectives?
 - ☐ What lessons were learned, and what improvements and changes would you make for future undertakings?
 - ☐ Could this project be replicated or used as a model for others?
 - ☐ What biblical principles from the curriculum were demonstrated?
 - ☐ How did participating in this project affect you personally?

Service Project Grading Criteria:

- PROJECT OVERVIEW: The student's report is organized into the following six sections: 1) Identifying the Need, 2) Plan of Service, 3) Strategic Objectives, 4) Timeline, 5) Results & Impact, 6) Analysis & Reflection. Each sub-question/directive is addressed in a well-developed 1-2 paragraph response that clearly communicates the scope of the project.
- IDENTIFY THE NEED & CREATING A PLAN OF SERVICE: Sections 1 & 2 clearly identify the specific need being addressed, the motivation behind the project, and any personal connections involved. The mission and goals are well-defined, and the proposed solution is thoughtfully crafted. The project reflects a biblical response, and the student outlines their personal contribution with clarity and purpose.
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES & TIMELINE: Sections 3 & 4 clearly define three to five actionable goals that guide the project's purpose and direction. A project timeline is included that details key tasks, objectives, and resources from the planning stages through post-project assessment.
- RESULTS & IMPACT: Section 5 summarizes the execution of the project, including location, time invested, leaders involved, who was influenced or served, and how. The results demonstrate tangible impact and relevance to the community.
- ANALYSIS & REFLECTION: Section 6 provides a clear summary of the project's mission and a meaningful reflection on the project's overall effectiveness, identifying what worked well and what needed improvement. The student has demonstrated the application of Kingdom principles and provided meaningful insights relevant to others.
- KINGDOM INTEGRATION: The project is filtered through the lens of a biblical worldview. The student shows clear evidence of integrating Kingdom values into their service, including prayerful planning and Christlike leadership.



Option 3: Case Study

Students may opt to complete a CASE STUDY as their Final Project that examines a real-world problem or challenge involving an individual, business, or organization. The case study must identify the root issues underlying the situation, analyze contributing factors, apply relevant biblical principles, and reflect on the outcomes. It should demonstrate the student's understanding of key concepts and insights from the course curriculum.

Biblical vs. Secular Case Studies: It is essential to distinguish between the secular and biblical uses of case studies.

Under a *secular worldview*, case studies often serve as the primary source of epistemology (knowledge). This approach relies heavily on inductive reasoning: Data gathered from empirical studies is examined for patterns which are then generalized into overarching principles and extolled as best practices.

By contrast, a *biblical worldview* holds that the ultimate source of epistemology is Scripture, illuminated by the Holy Spirit. Empirical studies serve a secondary role; they may exemplify or illustrate biblical truths but are not authoritative in themselves. Best practices are deduced first and foremost from biblical principles, with empirical studies offering supplemental insight. Best practices based on empirical research are reliable only to the extent they align with the truths and principles of Scripture.

Case Study Overview: The Case Study does not need to have a positive outcome, as long as you can demonstrate what you learned from it. Tell the story in a manner that would be helpful to others facing a similar situation, paying close attention to timelines and how the decisions made affected you and/or others involved. Your conclusion should examine how all major parties were impacted, uncover the root issues and biblical axiomatic truths used in the solution, and explain what rules, guidelines, or safeguards have been established to prevent recurrences. To help guide the analysis, we recommend reviewing the **Overview of Problem Solving** and **The Seven Basic Rules of Problem Solving** charts found in your school manual's Appendix.

Case Study Writing Guidelines: Your case study should be organized into the five sections outlined below with a 1-2 paragraph response for each question or directive:

1. MAKE YOUR CASE - EXAMINE THE PROBLEM:

- ☐ Begin with a brief background on the individual, business, or organization.
- ☐ Present the problem or situation, including current symptoms, and how you became aware of it.
- ☐ Describe what has happened, who or what is involved (do not use real names), and any pertinent information that led to undesirable results.

2. IDENTIFY THE ROOT ISSUES:

- ☐ Analyze the symptoms and ask exploratory questions to discern the most likely source or root issue.
- ☐ Is the root issue relational, conceptual, or executorial in nature (or a combination of these)?
- ☐ Is there also a spiritual root issue tied to a biblical axiom or principle?
- ☐ Note that secondary issues or symptoms may require separate attention.
- ☐ Identify the biblical principles most relevant to addressing the root issue(s).
- ☐ Would all parties involved agree with your assessment of the root issues? Why or why not?



3. SOLUTIONS: PROCESS, ANALYSIS & APPROACH:

- ☐ Present ethically sound solutions to the root issue(s) grounded in relevant biblical principles.
- ☐ Perform a risk assessment: What are the risks in addressing the situation? What are the risks of doing nothing?
- ☐ Choose the best solution and explain why.
- ☐ Describe the process implemented to resolve the problem.
- ☐ What value or positive fruit can be gained from this solution? What opportunities or new skill sets may come as a result?
- ☐ Develop a tactical plan that includes strategic objectives.
 - ☐ What resources and people are required?
 - ☐ What jurisdictions are involved?
 - ☐ How much time is needed?
 - ☐ Who can add insight to the process?
- ☐ Describe the measures or systems put in place to prevent the problem from recurring.
- ☐ Reflect on how the situation was addressed in light of biblical principles and contrast this with a typical/worldly business approach.

4. RESULTS & IMPLEMENTATION:

- ☐ Present the results of the resolution plan.
- ☐ Assess how accurately the root issue(s) were identified and the overall effectiveness of the solution and tactical plan.

5. ANALYSIS & REFLECTION:

- ☐ What lessons were learned?
- ☐ What biblical principles does this situation highlight?
- ☐ What can others learn from this case study?

Case Study Grading Criteria:

- CASE STUDY OVERVIEW: The student's case study is organized into the following five sections: 1) Make Your Case, 2) Identify the Root Issues, 3) Solutions: Process, Analysis & Approach, 4) Results & Implementation, 5) Analysis & Reflection. Each sub-question/directive is addressed in a well-developed 1-2 paragraph response that demonstrates the student's understanding of key concepts from the course curriculum.
- EXAMINING THE PROBLEM: Section 1 clearly explains the problem or challenge, including its history, context, and the key individuals or groups involved.
- IDENTIFYING ROOT ISSUES: In Section 2, the root issues and biblical axiomatic truths are clearly identified and individually explained, demonstrating understanding of their causes and implications.
- SOLUTIONS: Section 3 presents an insightful evaluation of the case, accompanied by solutions grounded in biblical principles.
- RESULTS & IMPLEMENTATION: Section 4 thoroughly assesses the accuracy of root issue identification and evaluates the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the solution and tactical plan. It then reflects on these outcomes through the lens of biblical principles, explaining why the chosen approach succeeded or fell short.
- ANALYSIS & REFLECTION: Section 5 articulates a clear summary of the case, outlines what worked or didn't work, and offers meaningful insights relevant to others facing similar challenges.