Wake Forest President Susan R. Wente is known to ask, “What is expected of a great university?” This question turns into a call to action that inspires ambitious thinking for the greater good. That kind of thinking has guided our community-minded decision-making, which has taken root throughout our campus.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about that campus. I know the more you turn these pages, the more you will find to like.

› New academic programs created to meet the demands of a perpetually changing world.

› A commitment to community service that links our students to more than 100 organizations around our home of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

› Initiatives designed to address the most important thing any community should foster: the wellbeing of its members.

› A beautiful and perpetually active campus with more than 200 student organizations; dozens of intramural and club sports opportunities; outstanding Division I intercollegiate athletics; and more.

› An academic model of active, participatory, worldwide learning.

As you will see, in the Forest, we don’t stop planting “trees” or nurturing the ones already growing.

This is the part of the process when you become more acquainted with us; we look forward to an opportunity to learn more about you.

Eric Maguire
Vice President for Enrollment
The Big Picture

FOUNDED:
1834 in Wake Forest, North Carolina

TODAY:
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
(36.1352° N, 80.2790° W)

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT (Fall 2022):
5,446

MAJORS OFFERED:
52

MINORS OFFERED:
63
What sets us apart

Undergraduate students are immediately eligible for

Mentored Research
with 52% of faculty participating during the past five years

Less than 1% of undergraduate classes in fall 2022 had more than 50 students

97% of Wake Forest graduates find employment or graduate school placement within six months of receiving their degrees

Wake Forest has the only exclusively undergraduate Bachelor of Science Engineering program with a curriculum grounded in a liberal arts tradition at a

Research University
Test-Optional

Standardized test scores are optional in the admissions process and have been for more than 15 years.

68,648,118

Round-trip miles traveled by Wake Foresters studying abroad from summer 2014 through spring 2023. For a single traveler, that's 144 round trips from Earth to the moon.

Debate Champs

In 2023, Wake Forest won 3 national debate championships in one year.

For 60 years, students have researched, purchased and curated a nationally recognized Collection of Contemporary Art.

Venice, Vienna & London

Wake Forest owns and operates three academic-residential houses where students live and study with faculty in foreign countries.

National Pacesetter

in the education of leadership and character. Recent recipient of a $30 million grant, of which Wake Forest will allocate $23 million to other institutions to help them do similar work in their contexts.
Challenge is waiting for you in every corner of the Wake Forest experience.
The Engaged Liberal Arts

We refer to our educational method as the Engaged Liberal Arts. It is a highly inclusive, interactive and innovative model that asks a lot and delivers even more. Students do more than receive information; they collaborate and share. Likewise, faculty members are not moored to a lectern or an office; they ask their students for input, they cross lines of department and academic discipline, and they seek out ways to make everything more interesting and more relevant.

The commitment to educational intrigue flows in every direction. And in the past two years, that has meant the creation of new majors in African American studies; applied statistics; critical and creative media studies; and environmental and sustainability studies. New minors include African American studies; biomaterials science; and marketing communication.

When birds migrate, they can’t escape our students’ research-driven curiosity.
Every summer, more than 100 students conduct faculty-mentored research resulting in a formal presentation at Undergraduate Research Day, the Celebration of Collaboration held on Family Weekend. In recent years, participants have done their work in nearly 60 countries in addition to several domestic locales.

Shannon Brady, Assistant Professor of Psychology:

“I think one thing that’s special about Wake Forest is the way that it can create spaces for collaboration. People have been really interested in how they can help me remove the barriers to make the vision that I have possible.”

Monique O’Connell, Professor of History:

“I am able to bring my expertise as an historian to this group of engineers without necessarily knowing very much about engineering. And the engineering professors and students are able to bring their discipline-specific knowledge of engineering to a space in which we are investigating shared questions.”
Requirements, majors and minors

Wake Forest believes in a comprehensive education that prepares graduates to pursue a variety of career fields and to adapt and pivot when real-world circumstances require a change of path. Our model and curriculum educate the whole person and often help students discover interests they had never previously considered.

Over the past six years, 81% of graduates have declared a second major and/or a minor or minors.

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Foreign Area Studies

Italian Studies
Spanish Studies

Programs

Interdisciplinary Honors
Military Science
Self-Instructional Languages

First-Year Seminars

First-year seminars usually include 15 to 19 students, are taught by faculty from all academic divisions and ranks, and feature intense intellectual interchange – both written and oral – in a seminar setting. Students participate in critical thinking and analysis of arguments.

A Sampling of Seminars Offered in Fall 2023

Remote Work
Unraveling the Riddle of Russia
The Culture of Youth Sports
Translational Sciences Approaches to Coffee, Tea, Wine and Chocolate
Strategy Strikes Back
Fintech and Biophysics
Revisiting Brown v. Board of Education
Time. Travel. Fiction.
Monsters: Structural Injustices as Represented in Gothic Fiction
What Can Be Learned From a Children’s Book
Law and Literature
New thinking, the old-fashioned way

Wake Forest is historically known for its excellence in humanities and social sciences, and that respect remains. But tradition doesn’t prevent progress. Inspired by the needs of a changing world, Wake Forest has become a leader in science, technology and math.
Engineering

Our engineering program, which welcomed its first students in 2017, is dedicated to studying solutions for some of the world’s most pressing problems. In recent years, students have completed capstone projects involving a prosthetic heart valve for pediatric patients; design of electric-powered watercraft that benefit marine ecosystems; and finding solutions to property-damaging erosion 2 miles from the main Wake Forest campus.

The program is also far more diverse than its peers. Women account for 40% of our engineering graduates. The national average is around 25%.

Biomedical Sciences

The biochemistry and molecular biology program doesn’t just offer research; it requires it. And these opportunities are abundant in an environment that relishes challenges.

Similar opportunities are available through the chemistry major’s concentration in medicinal chemistry and drug discovery. Complacency is not in our DNA, which means the quest for new solutions is always in session.
Mathematics and Statistics

In line with projections that math-related careers will be among the fastest growing in the next decade, Wake Forest has added majors, minors and concentrations in recent years that prioritize solving real-world problems.
In the spirit of innovation, the new programs in biochemistry & molecular biology, engineering, and medicinal chemistry and drug discovery are housed in a facility that once served as tobacco warehouse space. They're a 13-minute shuttle ride from the main campus, but they're moored in our liberal arts tradition, which means they reach across the academic spectrum for ideas.
Pro Humanitate

Pro Humanitate is activated by the Office of Civic and Community Engagement, a bustling front porch of philanthropy. In 2022-23, OCCE partnered with 120 state and local agencies and organizations to improve lives in three main service areas: education equity; health and nutrition; and economic empowerment.

It achieves considerable impact by tapping into a student community that doesn’t have to be cajoled into service.

One example: More than 40% of undergraduates participated in one or both of the campus community’s two major cancer research fundraisers in 2022-23: Hit the Bricks, a daylong event in which participants run laps around the iconic Hearn Plaza; and Wake ‘N Shake, a 12-hour dance marathon.
“I do feel like I’m serving a larger purpose. I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity.”

Danielle Jefferson (‘23)
Twin City Harm Collective volunteer through Public Health AmeriCorps

With that kind of commitment in the DNA, Wake Forest is one of only two North Carolina colleges selected to participate in the Public Health AmeriCorps project, a federally funded effort that trains the next generation of public health leaders.

In all, 14 Wake Forest students were chosen for the inaugural effort in 2022-23. They were assigned to seven different organizations throughout the greater Winston-Salem region, and they pledged 900 hours of volunteer service apiece.

Among other duties, they dispensed medication, conducted lab testing, coordinated patient intake, wrote grants, answered calls from people battling drug addiction and stocked shelves. All of it was eye-opening.

Several participants have already indicated an intention to pursue further education in health fields.

“The mission of our office is to connect students with the community to make meaningful change. This program is a wonderful example of Pro Humanitate in action.”

Marianne Magjuka
Executive Director,
Office of Civic and Community Engagement
HIT THE BRICKS

Wake Foresters travel around iconic Hearn Plaza to raise money for cancer research. Running in circles never felt so good. Or did so much.

WAKE 'N SHAKE

The 12-hour dance marathon is the spring semester's cancer fundraiser. The annual totals of participants and dollars are music to our ears.
▲ PROJECT PUMPKIN
Local children happily descend on the Wake Forest campus for Halloween-themed entertainment and education to benefit initiatives that make learning fun.

▼ CAMPUS KITCHEN
Whether repurposing meals or making new ones, Campus Kitchen serves thousands of people in need every year. When Forest ingenuity meets food insecurity, humanity wins.
Leadership and Character

In the spirit of its motto, Pro Humanitate, Wake Forest is a national leader in the study of leadership and character and how those concepts impact the world. The commitment to leadership and character is evident throughout the academic and cocurricular experience and touches almost every student in one form or another. Examples include:

Courses in engineering, entrepreneurship, religious studies, politics and several other disciplines

Discussion groups

Guest speakers

Workshops and

Partnerships with the Office of the Chaplain; the Women’s Center; the Office of Diversity and Inclusion; the Office of Student Engagement; the Office of Civic and Community Engagement; and several others.
“An education that shapes the whole person is both necessary and desired in our world. The Program for Leadership and Character is vital to our ability to meet this moment and produce better leaders for a better future.”

Susan R. Wente, Ph.D.
President

“The Good Place” creator, Michael Schur, mixes comedy and ethics.
Express yourself

A thoughtful, real-world preparatory education covers a lot of ground. At Wake Forest, it includes a requirement to take at least one class in an arts-related discipline.

For many, a funny thing happens on the way to that forum: Students discover they like what they’ve learned and want to pursue it further. And that really helps explain why the arts thrive in the Forest.

An alumnus travels to La Biennale in Venice.
In 2023, students organized Wakeville, an interdisciplinary arts festival that ultimately involved hundreds of participants, at least 12 academic disciplines and every artistic talent under the sun, behind the mic, on the stage and on the surface. At its peak, Wakeville had something going on in nine unique venues across campus. A rousing success, it is expected to have an extended run.
Once every three years, a group of students travels to New York to buy art for the Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art. The initiative, the only one of its kind in the country, has one mandate: that the acquisitions reflect current American culture.
Go your own way

When, in the coming years, you come across a service or a product that seems brilliant and useful, you may be able to thank a Deac. The interdisciplinary entrepreneurship program combines a wide-ranging academic plan with cocurricular tools that put ideas into motion and solutions into the world. Here are just some of the recent fruits of students’ labors.

Facts

› Entrepreneurship has been the most popular minor at Wake Forest in nine of the past 12 years (2012-23).

› One of every 11 undergraduate degree recipients has declared the entrepreneurship minor in the past decade.

› In the program’s history, 78% of its graduates have declared their primary major in STEM, social science or humanities disciplines.
THREE STRANDS RECOVERY:
In seeing her mom struggle, Leah Wyrick (’21) developed The Resilience Bra, which mitigates mechanical difficulties and increases comfort for women who have already endured mastectomy surgery. The goal is nothing less than to improve the quality of life for cancer patients.

STORAGE SCHOLARS:
Sam Chason (’20) and Matt Gronberg (’20) are the chief organizers of a service that packs up student gear and stores it over the summer or until the student-owners need it again. Mark Cuban was impressed. Storage Scholars earned $250,000 of Cuban’s investment through an appearance on NBC’s “Shark Tank,” and it has expanded to serve 48 college campuses in nine states and Washington, D.C.
What began in the Startup Lab led to alumnae changing the ironing game.
NORI:
Annabel Love ('18) and Courtney Toll ('18) developed and marketed an iron that can iron, press, steam or steam-iron clothes while they’re hanging up, thereby freeing up surrounding space. Oprah Winfrey placed Nori, “iron” spelled backward, on her “Favorite Things” list for 2022.

“We believe the Wake Forest liberal arts curriculum breeds adaptable and well-rounded students who are ripe for careers in entrepreneurship. We count ourselves lucky for our Wake Forest start.”

Annabel Love ('18) and Courtney Toll ('18)
Founders of Nori
A library Unrivaled by Any

Z. Smith Reynolds Library has been named the nation’s top university academic library, an honor likened to an NCAA championship in athletics. But it isn’t content to rest on its shelves.

One of its large-scale missions is to serve as an academic community hub. As exams draw near, for example, staffers provide late-night meals for overstressed, undernourished students in an exam-preparation ritual known as Wake the Library! The meals have been supplemented, from time to time, by dance groups, ice cream and therapy dogs.

When not directly building community, ZSR is determined to advance knowledge. Staff librarians administer and teach one of the most robust elective, for-credit library instruction programs in the country.

› One in three graduates takes one or more of the program’s classes, which familiarize students with the process and resources of academic research and help them evaluate information’s credibility and value to specific projects.
Winston-Salem

Our home city combines the ease and sense of community found in a small city with the amenities and energy of a much larger metropolitan area – all conveniently located in the center of a state framed by mountains and the Atlantic coast. Whether you are looking for excitement, tranquility or anything in between, you won’t have to travel far to find what you seek.

Outside Is Always in Season
Wake Forest is located within minutes or hours of some of North Carolina’s best national parks, rivers, lakes and a wide variety of natural experience destinations.

Stay Entertained
Our home city complements campus activities with a vibrant downtown dining scene, live music, professional sports, historic museums, cultural festivals and much more.

City of Arts & Innovation
Home to both the National Black Theatre and Riverrun International Film festivals, Winston-Salem offers an eclectic and exciting mix of artistic venues, facilities, events and experiences.
WS★NC
Home to 250,000 friends and fans
“A region on an upward trajectory. ... a fertile land for entrepreneurs.”

Welcome to The Forest

The residential experience at Wake Forest

Our mission is to give you the freedom to be exactly who you are and to explore who you want to be while surrounded by the resources necessary for you to reach your full potential.

The Forest, our residential commons model, meets students where they are with support, encouragement and guidance. From day one, every student automatically belongs to a residential cohort within the broader Wake Forest community. Within each residence hall, these smaller groups are designed to connect students to each other, to residential and academic advisers, to Faculty Fellows, and to the many resources available to them as they navigate their new home.
We can help.

At Wake Forest, we are elevating the consciousness of care on campus. Students are ready to engage openly about mental health, and a new initiative, We Are Wake, meets that need.

We Are Wake teaches students, faculty and staff about what distress looks like in the Wake Forest community; when and where to find help; and how to implement effective responses when mental health concerns arise.

And it is steadfast. From that first, possibly cautious step into a residence hall to the joyful trot across the stage at Commencement, We Are Wake is there, backed by the belief that each of us has the capacity to learn. To notice. To offer support. To refer. To care.
The Eight Dimensions of Thrive

PHYSICAL WELLBEING
The intersection of diet, diligence and decompression

SPIRITUAL WELLBEING
Uniting beliefs and connection into a sense of something bigger than yourself

ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING
A new take on the 3 R’s – relaxation, reflection and restoration

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING
The ability to know your pressure points and defuse them before they hit you

INTELLECTUAL WELLBEING
Advancing from making observations to developing ideas

OCCUPATIONAL WELLBEING
In simple terms, the merger of work-life balance and fulfillment

SOCIAL WELLBEING
Finding the outlets that best meet your needs to engage with others

FINANCIAL WELLBEING
Achieving peace of mind and a piece of your long-term dreams
The physical hub of the effort is a recently renovated, nationally acclaimed facility. Every 68 seconds, someone enters the Wake Forest Wellbeing Center, seeking cardio equipment, weights, a climbing wall, and classes in standard exercise and self-defense.
Enjoy the four seasons of Wake Forest.
From day one

Office of Personal & Career Development

97% of 2022 graduates secured employment or graduate-school placement within six months of earning degrees.

Wake Forest was presented with the National Career Development Association’s Exemplary Center Program Award in 2020.
There are a lot of reasons that talented young people of character want to attend Wake Forest. Learning in depth about a particular topic. Understanding what it means to live in – and to contribute to – a diverse community. Seeing new places and experiencing new cultures.

These and other reasons contribute to another benefit: getting a job. And a second job. Starting a career. Changing careers.

Wake Forest’s Office of Personal and Career Development is a national leader. Here’s a sample of how and why:

Career coaches are assigned to work with students based on student majors, not academic class.

Staffers are available at least 20 hours per week to provide input on resumes, LinkedIn profiles, cover letters and social media posts.

Staffers conduct seminars on everything from salary negotiation to dining etiquette.

The support system includes funding for interview-related travel and clothing expenses for students who have financial need.

The engagement process starts when a student arrives, and it includes action plans for every stage of an undergraduate career.
All the world

Students and faculty visit South America to make a difference.
is a classroom

Wake Foresters, as is their custom, ventured to nearly three dozen countries to explore new lands, new languages and new learning in the summer and fall of 2022 and the spring of 2023.

Vienna (Flow House): Neighbors include the house in which Beethoven composed his Third Symphony.

Venice (Casa Artom): For more than 50 years, Wake Foresters have learned in a house on the Grand Canal, one of the world's most iconic locales.

London (Worrell House): A quick area tour will take you to places that have been home to the creators of James Bond, Winnie-the-Pooh and psychoanalysis.
Wake Washington

The Wake Washington Center at Dupont Circle opened in fall 2017 and welcomed the first cohort of the Wake Washington semester program. Students study and intern in the nation’s capital for the fall or spring semester while taking courses taught by a Wake Forest professor. Through opportunities including internships, networking and mentorship, Wake Washington students are able to combine theory and practice through experiential learning. With over 9,000 alumni, parents and friends in the metro area, D.C. often feels like an extension of campus.
Go Deacs!

There are 334 doctoral-level research universities in the United States. Of them, 70 play in the five most powerful conferences in major intercollegiate athletics. And of those 70, exactly one had fewer than 5,500 undergraduates in 2022-23.

You’re looking at it. And there’s a lot to see.
Coach Dave Clawson has overseen a renaissance of Demon Deacon football.

While placing among the nation’s best in academic performance, Wake Forest is one of only six Football Bowl Subdivision programs that have played in a bowl game in each of the past seven years and have won at least five of them.
2021-22
Football – ACC Atlantic Division Champions; Gator Bowl Champions
Men’s and Women’s Golf – ACC Champions

2022-23
Women’s Golf – NCAA Champions
Baseball – NCAA Men’s College World Series Semifinalists

10 NCAA Division I Team Championships and 10 NCAA Individual Championships All Time
The Screamin’ Demons, a collection of devoted fans, is the largest of the more than 200 student organizations on campus. The bonds between student-athletes and their fellow students are real because those competing in uniform are not here for our entertainment; they are us. One in every 14 undergraduates is an intercollegiate athlete.
Founding Member of the
ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE in 1953

Only school with fewer than
5,500 undergraduates to have won NCAA Division I Team Championships in

6 sports

CHAMPIONSHIPS WON:

3 MEN’S GOLF
1 WOMEN’S GOLF
3 FIELD HOCKEY
1 MEN’S SOCCER
1 BASEBALL
1 MEN’S TENNIS
55
ACC
Championships in 11 Sports

Only member of
ONE OF THE
NCAA’S 5
STRONGEST CONFERENCES
with fewer than 5,500 undergraduates in 2022-23

DEMON DEACONS

96%
NCAA-Measured Student-Athlete
GRADUATION RATE

TOP 20
in student-athlete community-service participation in each of the past two years according to NCAA partner Helper Helper
Never a dull moment

The Wake Forest campus has been called one of the nation’s most beautiful by several sources. But don’t let the fall foliage fool you. Beauty and bustle happily coexist in a place where more than 200 student organizations operate, seven arts venues host events, dozens of guest speakers visit each year and members of our surrounding community routinely visit for a variety of purposes.

There’s almost always something going on, and you don’t have to work hard to find it.

Among the most recent additions to the slate is Face to Face, a nationally acclaimed speaker event that has brought actors, activists, former presidents, musicians and others to Wake Forest for thoughtful, meaningful discussion. In several cases, speakers have held student-only events in addition to the main program.

The following are among those scheduled to visit in 2023-24: comedian, talk-show host and social commentator Trevor Noah; former Congresswoman Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.); and presidential historians Doris Kearns Goodwin and Michael Beschloss.
Within reach

Nearly 100 scholarships benefiting undergraduates have been created in just the past two years.

The average need-based debt burden decreased by 58% from the Class of 2014 to the Class of 2022.

48% of undergraduate students on campus receive some type of financial aid.

The average need-based scholarship at Wake Forest has doubled since 2013.
Wake Forest University is committed to attracting and enrolling a diverse student body whose members best represent our core values, regardless of financial ability. Finding students with a genuine enthusiasm for academic rigor, a passion for philanthropy and service, and a mind entirely unafraid of challenge and interdisciplinary exploration requires an unwavering dedication to removing the financial obstacles between deserving students and a Wake Forest education.

“My interdisciplinary education in international affairs has shaped my research on ethnic-racial identity in psychology and has allowed me to have conversations with researchers around the world in a way that would not be possible had I studied each of these subjects separately.

“With the support of Wake Forest and the Stamps Foundation, I have attended conferences in the U.S. and abroad to further develop my skills and understanding as a researcher. With these experiences, I know I want to pursue a career in global mental health.”

Tahjanee Givens ('24)
Fuquay-Varina, NC
International Affairs and Psychology Major
The process of applying to Wake Forest includes a few things to remember:
Test-Optional:
The decision on whether to send your standardized-test scores is yours alone. Submit your application at admissions.wfu.edu/apply.

Individualized Review:
Our goal is to get the clearest, most vivid picture of you as possible.

Early Action First-Gen:
First-generation college students may apply Early Action to Wake Forest University.

Deadlines

November 15
Deadline for Early Decision I
Deadline for Early Action application for first-generation students
Deadline for talent-based scholarship application
Deadline for merit-based scholarship consideration

January 1
Deadline for Early Decision II
Deadline for Regular Decision

We invite you to scan this QR code to request more information about Wake Forest. If you do, we know you will continue to see that this is a remarkable place.
For more info, visit
admissions.wfu.edu

Have questions about admissions?

@wfuadmissions

Check out our blog:
admissions.wfu.edu/connect/blog

See what our newest students are saying:

#wfu27

#wfu28

Connect with Wake Forest:

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@wfuniversity

@wfuniversity