University of Minnesota

Driven to Discover®

Freshman Preview

FALL 2020

COME CURIOUS
Curiosity is what drives us to discover. To keep questioning science, art, life, and opinion. To go beyond what we know. To uncover what we don’t. When you come curious to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, you’ll master the skills, learn the facts, and make the connections you need to explore the world, secure a job, and find your future. In fact, when you bring curiosity to campus, the first thing you’ll find is that you fit right in.

We embrace the four seasons at the U of M on all three locations of campus! Fall leaves and apples, crisp winter strolls, spring flowers, and summer hammocking.

Land Acknowledgment
The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is on the traditional homelands of the Dakota people. Minnesota comes from the Dakota name for this region, Mni Sota Makoce - the land with smoky or cloudy water.

**University of Minnesota**

FALL 2018 FRESHMAN CLASS

- 50.2% graduated in the top 10% of their high school classes
- 137 students were National Merit Scholars (The most among public universities in the Big Ten)

CLASSROOM SIZE

- 80% of U of M classes have fewer than 50 students
- 64% of U of M classes have fewer than 30 students

ENROLLMENT (2018-2019)

- Total freshman enrollment: 5,977
- All Undergraduates: 31,455

Freshman Retention

- 93% freshman retention rate

NOTABLE RANKINGS*

Among U.S. public research universities:

- Top College: “Rising star college” (Forbes Magazine)
- Best Value: (Kiplinger’s)
- 7th for annual giving (Top American Research Universities Report)
- 9th overall (Shanghai Jiao Tong University rankings)

*For a full list, visit z.umn.edu/AcademicRankings

**Great Academics**

- 3,100 faculty
- 900+ student organizations
- 180+ graduate majors
- 150 undergraduate majors
- 135+ minors
- 38 professional programs
- 25+ languages to learn

**Race/Ethnicity**

- All Undergraduates

- African-American: 6.1%
- American Indian: 1.4%
- Asian/Pacific: 11.9%
- Chicanx/Latinx: 4.7%
- White: 66.9%
- International: 8.3%
- Not reported: 1.3%

**Research**

“The U of M is among the top public research universities in the United States, and ranks 8th in research expenditures.”

(Top American Research Universities Report)
WHAT’S YOUR MAJOR?

As a freshman, you will enter one of eight freshman-admitting colleges. That means you can start connecting with peers and professors right away. You’ll also have an all-star support community with academic and career advisors.

FRESHMAN-ADMITTING COLLEGES

| CBS | College of Biological Sciences |
| CDES | College of Design |
| CEHD | College of Education + Human Development |
| CFANS | College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences |
| CLA | College of Liberal Arts |
| CSE | College of Science and Engineering |
| NURS | School of Nursing |

UPPER DIVISION COLLEGES

| CAHP | Center for Allied Health Programs |
| CCAPS | College of Continuing and Professional Studies |
| DENT | School of Dentistry – 1 undergraduate major |
| MED | Medical School – 1 undergraduate major |

Learn more at majors.umn.edu

MAJORS (*majors with an asterisk are available as a minor):

Accounting* CSOM
Acting CLA
Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics CSE
African American and African Studies* CLA
Agricultural and Food Business Management Premajor* CFANS
Agricultural Communication and Marketing CFANS
Agricultural Education CFANS
American Indian Studies CLA
American Studies* CLA
Animal Science* CFANS
Anthropology* CLA
Apparel Design CDES
Applied Economics* CFANS
Architecture* CDES
Art* CLA
Art History* CLA
Asian Languages and Literatures* CLA
Astrophysics* CLA, CSE
Biblical Studies* CLA
Biochemistry* CBS
Biology* CBS
Biology, Society, and Environment CLA
Biomedical Engineering CSE
Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering* CSE
Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering Premajor* CFANS
Business and Marketing Education CEHD
Cellular and Organismic Physiology CBS
Chemical Engineering CSE
Chemistry* CLA, CSE
Chicano and Latino Studies* CLA
Cinema and Media Culture, Studies in (Film Studies)* CLA
Civil Engineering CSE
Classics* CLA
Communication Studies* CLA
Computer Engineering CSE
Computer Science* CLA, CSE
Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature* CLA
Dance CLA
Dental Hygiene Premajor CLA
Developmental Psychology CLA
Early Childhood CEHD
Earth Sciences* CLA, CSE
Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior CBS
Economics* CLA
Electrical Engineering CSE
Elementary Education Foundations CEHD
English* CLA
Entomological Management* CSOM
Environmental Engineering CSE
Environmental Geosciences* CLA, CSE
Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management* CFANS
Family Science* CEHD
Finance* CSOM
Finance and Risk Management Insurance CSOM
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology* CFANS
Food Science* CFANS
Food Systems* CFANS
Forest and Natural Resource Management* CFANS
French and Italian Studies CLA
French Studies* CLA
Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies* CLA
Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development CBS
Geoengineering CSE
Geography* CLA
German, Scandinavian, and Dutch CLA
Global Studies* CLA
Graphic Design CDES
History* CLA
Human Resource Development CEHD
Human Resources and Industrial Relations* CSOM
Individualized Studies, Bachelor of CLA
Individually Designed Interdepartmental Major CLA
Industrial Engineering and Systems Engineering CSE
Interior Design CDES
International Business* CSOM
Italian Studies* CLA
Jewish Studies* CLA
Kinesiology CEHD
Landscape Design and Planning* CDES
Linguistics* CLA
Management Information Systems* CSOM
Marketing* CSOM
Mass Communication* CLA
Materials Science and Engineering CSE
Mathematics* CLA, CSE
Mechanical Engineering CSE
Medical Laboratory Sciences Premajor CLA
Microbiology* CSE
Mortuary Science Premajor CLA
Music* CLA
Music Education CLA
Music Performance CLA
Music Therapy CLA
Neuroscience* CBS
Nursing NURS
Nutrition* CFANS
Ojibwe Language CLA
Philosophy* CLA
Physics* CLA, CSE
Human Physiology CLA
Plant and Microbial Biology* CBS
Plant Science CFANS
Political Science* CLA

MINORS

Agronomy
Applied Psychology in Educational and Community Settings
Asian American Studies
Austrian and Central European Studies
Behavioral Biology
Bio-based Products Engineering
Business (see Management major)
Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology
Classical Civilization
Climate Change
Coaching
Comparative U.S. Race and Ethnicity
Corporate Environmental Management
Danish
Design
Dutch Studies
Ecological Engineering
Entomology
Environmental Geosciences
Family Violence Prevention
Fashion Studies
Finnish
Food Systems and the Environment
Forest Ecosystem Management and Conservation
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Studies
Geographic Information Science
German
Greek
Hebrew Studies
History of Science, Technology, and Medicine
Horticulture

PRE-PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PREPARATION

Interested in one of the professional fields below? Your advisor will help you select the courses you need to complete as prerequisites. You’ll choose an undergraduate major from the list above and prepare for graduate-level admission to the professional program while completing that bachelor’s degree. Graduate-level programs are a separate admissions process.

- Architecture
- Audiology
- Dentistry
- Education (Teaching Licensure)
- Graduate School (Master’s or Ph.D.)
- Landscape Architecture
- Law
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Medicine (Medical Doctor)
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Public Health
- Veterinary Medicine

Housing and Community Development Information
Integrated Pest Management in Cropping Systems
Interdisciplinary Design
Interior Environments
International Agriculture
Joint Military Science Leadership
Latin
Leadership
Lighting Design
Management
Marine Biology
Medieval Studies
Native American Environmental Knowledge
New Media Studies
Norwegian
Park and Protected Area Management
Pharmaceutics
Portuguese Studies
Public Health
Public Interest Design
Risk Management and Insurance
Social Justice
Soil Science
Sustainability Studies
Sustainable Agriculture
Swedish
Teaching English as a Second Language
Translation CSE
Urban and Community Forestry
Water Science

Product Design* CDES
Professional Journalism CLA
Psychology* CLA
Public and Nonprofit Management CSOM
Religious Studies* CLA
Retail Merchandising* CDES
Russian* CLA
Sociology* CLA
Sociology of Law, Criminology, and Deviance* CLA
Spanish and Portuguese Studies CLA
Spanish Studies* CLA
Special Education CEHD
Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences* CLA
Sport Management* CEHD
Statistics* CLA
Strategic Communication CLA
Supply Chain and Operations Management* CSM
Sustainable Systems Management CFANS
Technical Writing and Communication* CLA
Theatre Arts* CLA
Urban Studies* CLA
Youth Studies* CEHD
ACADEMICS

We ignite students’ drive to discover, preparing them to become tomorrow’s leaders and global citizens. The world needs to be fed, powered, governed, and inspired like never before. Real-life heroes need to step up to solve these grand challenges, and University of Minnesota professors and students are finding solutions one curious idea, incredible experiment, and groundbreaking paper at a time.

Will you join them?

Renowned Experts and Research Opportunities
You’ll have classes taught by National Academy of Science members, patent holders, researchers and published authors. Our faculty members are leaders in their fields, and they can’t wait to help you dive into your passion. Our student to faculty ratio is 17 to 1.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)
Interested in magnetic resonance imaging? Or personality assessments? No matter the topic, expand your curiosity with the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) where scholarships are awarded to undergraduates to start their own real-time research, with the support of an esteemed faculty member.

Freshman Seminars
Freshman seminars are an integral part of the freshman experience where students learn about niche, specialized topics in a small classroom environment of less than 20 students. Not only is the coursework fun, it also provides the opportunity to branch out on different subjects while integrating a tight group of other freshman into the larger university setting.

University Honors Program
A program that offers unique interdisciplinary experiences, research, collaboration, and the opportunity to graduate with Latin distinction (cum laude, magna, summa). Your honors advisor will help support you in becoming active in a community of engaged and curious thinkers.

When you apply for admission to the university, you are automatically considered for the honors program with no separate application required!

Renowned Experts and Research Opportunities

The University of Minnesota is a proud member of both the Big Ten Conference and Big Ten Academic Alliance. Along with our great academics, you’ll find exciting athletics, rich traditions, and a vibrant campus community. Learn more at z.umn.edu/bigten.

Ski-U-Mah
A University of Minnesota cheer from our school song, the Rouser. Because after we invented cheerleading (true story), we invented a word, too.

Rooted in Rivalry
The Big Ten Conference is known for its traveling trophies during college football season, and Minnesota plays for more of these trophies than any other school in the country! These include the Little Brown Jug (Michigan), Floyd of Rosedale (Iowa) and Paul Bunyan’s Axe (Wisconsin).

Top in Big Ten Opportunities and Academics
Ranked #2 in the Big Ten for 4-year graduation rates, it is no surprise that U of M students graduate with a well-rounded, quality education that prepares them to take on their future endeavors.

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The University of Minnesota is centrally located in the United States with flight times around 4 hours or less from each coast. You can reach campus within greater Minnesota with drives times between 2 - 4.5 hours. Once on campus, you can enjoy a traditional campus setting that is only a 15 minute train ride to downtown Minneapolis and 45 minutes to St. Paul!
LOCATION

The University of Minnesota is located between Minneapolis and St. Paul (also known as the Twin Cities). With a bustling downtown in each city, 18 Fortune 500 companies nearby, and the state Capitol a metro train ride away, you can have the best of big city opportunities with a traditional campus experience.

In fact, Minneapolis/St. Paul were named among the top 10 cities for young professionals (Forbes). Each year, many U of M students get great experiences through internships at these market leaders.

INNOVATION HUB
The Minneapolis and St. Paul economy thrives on innovation. As a top-tier research university in a major metropolitan area, the U of M fuels advances in healthcare, technology, and much more.

Our students, alumni, and faculty create jobs, businesses, and whole new industries by always letting curiosity get the best of them.

EXPERIENCE IT ALL
From concerts at First Avenue to the Guthrie Theater, you’ll have access to plenty of music, art, culture and sports to enjoy in Minneapolis and St. Paul. All are easily accessible from campus via light rail train.

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
The U of M campus is surrounded by student neighborhoods packed with coffee shops, restaurants, and performance venues. Whether you’re looking to kick back after a football game or see a show on Friday night, you’ll never be bored.

Learn more at z.umn.edu/greatlocation

MAJOR CITY ACCESS
Twenty minute walk to downtown Minneapolis

STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
offices nearby
for internships and jobs.

GREEN SPACE
The Minneapolis and St. Paul metro area features 19 lakes and the mighty Mississippi River.

MUSIC & CULTURE
Hundreds of world-class attractions, festivals, art, history and cultural museums, music venues, and theaters are in the metro area.

TOPICS TO THINK ABOUT
• What am I curious about?
• What are the topics I really enjoy, but can’t picture how they will translate into a career?
• What are some important factors I want in my college experience?
• How early can I get involved in research?
• What are the types of opportunities on campus (clubs, sports, jobs, etc.)?
• What support exists if I’m undecided about my major?

DRIVEN TO DISCOVER

We know that a college search can be an exciting time, but one filled with some uncertainty and questions. Use this page to write down your questions and what you experience on your tour at the U of M to help you figure out what school is the right fit for YOU! We're here to help answer your questions and support you.

Learn more at z.umn.edu/greatlocation

*Photo credit: Basilica Block Party; Copper Smith Photography, courtesy of Meet Minneapolis.
There are so many opportunities through campus and the surrounding metro area to experience, explore and enjoy. Your biggest challenge will be picking which ones to try.

Go Global
Broaden your world-wide view by experiencing new countries, cultures, and academic and career environments. The U of M offers one of the nation’s largest and most comprehensive learning abroad programs. With 250+ opportunities in 70+ countries, you can study, research, or intern abroad as part of your undergraduate studies.

Did You Know?
We offer 30+ Living Learning Communities where students live together in a dedicated area of a residence hall. Each is designed to deliver events and experiences to support students.

Lend a Hand
Volunteer in one of the states 2,200 nonprofits — lend your time to nonprofits through service learning, student organizations, and other opportunities at groups such as the Cookie Cart, Ronald McDonald House or the Friends of the Mississippi River. You’ll have the opportunity to give back while connecting with the community and gaining valuable experience along the way.

Join Something Great
Our campus community includes 200+ student cultural groups. Share in traditions, events, and programming hosted by groups like...
- American Indian Science and Engineering Society
- American Indian Student Cultural Center
- Asian-American Student Union
- Black Student Union
- Hmong Minnesota Student Association
- La Raza Student Cultural Center
- Multicultural and First Generation Students
- Queer Student Cultural Center
- Somali Student Association
- Women’s Center

Living Learning Communities
Live with a group of like-minded individuals who explore college, culture, and community together in a residence hall. With more than 30 to choose from, each LLC is designed to deliver a warm and welcoming on-campus living option. Many have a focus on diverse cultures and communities. A sampling of the LLCs:
- American Indian Cultural House
- CASA SOL
- Charlotte’s Home for Black Women
- Chinese Language and Culture House
- Tsev Hmoob (Hmong House)
- Huntley House for African American Males
- Lavender House
- MLK Beloved Community

Learn more about our multicultural campus at z.umn.edu/diversity.

Study Culture
You can study history, traditions, and community through our 15 cultural studies departments, 30 offered languages, 25+ language and culture majors, and 36 minors. For example, the Department of African American and African Studies and the Chicano and Latino Studies Department were born from student protests and the Civil Rights era. In addition, the American Indian Studies Department was the very first formed of its type at any college or university.

University Resources
The University has many professionally staffed offices to support students throughout all communities such as these: Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence (MCACE), the Office for Equity and Diversity, Office of Multicultural Student Engagement, Circle of Indigenous Nations, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), and the Gender and Sexuality Center for Queer and Trans Life.

Career Support
Thousands of companies call Minnesota home. From large, international Fortune 500 companies to smaller start-up companies you’ll have access to internships, job shadow days, and mentorships with some of the world’s great businesses, non-profits and health care leaders. Our college career centers are here to help you every step of the way from your first year through graduation!

Campus Living
The university offers a wide variety of on campus and near campus living opportunities to help you fully immerse in your college experience. Nearly 90% of freshmen live on campus in residence halls and apartments. Living on campus allows you to be close to your classes, libraries, restaurants and everything on campus.

If campus living is not a good fit for you, there are many resources and support programs to help you meet other commuters and community groups.

Learn more at z.umn.edu/greatopportunities.
VALUE

Our Commitment
The U of M will give you the tools and knowledge you need to be successful. Here, we focus on four-year graduation, low debt, and applicable skills. We automatically consider all applicants (Minnesota residents and non-residents) for scholarships - no extra application needed!

Before graduating as a Gopher, you’ll be immersed in:

- World-class academics
- Career-building experiences
- Hands-on research projects
- Access to the 500,000 Gopher alumni world-wide (great networking)

Did you Know?
The U of M was named a “Best Value” by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance, Money Magazine, and Princeton Review.

Did You Know?
Any credits you take over the 13-credit threshold are free of charge, so you can take a variety of courses without worrying about extra costs. Most students take 15-16 credits a semester to graduate on time. When applicable, AP course awards are granted upon score review.

Wellness, Safety and Support

We prioritize the health and wellbeing of our community of students, staff, and faculty. There are many free, low-cost and accessible on-campus resources that help you stay safe, focus on wellness, and receive support for your mental, social, and physical health.

Wellness and Support

- **Boynton Health Clinic** - With locations on the East bank and St. Paul campuses, Boynton Health Clinic seeks to ensure the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of our university community. Visit [boytont.umn.edu](http://boytont.umn.edu) to learn more about the provided health services.

- **Care Program and Connection** - This U of M program can connect you with both on- and off-campus resources to best suit your individual mental and physical needs.

- **Disability Resource Center** - Partnering with students and faculty, this university resource connects individuals with the disability accommodations they need to succeed in a dynamic collegiate environment. Learn more at [disability.umn.edu](http://disability.umn.edu).

- **Let’s Talk** - drop in during this program’s scheduled hours for free and confidential counseling with U of M staff.

- **Student Counseling Services (SCS)** - works to help students overcome mental and social hardships through individual and group therapy. The program is located on both the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses.

- **The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education** - Provides free, confidential support for U of M students, staff and faculty who experiences or are concerned about someone experiencing sexual assault, violence or harassment. Learn more at [aurora.umn.edu](http://aurora.umn.edu).

Get home safely

- **Gopher Chauffeur** - provides a free ride home during the school year.

- **Safe Walk Service** - a free University Services security monitor will walk with you to your desired location 24/7!

Be informed

- **SAFE-U** - receive U of M mass text messages to get safety alerts and information for emergency situations.

- **Twin Cities Crisis Lines** - provides support if you are experiencing a mental health crisis and are not in a dangerous situation.

Visit [www.mentalhealth.umn.edu](http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu) to learn more.

Learn more at [z.umn.edu/greatvalue](http://z.umn.edu/greatvalue)
Admission Decisions and Timeline

INDIVIDUAL, HOLISTIC REVIEW
At the University of Minnesota we conduct a holistic review of each student’s application. Everything that a student submits is carefully and individually considered to ensure that each student receives a fair and consistent admission review. Automatic criteria, formulas, or cut-offs are not used.

In our holistic review, we assess each application based on primary and secondary factors. Because student success is of the utmost importance, the strongest consideration is given to the student’s academic record.

HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES
Minimum course requirements are listed below. Admission to the U of M is competitive, and most admitted students exceed these requirements. If you have any questions about your high school course planning, please contact a U of M admissions counselor. Find your counselor at z.umn.edu/mycounselor.

Minimum High School Course Requirements
• Four years of English
• Four years of mathematics
• Three years of science
• Three years of social studies
• Two years of a single second language
• One year of visual and/or performing arts

No single factor is the deciding factor in our admission decision.

Primary Factors:
• Coursework through high school graduation
• Grades in academic coursework
• Class rank/Grade Point Average
• ACT or SAT scores

Secondary Factors:
• Outstanding talent, achievement, or aptitude in a particular area
• An exceptionally rigorous academic curriculum (enrollment in honors, AP, IB, or college-level courses)
• Strong commitment to community service and leadership
• Military service
• Contribution to the cultural, gender, age, economic, racial, or geographic diversity of the student body
• Evidence of having overcome social, economic, or physical barriers to educational achievement
• First-generation college student
• Significant responsibility in a family, community, job, or activity
• Family employment or attendance at the University of Minnesota
• Personal or extenuating circumstances
• Information received in open-ended questions

*Chemistry, Biology, and Physics required for CBS and CSE.

SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS
Explore Colleges!
August: Application Opens
November: Early Application Deadline

SENIORS
Visit Campus!
Take the ACT or SAT!
October: FAFSA Opens
November: Housing Application Opens
January 1: Regular Deadline
May 1: Confirm Your Enrollment & Housing Application Deadline

A comprehensive overview of our admissions process can be found on our website at admissions.tc.umn.edu.

YOUR SENIOR YEAR
Your success is important to us, and college courses build upon skills and knowledge taught in high school. Taking a strong academic curriculum during high school will positively impact your performance in your freshman year of college, so we expect you’ll continue taking rigorous courses throughout your high school career, including senior year.

FALL 2019 ADMITTED FRESHMAN ACADEMIC PROFILE
Middle 50 percentile of fall 2019 admitted freshmen*

<table>
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<td>1230-1380</td>
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<td>College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences</td>
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<td>College of Science and Engineering</td>
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<td>1380-1500</td>
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ACADEMIC PROFILE Each application is reviewed individually and admission decisions are based on an overall assessment of application materials. We take academic factors into consideration, in addition to other information such as leadership, extracurricular activities, and personal circumstances. We don’t use formulas to make admission decisions.

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FRESHMAN DEADLINES

November 1 (Early Action Deadline)
- Full consideration for admission, Honors, and scholarships is given to students whose applications are complete by November 1.
  
  Note: The Nursing Program requires a supplemental application due no later than November 8. Students must complete a University of Minnesota Twin Cities application before they are granted access to the nursing application. The Twin Cities application is due November 1.
- Applicants will receive a decision no later than January 31.

January 1 (Regular Deadline)
- Full consideration for admission, Honors, and scholarships is given to students whose applications are complete by January 1.
- Applicants will receive a decision no later than March 31.

Apply online at z.umn.edu/apply
We accept the Golden Gopher Application, the Common App, or the Coalition Application. Choose the one that’s best for you. We do not have a preference!

Freshman Application Checklist

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<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Reported Academic Record (grades &amp; ACT/SAT scores)</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$55 Application Fee (or fee waiver)</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>X Not Required for Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation</td>
<td>X Not Required for Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcript</td>
<td>X Not Required for Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio (CDES)</td>
<td>X Not Required for Admission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did You Know?
Every applicant is reviewed automatically for scholarships and our University Honors Program!