About West Chester University

A comprehensive, multipurpose institution, West Chester University of Pennsylvania offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 100 subject areas, as well as certification programs. As the second largest member of the State System of Higher Education, West Chester offers a full and rewarding educational experience as well as reasonable tuition; the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides more than $5,000 toward the cost of each Pennsylvania student who attends.

With a rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, West Chester University was founded in 1871 as West Chester Normal School. Today, more than 13,800 students, along with 1,500 faculty and staff, study and work on the picturesque, 403-acre campus situated in the Borough of West Chester. Strategically located at the center of the mid-Atlantic corridor between New York City and Washington, D.C., West Chester is just 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.
The College of Arts and Sciences offers degree programs in the humanities, sciences, social sciences, and the arts – academic disciplines that have traditionally defined the well-educated person. The college is committed to providing high-quality, current curricula and offers bachelor’s degree programs, a broad range of minors, and general education courses for all majors. These subject areas give students the analytical and communication skills expected of every professional, providing excellent preparation for careers in medicine, science, communication, the arts, business, government, law, and many other fields. Many CAS departments offer internships to give students practical experience in their areas of study.

Faculty and students in the College of Arts and Sciences are engaged in a wide range of scholarly and professional activities. The college supports faculty and student scholarship, encourages faculty to bring their research into the classroom, and invites students to participate in these creative projects. To help in this regard, the College of Arts and Sciences has established an undergraduate student research fund to support their scholarship, creative projects, and travel to professional meetings. Details are available on the CAS Web site, http://www.wcupa.edu/ACADEMICS/sch_cas/.

More information on scholarships is available from the Undergraduate Catalog, which is on the University’s Web site, www.wcupa.edu, or from the scholarship Web site, www.wcupa.edu/giving/scholarships/.

**Facilities**

The University maintains state-of-the-art equipment in its many science laboratories (described on department Web sites), computer and language labs, geology museum, astronomical observatory and telescopes, planetarium, Darlington Herbarium, and Robert B. Gordon Natural Area for Environmental Studies.

**Career Opportunities**

The following are departments and programs of study within the College of Arts and Science and career opportunities students have pursued upon graduation. Degrees offered by each department on listed on the inside panel of this brochure. Additional information for each department is available through the College of Arts and Sciences Web site.

**American Studies:** historic preservation • environmental services • journalism • editing • museum management.

**Anthropology and Sociology:** archeological research • community services • law and law enforcement • market research • museum work • policy planning • human services • public health • cultural resource management.

**Biography:** education • environmental consulting • health care • law • pharmaceuticals • publishing • industrial, microbiological, biomedical, and biotechnology research. Graduates also can enter professional schools of medicine, dentistry, osteopathy, physical therapy, veterinary medicine, and physicians’ assistants programs.

**Chemistry:** education • forensic • toxicological and crime labs • chemical, drug, environmental, research, and scientific instrument companies. Students with degrees in chemistry also can enter the same professional medical schools as biology majors.

**Communications Studies:** sales/promotion, public relations, and training in businesses, corporations, government, and advertising agencies, as well as the entertainment industry • the media, including newspapers, TV, and radio stations, and with Web services.

**Computer Science:** programming • software development • database management • computer security • information and Web technology in business, industry, government, or education settings.

**English:** teaching • journalism • business • law • publishing • technical writing • advertising • public relations • writing for electronic media.

**Geology and Astronomy:** geoscience teaching positions (B.S.Ed.) • mineralogy, geochemistry, environmental industry, paleontology, resource management, environmental law (B.S.).

**History:** business management • documentary film production • historic preservation • law • journalism • library services • museum work • public administration • teaching.

**Interdisciplinary Studies:** While students cannot major in one of the interdisciplinary areas, they can supplement their studies with a minor in American studies, ethnic studies, Holocaust studies, Latin American studies, linguistics, peace and conflict studies, or Russian studies.

**Languages and Cultures:** banking • commerce • law enforcement • international business • travel • translation services • publishing • social services.

**RELATED STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

- **Academician Club**
- **Anthropology Club**
- **Arts Press (a literary fine press for producing handmade books)**
- **Darlington Biological Society**
- **Decallos (student publication of creative writing)**
- **Earth and Space Science Club**
- **English Club**
- **Forensics**
- **French Club**
- **German Club**
- **History Club**
- **Italian Club**
- **Linguistics Club**
- **Mathematics Club**
- **National Council of Teachers of English**
- **Philosophy Club**
- **Poetry Center (which sponsors yearly national Poetry Conference)**

**Facility**

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