Welcome to Gettysburg

Two things make Gettysburg College’s location extraordinary. First, it has one 300-acre campus connected to a world-famous and engaging town, where you’ll find an eclectic array of stores, restaurants, and cultural offerings that includes the Majestic Theater, which showcases student and professional performances. Further afield, outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the area’s challenging white-water, rock climbing and mountain biking; five nearby ski and snowboard resorts, and outstanding hiking trails, including the Appalachian Trail. Gettysburg is also an easy distance from major metropolitan areas: 90 minutes from New York City, N.Y.; 4 hours from Chicago; 5 hours from Detroit; and 3 hours from Charlotte.

What happened here is the other thing that makes our setting special. The campus sits amidst the site of what is now the Admissions Office. In 1863, Gettysburg was the decisive Battle of Gettysburg and welcomed two presidents, Lincoln and Eisenhower. It was Gettysburg College alumnus David Wills, class of 1851, who invited President Abraham Lincoln to town to make a “few remarks” in what would come to be known as the Gettysburg Address. A century later Gettysburg was the home to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who joined the College’s Board of Trustees and wrote his memoirs in what is now the Admissions Office.

Gettysburg College at a Glance

- Enrollment: 2,600 students, representing over 40 states and 75 countries.
- Location: Beautiful 200-acre campus with over 40 buildings, adjacent to the Gettysburg National Military Park.
- Distinctive Gettysburg Programs:
  - Eisenhower Institute
  - Sunderman Conservatory of Music
  - Civil War Era Studies
  - Center for Public Service
- Quick Facts:
  - Over 95% of faculty have a doctorate or the highest degree in their field.
  - Over 50% of the student body study overseas in nearly 20 countries.
  - 24 varsity sports offered for men and women.
  - 90 minutes from Philadelphia.
  - 45 minutes from Baltimore.
  - 4 hours from Chicago.
  - 5 hours from Detroit.
- Degrees offered: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music in Performance, and Bachelor of Science in Music Education.
- 85% of the graduating class are either enrolled in a graduate program or have a job within a year of graduation.
- Over 95% of faculty have a doctorate or the highest degree in their field.
- NCAA Division III within the Centennial Conference.
- 24 varsity sports offered for men and women.
- Over 50% of the student body study overseas in nearly 200 study abroad programs.
- Student/faculty ratio of 11:1; average class size of 18.

Today, Gettysburg continues to prepare students to make a difference in the world. Students prepare for leadership through an extensive career network, undergraduate research, exponential learning opportunities, and coursework in-curricular, virtual, and off-campus study activities. They earn Rhodes, Fulbright and Goldwater scholarships, and perform alongside professionals in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music. They think innovatively about new approaches to problem-solving in technology and in the sciences. They deeply engage in social justice through programs in the Center for Public Service, and think critically about issues in public policy through the Eisenhower Institute. An education at Gettysburg emphasizes critical thinking skills, broad vision, effective communications, sensitivity to the human condition, and a global perspective, all necessary to enable students to realize their full potential for responsible citizenship.

A Tradition of Excellence

Founded in 1832 and now recognized as a nationally ranked college in liberal arts and sciences, Gettysburg College’s history is one of strong academic reputation, social justice, and actively engaged students.

Abolitionist Thaddeus Stevens was an early supporter of the College, donating the land that serves as the present-day campus. Since then, the town has witnessed the decisive Battle of Gettysburg and welcomed two presidents, Lincoln and Eisenhower. It was Gettysburg College alumnus David Wills, class of 1851, who invited President Abraham Lincoln to town to make a “few remarks” in what would come to be known as the Gettysburg Address. A century later Gettysburg was the home to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who joined the College’s Board of Trustees and wrote his memoirs.

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