ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The History

Oklahoma State University was founded on December 25, 1890, as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, just 20 months after the Land Run of 1889. When the first students assembled for class on December 14, 1891, no buildings, books or curriculum existed. Since its beginning as a land-grant institution, OSU has held true to the land-grant mission of instruction, extension and research.

In 1894, two and one-half years after classes began in local churches, 144 students moved into the first academic building, later named Old Central, which is still located on the southeast corner of campus and today houses the Honors College. In 1896, Oklahoma A&M held its first commencement with six male graduates.

On July 1, 1957, Oklahoma A&M College became Oklahoma State University. Technical branches were established in Okmulgee in 1946 and in Oklahoma City in 1961. In 1990, these two technical branches were renamed OSU-Okmulgee and OSU-Oklahoma City; and in 2008, OSU-Okmulgee was renamed OSU Institute of Technology. OSU-Tulsa was formed in 1999 from a consortium of universities that were originally established in 1982. In July of 1988, the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery (in Tulsa) became the College of Osteopathic Medicine of OSU. In 2001, it became part of the OSU Center for Health Sciences, which also has an affiliation with its primary teaching hospital—the OSU Medical Center.

OSU is located in Stillwater, a north-central Oklahoma community with a population of around 50,000. Stillwater is approximately 60 miles from the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metropolitan areas and is readily accessible from other major population centers by interstate highway and air. Stillwater added non-stop daily air service to Dallas in 2016.

The University has an enrollment of more than 34,500 students on five campuses. It offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in a large number of fields, as well as the professional Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees. Specialist in Education degrees are also offered in selected fields.

Although OSU is a large, comprehensive university, its size does not minimize the personal attention given to each student. The individual is more than just a number at this university. OSU encourages all students—when they first enroll—to identify the college in which they wish to major. Once a student has identified their major department, they become a very important individual to the faculty and advisers of that department. Because the average number of students majoring in any one department is less than 150, the student can count on personal attention in a friendly environment.

As a comprehensive land-grant institution, OSU offers students many distinct advantages. It has nearly four million volumes in the library’s collection; modern research laboratories and equipment; excellent physical education, recreation and student union facilities; more than 500 student organizations; nationally-recognized residence hall programs; outstanding cultural and athletic events; and nearly 50 nationally-affiliated fraternities and sororities that provide a stimulating educational and social environment.

The Mission

Proud of its land-grant heritage, Oklahoma State University advances knowledge, enriches lives and stimulates economic development through instruction, research, outreach and creative activities.

Student Profile

Oklahoma State University has a diverse student body. Students come not only from Oklahoma, but also across the nation and world. Of OSU’s more than 32,900 students, approximately 71 percent are on the Stillwater campus, including students at the College of Veterinary Medicine. The remaining student population is spread over the OSU system’s four other campuses: OSU-Oklahoma City, OSU Institute of Technology in Okmulgee, OSU-Tulsa and the OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa. More than 77 percent of the undergraduates enrolled are Oklahoma residents; 23 percent are out-of-state residents; and three percent are from more than 80 foreign countries. Of the undergraduate population, 51 percent are women and 49 percent are men. Domestic minorities make up approximately 32.5 percent of the undergraduate student body. The six-year graduation rate of full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students is 61.5 percent.

There are more than 4,000 graduate students throughout the OSU system. Over 3,400 of those students are on the Stillwater campus. Forty-eight percent are Oklahoma residents; 52 percent are out-of-state residents; and 22 percent are from foreign countries. More than 48 percent of graduate students are women and approximately 52 percent are men. Domestic minorities make up 20 percent of the graduate student body.

An annual report regarding gender equity in OSU’s athletic programs is available upon request from the Athletic Department.

Research

Research has been one of the three essential components of the OSU mission since the University’s inception. Research adds richness, depth and broader impact to the other mission components of teaching and outreach. In the sciences and engineering, basic research advances the frontiers of disciplinary knowledge; whereas, applied research improves quality of life and economic prosperity by bringing new products, processes and medicines to the marketplace. Research and creative innovations within the arts and humanities enhance how human beings view and understand the world we live in.

OSU’s faculty and students are engaged in research across the full spectrum of human endeavor and inquiry, including areas of state and national priority. In addition to disciplinary research in virtually all academic units on campus, OSU is strong in several areas of interdisciplinary research. Researchers in the food-energy-water nexus span agricultural innovation, nutrition, engineering, toxicology, geosciences, economics and the social/behavioral sciences. OneHealth is an interdisciplinary framework that recognizes the interconnections between human health, animal health and a healthy planet. OSU OneHealth includes research as diverse as veterinary medicine, ecology, psychology, exercise science and bioengineering—as well as basic research in the bench sciences. Unmanned systems research (including unmanned aircraft) brings researchers from several engineering disciplines together with experts in production agriculture, computer science, information systems and aviation education to create platforms, sensors, data management tools and new applications for this burgeoning field. Such interdisciplinary research strengths are enhanced
by big data solutions, including OSU’s high performance computing facilities and advanced analytical expertise.

The Division of the Vice President for Research administers research across the OSU System. The division is comprised of the following units:

The Research Administration office (research.okstate.edu) is responsible for research governance, operations and special programs including OSU Research Week, the Regents Distinguished Research Awards, the President’s Fellows Faculty Research Award, the Otto S. Cox Graduate Fellowships for Genetics Research and the Niblack Research Scholars program. Other areas administered by the office include conflict of interest, complaints of scientific misconduct, core facilities and facilities renovation/development programs, and the University cost-share and University start-up programs.

The Center for Strategic Proposal Development (csdp.okstate.edu) (https://csdp.okstate.edu) works closely with faculty, staff and administration across colleges and campuses at OSU to develop strong and competitive external funding proposals. An experienced grant writer is available to provide a wide range of pre-award services, advice and information to strengthen and enhance proposal quality.

The Office of University Research Compliance (compliance.okstate.edu) (http://compliance.okstate.edu) ensures OSU follows federal, state and University regulations that set forth requirements for certain kinds of research. Working through faculty committees, it oversees research involving human subjects, animal models, radiological materials, certain hazardous agents and recombinant DNA.

The Office of University Research Services (urs.okstate.edu) (http://urs.okstate.edu) is the document control center for the routing of all proposals and awards throughout the University. It provides support to faculty and staff (through information about funding opportunities, and training seminars); posts online research expenditures and abstracts; and provides guidance for compliance with federal export control regulations that govern the conduct of research and export of specific technologies that may have an impact on national security and trade.

The Division of the Vice President for Research is also home to two core research facilities. The High Performance Computing Center (hpcc.okstate.edu) (https://hpcc.okstate.edu) provides supercomputing services and computational science expertise that enables faculty, staff and students to conduct a wide range of focused research, development and test activities. Its main objective is to facilitate research and aid in educational advancement by integrating state-of-the-art high performance computing technology for multidisciplinary units across the OSU campus and throughout Oklahoma. The Oklahoma State University Microscopy Laboratory (http://microscopy.okstate.edu) is a multi-user instrumentation facility for materials research spanning from nanotechnology to biology and medicine. Analytical capabilities include microscopy via electron beams, force probes and visible light, as well as nanomechanical and nanotribological probes.

In addition to units within the division, the Vice President for Research also serves as the President of the Oklahoma State University Research Foundation (OSURF; osurf.org (http://www.osurf.org)) which handles technology development, transfer and commercialization on behalf of OSU. OSURF also manages several strategic resources that can connect OSU researchers to industry and other partners. The OSU Research Park is a 160-acre site uniquely designed for collaboration among tenants while providing custom facilities for technology-based or industry-driven companies in all stages of development. The Venture I building consists of OSU and private-sector labs while the Michael S. Morgan Business Accelerator Building is designed to support and serve as an incubator for technology-based start-ups. The Technology Development Center (tdc.okstate.edu (http://tdc.okstate.edu)) manages OSU’s innovative technologies and other intellectual property for the benefit of the University and the public. In carrying out this mission, personnel work with faculty, staff, administrators and students to protect OSU’s intellectual property and license it to commercial firms. Cowboy Technologies (cowboytechllc.com (http://cowboytechllc.com)) is a for-profit, limited-liability company within OSURF with the mission to be a catalyst for commercializing university inventions. The company goals run parallel with that of OSU’s land-grant mission of taking University research from “Campus to Community.”

Research Centers and Facilities

OSU has multiple research centers and facilities across the Stillwater campus and throughout the state.

The NSF Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program leads a statewide initiative that conducts cutting edge research while building Oklahoma’s talent pipeline in STEM fields (http://okpscor.org).

The Oklahoma Center for Respiratory and Infectious Diseases (ocrid.okstate.edu (http://ocrid.okstate.edu)) works toward understanding and treatment of a major health problem in the U.S.

The Center for Integrative Research on Childhood Adversity (circaok.com (http://circaok.com)), a collaboration between OSU and the OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa, is establishing the linkages between childhood difficulties and later physical health.

The Unmanned Systems Research Institute brings together researchers from all over the university and the state to advance unmanned aerial systems and related technologies and applications.

The Robert M. Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center provides large and small businesses, producers and entrepreneurs access to faculty and staff with expertise in business and technical disciplines. The FAPC seeks to develop successful value-added enterprises in Oklahoma.

The Helmerich Advanced Technology Research Center is a state-of-the-art research, development, testing and education center located on the OSU-Tulsa campus. Faculty from mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and materials science and engineering work collaboratively there on research and graduate education.

The Henry Bellmon Research Center houses six of OSU’s leading interdisciplinary research programs: synthetic chemistry, biodiversity, biophysics, photonics, bioforensics and biogeophysics. These are but a few of OSU’s research centers and facilities; for other examples and more detailed information, visit https://research.okstate.edu/center-institutes.html.

Outreach

Oklahoma State University’s long and proud tradition of excellence in international studies and outreach has its roots in the post-World War II era when U.S. President Harry S. Truman appointed OSU President Henry G. Bennett as the first chief executive officer of the Point Four Program. This program is known today as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Over the past half-century, hundreds of faculty members have served abroad on numerous projects sponsored by the United States Government and private foundations. Faculty members are increasingly engaged in research and outreach dealing with
international trade and development and have contributed extensively to scholarship on global issues. Dr. Henry G. Bennett's international legacy and OSU's long-standing dedication to international relations and outreach is evident in the university's continued international endeavors and significant international student population. The current OSU student body represents more than 100 countries in its academic instruction, research and service activities.

Cultural Enhancement

The OSU community recognizes the importance of providing programs that enhance the university experience for its students. With both ongoing and ad hoc programs, students can find a wide array of programs that enhance their educational experience and widen their perspectives on the world. https://outreach.okstate.edu/Cultural.vbhtml

Community Development & Technical Assistance


English Language Institute (ELI)
The English Language Institute was established in 1970. ELI's mission is to equip non-native speakers of English with the English proficiency, academic skills and cultural knowledge necessary to gain entrance to and achieve success at Oklahoma State University or any American institution of higher education. In addition, English language and culture programs can be tailored to meet the needs of educational institutions, businesses and government sponsoring agencies. Regularly enrolled OSU international students who feel a need for additional language study may enroll part-time in ELI as well. Institute students, who may represent as many as 10 or 20 different countries in any given semester, range from recent high school graduates to career professionals returning to school for master's or doctoral degrees. The ELI has three semesters: spring, summer and fall and offers mid-semester arrival in spring and fall. Classes offered include listening/speaking, reading, composition, grammar and optional electives. For more information, contact the English Language Institute, 307 Wes Watkins Center, 405.744.7519, e-mail to osu-eli@okstate.edu or visit eli.okstate.edu (https://global.okstate.edu)

Fulbright Resource Center

The Fulbright Resource Center assists students, recent graduates, faculty members, developing professionals and artists in pursuit of Fulbright Grants for international opportunities in research, study, teaching or creative activities abroad. The Fulbright Grant is a highly-competitive national award established in 1946 by Arkansas Senator J. William Fulbright to increase international understanding through educational exchange. Awards are offered annually for international travel and short- and long-term assignments in over 140 countries around the world.

Global Partnerships

Global Partnerships promotes international research, education and development on behalf of the Oklahoma State University and the state of Oklahoma through building worldwide linkages; pursuing and coordinating collaborative projects; and reaching out to state, national and international audiences. The unit assists the university in developing and maintaining overseas partnerships, creating new academic programs and in other aspects related to the globalization of the academic offerings of Oklahoma State.

Online Degrees, Certificates, and Individual Study Self-Paced Courses

OSU Online (http://osuonline.okstate.edu) provides flexible and convenient online college credit courses for today's busy student. Start or finish an undergraduate degree, graduate degree, or earn a professional certification. OSU Online brings OSU's tradition of excellence to students online, anytime, anywhere. Individual Study (http://is.okstate.edu) offers self-paced, online undergraduate courses that offer a flexible way to earn college credit while juggling work and/or family responsibilities. Individual Study courses are offered in a yearlong or semester format. Whether you are an OSU student who needs a course with a flexible schedule or an individual who needs an undergraduate course but does not wish to pursue OSU admission, or an active military member who is earning a college degree, individual study courses offer the same quality curriculum and course instructors with the flexibility to set your own pace. Students access courses in the OSU online classroom. Additionally, individuals without internet access can complete assignments, correspond with the instructor and IS staff offline.

Professional Development, Continuing Education (Non-Credit) and Certifications

https://outreach.okstate.edu/ContEd.vbhtml

Study Abroad/National Student Exchange

The Study Abroad/NSE Office coordinates reciprocal exchange agreements with 80 institutions in over 35 countries, as well as affiliated programs and the National Student Exchange (NSE). The office provides personalized advising on study, research, internships and service programs abroad. Academic support and pre-approval of courses to be taken abroad, along with support both during and after the international sojourn, are provided for interested students. Study abroad programs offer students the opportunity to experience different peoples, languages and customs and to gain essential global competence. OSU set a goal to provide every undergraduate student with a meaningful international experience prior to graduation, which study abroad can fulfill. Two one-credit courses are offered by the study abroad staff to help students maximize their experience abroad. The office also administers three Global Studies scholarships that serve as incentives for study abroad participation—the Provost's Study Abroad Scholarship, the Don and Cathey Humphreys Scholarship, and the Gerry Auel First Passport Grant.

UPAEP Liaison Office

The OSU-UPAEP Liaison Office is housed in the Wes Watkins Center and supported by the School of Global Studies. The office promotes bilateral exchanges between the United States and Mexico, increases in the number of OSU students studying abroad in Mexico and increases the number of Mexican students enrolled at OSU. The office also aids in preparation of exchanges with Mexican universities, provides professional contacts and serves as a local expert resource about Mexico.

Wes Watkins Center for International Trade and Development

The Wes Watkins Center for International Trade and Development (CITD) focuses on both international trade and international development on behalf of OSU and the state of Oklahoma. In the area of international trade, the CITD is part of the Oklahoma Small Business Development (OKSBDC) network and provides Oklahoma's small- and medium-
sized businesses with hands-on high quality and confidential one-
on-one counseling to help begin exporting or to expand the export of
goods and services. In the area of international development, the CITD
provides informational resources or special project development to
assist communities overseas with meeting basic needs for food, water,
education and health. Service projects have taken place in many parts of
the world, including Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe and Southeast
Asia. These development projects are chosen to provide assistance to
go-non-governmental organizations and as an opportunity for service
projects and experiential learning for OSU students. In addition, the CITD
is involved in international development projects providing technical
assistance and trade capacity building on export development for Small
and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), international trade and Customs policy
matters in areas such as Customs Reform and Modernization, Free Trade
Agreement (FTA) negotiation and implementation, and Trade Facilitation.

Office of Individual Study

OSU Individual Study undergraduate courses provide a self-paced,
independent, and online format for students with full-time work, family, or
military responsibilities. Students in-state, out of state or out of country
can choose either a twelve-month or semester-long format. The yearlong
courses have open start dates so students may begin a course anytime
they wish. Courses are delivered through the OSU learning management
system, Brightspace; however, students who do not have Internet access
can participate in courses using print-based materials.

Call 405-744-6390 or visit is.okstate.edu (http://is.okstate.edu) to
browse classes, tuition rate and enrollment information. For information
on all OSU online courses and degrees, visit osuonline.okstate.edu
(http://osuonline.okstate.edu), call 405-744-1000, or email
osuonline@okstate.edu.

Accreditation

Oklahoma State University is accredited by the Higher Learning
Commission (HLC). Programs within the colleges also hold area
accreditation. The HLC may be reached at:

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411
Phone: 800.621.7440/312.263.0456
Fax: 312.263.7462
info@hlcommission.org

In the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the
undergraduate program in biochemistry and molecular biology is
accredited by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular
Biology. The undergraduate forestry program is accredited by the Society
of American Foresters. The landscape architecture program (Bachelor
of Landscape Architecture) is accredited by the American Society of
Landscape Architects (ASLA). The landscape management program
is accredited by the National Association of Landcare Professionals
(NALP). The professional education program in agricultural education is
accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation
(CAEP) formerly named the National Association for the Education of Young
Children (NAEYC). Program approval has been granted to the early childhood education
program by the Oklahoma State Board of Education. The Early Childhood
Education program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of
Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Family and Consumer Sciences
Education program has been accredited by the Oklahoma Commission for

In the College of Arts and Sciences, the chemistry program is certified
by the American Chemical Society; the program in communication
sciences and disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic
Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; the School of
Media and Strategic Communications, which offers programs in
multimedia journalism, sports media, and strategic communication, is
accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and
Mass Communications (ACEJMC); the Clinical Laboratory Sciences
program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical
Laboratory Sciences; the Department of Music is accredited by the
National Association of Schools of Music; the program in clinical
psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association; and
the Department of Theatre is accredited by the National Association of
Schools of Theatre (NAST).

In the College of Education, Health and Aviation, the Aviation Management
and Professional Pilot options are accredited by the Aviation
Accreditation Board International (AABI). The counseling psychology and
school psychology programs are both accredited by the American
Psychological Association. The school counseling and community
counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of
Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). The school
psychology program is also accredited by the National Association of
School Psychologists. The Recreational Therapy Program is accredited by
the Committee on Accreditation of Recreational Therapy Education
(CARTE) through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health
Education Programs (CAABHEP) which is accredited by the Council on
Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The Recreation Management
program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks,
Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions (COAPT); COAPT which
is accredited by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
All Professional Education programs are accredited through the Council
for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) formerly named the
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

In the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, bachelor’s
degree programs are accredited by nationally recognized accreditation
organizations. Programs in aerospace engineering, architectural
engineering, biosystems engineering, chemical engineering, civil
engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, industrial
engineering and management, and mechanical engineering are
accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of
ABET http://www.abet.org. Programs in construction engineering
technology, electrical engineering technology, fire protection and safety
technology, and mechanical engineering technology are accredited by the
Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) of ABET, Inc.,
http://www.abet.org. The Bachelor of Architecture degree is accredited by
the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB).

Programs culminating in a baccalaureate degree in the College of Human
Sciences are accredited by specialized accreditation organizations.
The Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) has accredited the
undergraduate interior design program. The pre-production and the
production management apparel curricula is endorsed by the American
Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA) Education Foundation,
making it one of only 13 approved programs in North America. The
Child Development Laboratory is licensed by the Oklahoma Department
of Human Services (DHS) and has received a Three Star Differential
Quality Certification from the Department of Human Services. The Child
Development Lab School is also accredited by the accrediting branch of
the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
Program approval has been granted to the early childhood education
program by the Oklahoma State Board of Education. The Early Childhood
Education program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of
Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Family and Consumer Sciences
Education program has been accredited by the Oklahoma Commission for
Teacher Preparation in cooperation with the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Marriage and Family Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. The Didactic Program in Dietetics and the Dietetic Internship at OSU are both currently granted continuing accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, ph. 312.899.0040 ext. 5400.

The Spears School of Business is accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, which is the premier accrediting agency for bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs in business administration and accounting. AACSB International accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools, worldwide. Institutions that earn accreditation confirm their commitment to quality and continuous improvement through a rigorous and comprehensive peer review process. All Spears programs are AACSB accredited with the exception of the M.S. in Economics and the PhD in Economics which do not come under the AACSB’s scope of review. The School of Accounting is evaluated separately, and is fully accredited by AACSB. There are only 186 schools worldwide that have attained this status for both business and accounting programs.

The College of Veterinary Medicine is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association’s Council on Education. The Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory is accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, and the Boren Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association.

The animal care programs of the College of Veterinary Medicine, the College of Human Sciences, the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology are accredited by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International (AAALAC). AAALAC International is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs. AAALAC International accreditation shows that an institution is serious about setting, achieving and maintaining high standards for animal care and use and is committed to animal welfare in science. AAALAC International offers the only international accreditation for animal care and use programs, and it has become recognized around the world as a sign of quality science.

Programs at OSU’s branch campuses have also received accreditation from national agencies.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Center for Health Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association.

Programs at OSU-Tulsa are fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, carrying the same accreditation as programs on the Stillwater campus. Refer to individual colleges for the specific agencies.

Refer to the appropriate college sections in this Catalog for further information on accreditation of specific programs.

General Education

Oklahoma State University is committed to producing graduates who have a depth of knowledge in their major fields of study and a breadth of general knowledge to address issues in a complex society. OSU graduates have a mastery of a specific subject matter and solid, diversified general education. With a commitment to breadth in general education, the following philosophy was adopted in 2001:

General Education at Oklahoma State University provides students general knowledge, skills and attitudes conducive to lifelong learning in a complex society. Specifically, general education at Oklahoma State University is intended to construct a broad foundation for the student’s specialized course of study; develop the student’s ability to read, observe and listen with comprehension; enhance the student’s skills in communicating effectively; expand the student’s capacity for critical analysis and problem solving; assist the student in understanding and respecting diversity in people, beliefs and societies; and develop the student’s ability to appreciate and function in the human and natural environment.

General education courses are aligned with one of four content areas: analytical and quantitative thought (A), humanities (H), natural sciences (N), and social and behavioral sciences (S). In addition, OSU students must participate in an international dimension course (I) and in natural sciences courses that include a lab component and have a scientific investigation (L) designation. As of Fall 2008, all new students are required to complete a diversity (D) course. A course is qualified to be part of the general education curriculum if it meets the needs of students in all disciplines without requiring extensive specialized skills and satisfies all the criteria for a specific general education area. The criteria for each general education area follow:

- Analytical and quantitative thought (A) courses incorporate the study of systems of logic and the mathematical sciences and place primary emphasis on the development of the intellect through inductive and/or deductive processes. Their aim is broader than proficiency in techniques and includes appreciation of how the processes can supplement intuition and provide ways to analyze concrete problems. Goals of “A” courses are to prepare students to critically analyze and solve problems using quantitative, geometric or logical models; form inferences using logical systems and mathematical information and communicate them in writing; give appropriate multiple representations (symbolical, visual, graphical, numerical or verbal) of logical or mathematical information; and estimate, analyze or check solutions to problems to determine reasonableness, alternative solutions, or to determine optimal methods or results.

- Diversity (D) courses emphasize one or more socially constructed groups (e.g. racial, ethnic, religious, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation) in the United States. Goals of “D” courses are to prepare students to critically analyze historical and contemporary examples of socially constructed groups in American society or culture and the distribution of political, economic and/or cultural benefits and opportunities afforded to these groups; to understand how these groups relate to the student’s academic discipline and American culture; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

- Humanities (H) courses concentrate on the expression, analysis and interpretation of ideas and the aesthetics or values that have formed and informed individuals and societies; and emphasize diversity in the expression of human ideas and aesthetic or cultural values. Goals of “H” courses are to prepare students to critically analyze the relationships of aesthetics, ideas or cultural values to historic and contemporary cultures; develop an understanding of how ideas, events, arts or texts shape diverse individual identities; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.
• Contemporary international culture (I) courses emphasize contemporary cultures outside the United States. Goals of "I" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze one or more contemporary cultures external to the United States; understand how contemporary international cultures relate to complex, modern world systems; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

• Scientific investigation (L) courses include the equivalent of at least one semester credit hour of laboratory experience aimed at interpreting scientific hypotheses and emphasize scientific inquiry and experimental methodology. Goals of "L" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze scientific problems, formulate hypotheses, conduct appropriate experiments and interpret results; solve problems using scientific inquiry and experimental methodology; communicate procedures, results and conclusions to others; and demonstrate their understanding through written work appropriate to the discipline that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

• Natural science (N) courses feature the systematic study of natural processes, and the mechanisms and consequences of human intervention in those processes; and place primary emphasis on the subject matter of one or more basic physical or biological sciences in a broadly integrative fashion. Goals of "N" courses are to prepare students to understand the scientific inquiry process; critically analyze the physical world using the language and concepts of science; use the methodologies and models of science to select, define, solve and evaluate problems in biological and physical sciences; evaluate evidence, interpretations, results and solutions related to the physical and biological sciences; understand the consequences of human intervention in natural processes and mechanisms; and demonstrate their understanding through written work appropriate to the discipline that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

• Social and behavioral sciences (S) courses propose theoretical constructs to explain human behavior and society in social and/or physical environments; and are based on empirical observation of human behavior rather than the study of aesthetics, ideas or cultural values. Goals of "S" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze generalizations about society and explore theoretical structures; understand the role of empirical observation in the social and behavioral structures; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

Notable facilities include the Edmon Low Library, one of the largest in the Southwest, and Old Central, the university’s first permanent structure on campus. Lovingly restored, Old Central continues to hold court on the southeast side of campus as it houses the Honors College.

OSU boasts an extremely comprehensive Student Union. Thanks to a $63 million facelift, the Student Union offers greatly enhanced facilities and services to students. Campus Life is prominently located on the second floor, and dining options have been enhanced and expanded. The Center for Services to Students in the Union continues to house the Bursar, Registrar, Scholarship and Financial Aid, Undergraduate Admissions and the Learning and Student Success Opportunity Center in one convenient location. In 2016, the Student Union’s Atherton Hotel received a major renovation that enlarged its rooms and upgraded its accommodations.

In 2006, OSU launched its campus Master Plan 2025, calling for more than $850 million in projects to improve facilities in four areas: academics, student life, infrastructure and athletics. The historic, far-reaching plan continues to transform the OSU campus.

Newest Additions

The McKnight Center for the Performing Arts will be a world-class epicenter for the arts, attracting celebrated national and international programs featuring notable productions and artists. The New York Philharmonic will open the McKnight’s 2019-2020 season. The center will allow the university and the center’s supporters to express — and be recognized for — their passion for the arts on a global stage. The 93,000-square-foot facility will open in 2019 along the southwest corner of University Avenue and Hester Street, boasting 1100 seats in the Performance Hall and 250 in the Recital Hall. The 1,000-seat outdoor plaza will feature a massive, high-definition screen that can show events taking place inside the Performing Arts Center or telecast from around the world.

The new home for the Spears School of Business on Hester Street opened in spring 2018. The $72 million building is unique in design and shape, a “Crescent Masterpiece” that brings all of Spears Business together for now and in the future. Spears Business is designed to promote collaboration and hands-on, experiential learning to best prepare graduates for success in the modern workplace.

ENDEAVOR opened in fall 2018. The 72,000-square-foot lab in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology is the only one of its kind in the U.S. and is dedicated to immersive undergraduate learning experiences. It’s the glass-and-steel embodiment of a new era in undergraduate engineering learning, where walls no longer exist between disciplines, and individual expertise is melded into interdisciplinary teams. Donors paid for more than half of the $35 million cost to build it, and students changed their fees to ensure it would be staffed, accessible and open for their innovations.

The Michael and Anne Greenwood School of Music will be a premier music education facility that harnesses the synergy of research, talent and incomparable hands-on learning experiences available only at Oklahoma State University. The building is set to open in 2021, thanks to lead donors Michael and Anne Greenwood. The Greenwood School of Music’s proximity to The McKnight Center for the Performing Arts will amplify and leverage opportunities, including master classes, for students and faculty to interact with world-class musicians. Music laboratories, classrooms and teaching studios will be equipped with the latest technology for high-level studio production.

Athletic Programs Mission

Oklahoma State University is committed to providing regionally and nationally competitive athletics programs as an integral part of the overall educational mission of the University. Sponsored programs comply with the highest recognized standards of the institution and the athletic governing bodies. Intercollegiate athletics operate in harmony with the University’s stated mission and are committed to the intellectual, cultural, physical and social development of the student-athletes as individuals. Opportunities for student-athletes are provided without discrimination. OSU is a member of the highly competitive Big 12 Conference.

Facilities

The OSU campus is one of exceptional beauty with its many modified Georgian-style buildings set against immaculate landscaping. The main campus encompasses more than 200 permanent buildings on 840 acres.
Research
As a land-grant university, Oklahoma State is a leader in research of all kinds with the facilities to make that possible. The impressive Henry Bellmon Research Center opened in 2010. The $70 million building, the largest project in the state’s Capitol Bond Program, provides state-of-the-art laboratory space for a wide range of disciplines and encourages collaborative research. In spring 2015, OSU opened the Bert Cooper Engineering Laboratory for structures and materials engineering with a new geothermal systems for energy efficiency.

The Boone Pickens School of Geology broke ground on a new Gary F. Stewart Core Research Facility in 2017. The facility will serve as a “one-stop shop” for treatment, storage and analysis of core samples (cylindrical rock samples obtained by drilling), a needed service in the region. The building will include a grinding and polishing lab, thin section preparation, an area designated for coloring, porosity and permeability, significant layout and review space, as well as office space and a conference room. More than a repository, the facility will house active research, which already exceeds $3 million in funding. It will be located in the northwest section of campus, near the corner of McElroy Road and North Willis Street.

The Unmanned Systems Innovation Laboratory houses multi-disciplinary research and education programs for the Unmanned Systems Research Institute in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. The facility offers a recognized emphasis in instruction and research in unmanned aircraft systems and supplies hands-on analysis, design, construction and flight testing of UAS platforms. Students focus on projects that include flight testing and operations. Research opportunities include UAS design, aerodynamics, flight path management and airspace integration, sense and avoid, controls, structures, aeroacoustics, propulsion, communications and operations, and sensors and payloads.

Academics
Providing the quality facilities for a foundation of success for our students is an overarching goal at Oklahoma State. From smaller renovations to update buildings to constructing new facilities, academic buildings are well cared for as part of the overall building plan. The north wing of the College of Human Sciences building opened in fall 2016 and houses hotel and restaurant, design and other programs. Also in 2016, OSU opened a new veterinary medicine academic center and the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center.

OSU is building a modern Greenhouse Learning Center (http://www.hortla.okstate.edu/pdfs/dasnr-teaching-greenhouses-cfs) that will lead to better prepared career-ready professionals for the horticulture industry. It will include cutting-edge irrigation systems, intense climate and humidity control, and other technology standards in the horticulture industry.

In 2014, the Library Auxiliary building on the west side of campus opened to handle printed volumes and free space in Edmon Low Library to better meet the study and online research needs of today’s students.

OSU opened several renovated buildings in 2009. Thanks to a gift from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, OSU doubled the size of its School of Architecture building. Murray Hall, built as a women’s dormitory in 1933, was renovated to house seven departments from the College of Arts and Sciences. The North Classroom building, funded in part by the state’s Higher Education Capital Bond Program, opened on the north side of the Stillwater campus in 2009. The facility offers the latest in teaching technology and features an eco-friendly eatery.

Athletics
The renovation of the west end of Boone Pickens Stadium created one of the premier collegiate football facilities in the country. The university also completed several athletic projects north of Boone Pickens Stadium. OSU opened the Sherman E. Smith Training Center for indoor training and a new outdoor track in 2013. The Michael and Anne Greenwood Tennis Center opened in early 2014. The new tennis center features six indoor and 12 outdoor courts and is one of the leading collegiate tennis facilities in the country. It will host the NCAA Division I Tennis Championships in 2020.

One of the most tradition-rich programs in college baseball is getting a new state-of-the-art home. Construction is moving ahead on O’Brate Stadium, which is scheduled to open in 2020. The revolutionary facility features an expansive clubhouse and operations center, including a “training triangle” with an indoor facility, pitching lab and practice infield. The ballpark includes 3,500 permanent seats that can be expanded to 8,000 as needed.

Gallagher-Iba Arena continues to be a staple of athletics at OSU. In 2001, the university constructed the new Athletic Center on the site of Gallagher-Iba. The top of the original building was removed, and the Athletic Center was built completely over and around Gallagher-Iba, expanding its seating to approximately 13,600. Historic Gallagher-Iba continues to exist as the arena within the Athletic Center.

Women’s Soccer has a new home. In 2018, the Cowgirls played their first season in Neal Patterson Stadium. The $20-million project is a showcase for college soccer with club seats, plaza and upper bowl gathering areas and a north end zone terrace area and seating designed specifically for OSU students. Team facilities include locker rooms, meeting areas, kitchen facilities, sports medicine areas and equipment rooms. A crowd of more than 4,000 was on hand for the stadium dedication and initial match.

The OSU Cross Country Course is the home of the oldest cross country race in the country, the Cowboy Jamboree, which dates back to 1937. The course itself is grass, with wood chips making for a soft surface for the OSU harriers to train on year round. The course, which is undergoing its own renovations and improvements, will serve as a 2019 NCAA Cross Country Regional host and the site of the 2020 NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships.

Karsten Creek has been consistently ranked as one of the best college golf courses in the country and has hosted multiple NCAA events, including two national championship tournaments. Karsten Creek once again played host to the nation’s best with the NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Golf Championships in 2018.

Life
At OSU, we also have an eye on comfortable and convenient living, ranging from residence halls and transportation to incorporating art into the campus. The university has been on the forefront of replacing outdated residence halls with apartments and suite-style accommodations for nearly two decades. Multiple upgrades have opened, giving on-campus students new opportunities for better living.

University Commons, a traditional-style residence hall, opened for the fall 2015 semester. Located north of the Colvin Center on Hall of Fame Avenue, the facility was enhanced a year later with the nearby North
Dining Facility, which features seven distinctive dining choices that offer a focus on healthy, fresh options. The Colvin Recreation Center has seen major renovations and expansion in recent years. The facility was originally constructed in the late 1960s and needed modernization and more space. The updated facility was outfitted with an outdoor pool, climbing wall, expanded workout and locker space, and an indoor jogging track.

Parking and transportation have also seen significant changes in recent years. The Multimodal Transportation Terminal and 1,100-space Monroe Street Garage opened in the fall of 2009. The facilities provide a central point of contact for the various modes of transportation serving OSU-Stillwater and its branch campuses, as well as the community and surrounding areas. OSU has added two more multilevel parking garages — the Wentz Lane Garage opened on the southwest corner of campus in the spring of 2013, and the Fourth Avenue Garage opened in fall of 2016 adjacent to the McKnight Center for the Performing Arts. OSU has expanded campus bus service for both the Stillwater community and the OSU-Stillwater campus. To reduce energy costs and emissions, OSU converted its entire fleet of campus buses to compressed natural gas in 2010.

From stunning sculptures enlivening the Stillwater campus of Oklahoma State University to striking landscaping designed to welcome one and all, art is taking its place in the public realm — some of it in America’s Brightest Orange. President Burns Hargis and First Cowgirl Ann Hargis have been leading the charge, transforming the university into a regional cultural hub.

Under their leadership, the university has seen the installation of pieces from renowned sculptor Allan Houser; yearlong exhibitions by Bill Barrett; the commemoration of Nancy Randolph Davis, the first African-American to attend the university when it was Oklahoma A&M College; and many more. The sculptures co-exist with the brick-and-mortar architectural landscape and integrate art into everyday life. OSU opened its Postal Plaza Gallery in 2014 as the home of the OSU Museum of Art, showcasing the university’s extensive art collection and strengthening its connection to downtown Stillwater.

Infrastructure

OSU completed work on a state-of-the-art Central Plant to replace its inefficient 1940s Power Plant. The facility will reduce OSU’s environmental footprint, save energy costs and feature an 80-person classroom.

OSU is a leader in network computing resources. The university has applied the student technology fee in concert with other resources to create a second-to-none networking system on campus that includes new computer laboratories, high speed inter-laboratory connectivity and a virtually seamless interface to the internet across campus.

Improvements continue in the university’s outdoor spaces as well, and a landscape architectural master plan developed in 2010 is guiding those efforts. Major east-west streets Hall of Fame Avenue and University Avenue have been greatly updated, and the university has completed a total redesign and reconstruction of Monroe Street, which runs north-south through the heart of the campus. A series of landscape projects near student residential facilities have occurred in recent years. In the summer of 2005, the Edmon Low Library plaza was restored by installing a new surface on the main upper plaza and the lower area. Completed in 2013, Legacy Walk provides a scenic pedestrian thoroughfare in front of the library, connecting to Hester and Monroe streets. In the fall of 2016, OSU unveiled an impressive Welcome Plaza outside the southeast corner of the Student Union. The plaza is an inviting garden area featuring statues of a galloping mare and her foal.

Other facilities of note

Lake Carl Blackwell, located eight miles west of Stillwater, is owned by OSU. The area includes approximately 3,350 acres bordering the 3,000-acre lake that provides the water supply for OSU. It is also used for research activities in addition to being a popular regional recreational area.