

2. University Information and Institutional Policies, Procedures and Requirements

2.1. About Oglethorpe University

Atlanta's Liberal Arts and Sciences University

Founded in 1835, Oglethorpe University enrolls over 1,000 students representing 34 states and 28 countries. Oglethorpe is a member of the Annapolis Group, an organization of America's most selective liberal arts institutions. The University is consistently listed among the best colleges in the Princeton Review and Forbes and has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll since 2006.

Oglethorpe is located on a beautiful, self-contained Gothic campus near Atlanta's Buckhead neighborhood. The University offers small, personal classes in academically rigorous traditional undergraduate programs (including an individually planned major, which presents nearly endless options); one of the nation's oldest evening degree programs for working adults; a master of arts in teaching (M.A.T.) program; Certified Financial Planner certification; partnerships with 20 Atlanta colleges and universities, including Emory, Georgia Tech and SCAD; and signature programs and facilities, such as urban ecology, urban leadership, honors, the Oglethorpe University Museum of Art, and Georgia Shakespeare, the campus's professional theatre-in-residence. Oglethorpe participates in 16 varsity sports and is a member of the NCAA Division III Southern Athletic Association.

Make a life. Make a Living. Make a Difference.

Oglethorpe marries exceptional thinking with hands-on opportunities to explore and practice in one of the world's major cities. It is this marriage of ideas and opportunity that is the hallmark of an Oglethorpe education.

Every undergraduate student establishes an intellectual foundation for life through our unique Core curriculum—an integrated, sequenced and shared academic experience that creates a special intellectual community where important questions are examined across disciplines and from varying perspectives. Through this distinctively modern approach to general education, Oglethorpe students are then able to establish meaningful expertise in their major area of study through a more thorough understanding of themselves and the world around them. It is a transformative experience that inspires our graduates to learn for a lifetime.

Classroom education at Oglethorpe is strengthened through exceptional opportunities for hands-on practice. Atlanta is Oglethorpe's laboratory for real-world learning. Every OU student has the opportunity to build professional skills through internships in Atlanta, home to the third largest concentration of Fortune 500 corporations in the U.S. and over 1,250 multi-national corporations. All of our students make a difference, through extensive service learning and volunteer opportunities throughout the city. And they experience the world on our diverse multicultural campus, in our global city or through one of our enriching international study experiences.

A Bright Future

In 2010, the Board of Trustees approved a new ten-year strategic plan, The Oglethorpe Idea: Redefining Undergraduate Education through Unparalleled Engagement. It is centered on a clear vision:

“By 2020, Oglethorpe will be a university of first choice for exceptional faculty and students, where unparalleled engagement between the highest quality classroom learning and real-world application in the city of Atlanta and beyond, is our hallmark.”

In support of this plan, Oglethorpe has embarked on the most ambitious and successful comprehensive fundraising campaign in its long history.

The University’s strategic priorities are defined within five themes.

Engaged Life

Strengthen the curriculum to provide a superlative interdisciplinary foundation while connecting students to opportunities for deep experiential application.

Provide necessary support systems to ensure student academic success.

Engaged Living

Ensure that every student has the opportunity to complete one or more internships related to his or her field of study.

Prepare students to engage with a global society through the increased internationalization of our campus population and program offerings.

Engaged Difference

Enhance programs that educate students to be informed and active citizens.

Engaged Creativity

Build the arts into a signature program through the integration of our creative arts programs, including our renowned campus-based theatre company and museum of art, with distinctively excellent curricular and co-curricular programs.

Engaged Campus Community

Enhance campus infrastructure, facilities and programs to foster deeper connections among all members of our community.

These goals, accompanying strategies, and the fundraising support to execute them will enhance the financial strength of the University through the development of a stronger institutional identity and the resultant growth of enrollment so that Oglethorpe can continue to provide an exceptional education to its students. ([Back to ToC](#))

2.2. Mission Statement

Oglethorpe University provides a superior education in the liberal arts and sciences and selected professional disciplines in a coeducational, largely residential, small-college environment within a dynamic urban setting. Oglethorpe’s academically rigorous programs emphasize intellectual curiosity, individual attention and encouragement, close collaboration among faculty and students and active learning in relevant field experiences. Oglethorpe is committed to supporting the success of all students in a diverse community characterized by civility, caring, inquiry and tolerance. Oglethorpe’s talented, self-

reliant and motivated graduates are prepared to make a life and to make a living, to grow as life-long learners and to be energetic and intelligent contributors in a rapidly changing world. ([Back to ToC](#))

2.3. Goals of an Oglethorpe University Education

The curriculum, co-curriculum and extracurricular life are designed to develop the following:

1. The ability to read critically – to evaluate arguments and the evidence and to draw appropriate conclusions.
2. The ability to convey ideas in writing and in speech – accurately, grammatically and persuasively.
3. Skill in reasoning logically and thinking analytically and objectively about important matters.
4. An understanding of the most thoughtful reflections on right and wrong and an allegiance to principles of right conduct, as reflected by Oglethorpe’s honor code.
5. The willingness and ability to assume the responsibilities of leadership in public and private life, including skill in organizing the efforts of other persons on behalf of worthy causes.
6. An inclination to continue one’s learning after graduation from college and skill in the use of books, information technology and other intellectual tools for that purpose.
7. A considered commitment to a set of career and life goals.
8. An awareness of the increasingly international character of contemporary life and skill in interacting with persons of diverse cultural backgrounds. ([Back to ToC](#))

2.4. Accreditation

Oglethorpe University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC), 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; 404-679-4500) to award bachelor’s degrees and master’s degrees. ([Back to ToC](#))

2.5. Overarching Organizational Structure

The following organizational structure is based on a series of successive indentions as one moves down the organizational hierarchy. This listing is not an exhaustive roster of personnel. Rather, this structure is meant to provide current and prospective students, their parents, current, retired and prospective employees, alumni, community members, media representatives and other interested parties with points of contact for various questions, requests, comments, complaints, and so forth. The list is organized by job title, followed by the name of the person currently holding that position. After the name appears the individual’s Oglethorpe e-mail “alias” and contact telephone number. To convert the e-mail alias into a functioning e-mail address, the phrase @oglethorpe.edu must be appended. Also, every telephone number must be preceded by the area code, which is 404.

President: Dr. Lawrence M. Schall, LSchall, 364-8419

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs: Dr. Denise von Herrmann, DVonHerrmann, 364-8317

Associate Provost: Dr. Keith Aufderheide, KAufderheide, 364-8405

Chair of Division I (Philosophy, Fine Arts, and Communication and Rhetoric Studies): Dr. Seema Shrikhande, SShrikhande, 364-8891

Chair of Division II (History, Politics and International Studies): Dr. John Orme, JOrme, 364-8342

Chair of Division III (Natural Sciences): Dr. Roarke Donnelly, RDonnelly, 364-8401

Chair of Division IV (Behavioral Sciences): Dr. John Carton, JCarton, 364-8381

Chair of Division V (Economics and Business Administration): Dr. Lynn Guhde, LGuhde, 504-1179