



Purdue University

Website: <http://www.purdue.edu/>

Purdue University is a public research university and the flagship school of the Purdue University System. The university was first started in 1869 as a land grant university and is located in West Lafayette, Indiana. The first class in 1874 only had 39 students and six instructors. Since then, it has grown into a large public university with a reputation for excellence and affordability. The six instructors have increased to more than 2,500 faculty members, and there are about 40,000 students now.

Purdue is the second largest university in Indiana with 31,145 undergraduates and 8,552 graduate and doctoral students. Six percent of the full time students at Purdue are international students, making it the second largest population of international students at a public university in the United States. The international students are from 123 countries. More than 20,000 of the university's students are from Indiana.

Purdue University is a pioneer in the field of aviation. It has one of the most competitive aviation technology and aeronautical engineering programs in the world. The university was the first one to offer a bachelor's degree in aviation as well as the first university to have an airport. Additionally, 22 Purdue graduates have become astronauts including Neil Armstrong and Gus Grissom. Aside from aviation, the school is also known to have excellent programs in business, science, and education.

The university offers a variety of choices with more than 200 majors for undergraduates as well as more than 70 master's and doctoral programs. The most popular majors at Purdue University are aeronautics, business, communications studies, apparel and textiles, and architectural engineering among others.

The university has 13 libraries. Since Amelia Earhart was involved extensively in the university until her disappearance, the university has a large collection of her papers. The university also has archival materials from astronaut Neil Armstrong, chemist Herbert C. Brown, and playwright George Ade among others.

Purdue has 15 residence halls for undergraduates and graduate students. Even though the school is not in an urban area, the university itself has been compared to a city. The campus sits on 2,474 acres, and the university has an additionally 15,000 plus acres for industrial and agricultural research.

Purdue University has many student organizations where students can get involved—more than 850 organizations. Purdue's student newspaper enjoys the largest circulation of any Indiana college

newspaper. Purdue has the third largest Greek community in the country with 46 fraternities and 29 sororities. Approximately 5,000 students are involved in a fraternity or sorority.

The university has 18 NCAA Division I sports teams and was one of the founders of the Big Ten Conference. Purdue's sports include football, basketball, wrestling, volleyball, golf, and tennis among others. Football and basketball are the school's most popular sports.

Notable Purdue alumni include a number of astronauts as well as Pulitzer Prize winner Booth Tarkington, CEO Brian Lamb, and actor George Peppard. Purdue enjoys a reputation as being one of top public universities in the world for its focus on excellence in education and research.