

Introduction

History

In 1886, Superintendent of Schools David Bancroft Johnson founded Winthrop in Columbia, South Carolina, as a training school for teachers. With the backing and support of Robert C. Winthrop, chairman of the Peabody Educational Fund, the Winthrop Training School was established and began operations on November 15, 1886. Seventeen students were enrolled in the school that was housed in the chapel of the then defunct Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

In 1887, through the efforts of Governor John P. Richardson, the legislature granted a charter to the school and provided scholarships for one student from each of the 34 counties in the state. At the urging of President Johnson and with the support of Governor Benjamin Ryan Tillman, Winthrop became a state-supported institution in 1891, and the name was changed to "The South Carolina Industrial and Winthrop Normal College." In 1893, the college became known as "The Winthrop Normal and Industrial College of South Carolina," and the decision was made to move the college to Rock Hill.

On October 2, 1895, Winthrop opened its doors in Rock Hill with 300 students and 20 instructors. The college grew to become one of the largest women's colleges in the country. The name was changed to "Winthrop College, The South Carolina College for Women" in 1920. As early as 1955, the Board of Trustees went on record as favoring coeducation. Complete coeducation was not achieved until 1974 when legislation changed the name to "Winthrop College" and men were admitted on a residential basis. In keeping with Winthrop's function as a comprehensive institution, in 1992 the name was changed to "Winthrop University."

Mission Statement

The university provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber within a context dedicated to public service to the state of South Carolina. All eligible bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, education, business, and the visual and performing arts are nationally accredited--part of the university's commitment to be among the very best institutions of its kind in the nation.

Building on its origins as a women's college, the Winthrop University of the 21st century is achieving national recognition as a competitive and distinctive, coeducational, public, residential comprehensive learning institution.

Winthrop enrolls an achievement-oriented, culturally diverse, and socially responsible student body of more than 6,300 students and will remain a medium-sized comprehensive learning university for the foreseeable future. The university recruits South Carolina's best students as well as highly qualified students from beyond the state whose presence adds diversity and enrichment to the campus and state. Winthrop prides itself on being an institution of choice for groups traditionally underrepresented on the college campus.

Winthrop's historic campus, located in a dynamic city within a major metropolitan area, provides a contemporary and supportive environment that promotes student learning and development. Winthrop has a diverse and able faculty and professional staff of national caliber and supports their work as effective teachers, scholars, researchers, practitioners, and creative artists. Through this talented group, Winthrop students acquire and develop knowledge, skills, and values which enrich their lives and prepare them to meet the needs and challenges of the contemporary world, including the ability to communicate effectively, appreciate diversity, work collaboratively, synthesize knowledge, and adapt to change. Ongoing assessment of programs and services ensures both that all academic programs challenge students at their highest level of ability and that the library, instructional technology, and other academic service areas support courses of study that are consonant with current methods and knowledge. As a result, Winthrop graduates are eminently well-prepared to assume successful careers in business, industry, government, education, the arts, and human services, as well as to enter the most competitive graduate or professional schools.

Accreditation

Winthrop University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees. A total of 38 undergraduate and 24 graduate degree programs are available in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business Administration, the Richard W. Riley College of Education, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Within the four colleges more than 80 undergraduate and graduate programs of study are offered through concentrations and options.

Winthrop's academic programs are measured by national standards of quality. Each academic program that can be nationally accredited through a professional specialized organization has earned that distinction. The documents of accreditation reside in the Office of Academic Affairs. The following is a listing of the specialized organizations with which Winthrop University is affiliated:

- Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC)
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International)
- Certified Financial Planner Board (CFP)
- Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE)
- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
- Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (CAC/ABET)

Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA)
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)
National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)
National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD)
National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)
National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST)
National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
Sport Management Program Review Council (SMPRC)

Campus

Covering 425 acres, Winthrop's campus is comprised of a historic, traditional central campus, a recreational east campus, and a growing west campus. The university's tree-lined campus encompasses a rich architectural blend of buildings and is included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Johnson Hall, which houses the departments of mass communication and theatre and dance, has some of the finest training and performance facilities in the Southeast. Features include a 331-seat main theatre, studio theatres, large dance studios, and modern editing labs. Withers/W.T.S. Building, a renovated structure housing the Richard W. Riley College of Education, is known for its distinctive Gothic architecture. Rutledge Building and the Conservatory of Music, both of which serve the College of Visual and Performing Arts, were renovated to include new classrooms, gallery and performance space, studios, and learning labs. The university's science departments have experienced \$20 million in upgrades to classrooms, laboratories, and instrumentation since 1999, providing unique opportunities for research usually afforded only at the graduate level. In 2007 two new buildings designed to complement the historic campus opened. Glenda Pittman and Charles Jerry Owens Hall provides additional high-tech classroom space for each academic college. In addition, the Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center houses the academic space for Winthrop's health, physical education and sport management programs and the campus wellness facilities. The West Center features four indoor basketball/ volleyball courts, two multi-purpose rooms for aerobics, a running track, a two-story climbing wall, a weight room and a swimming pool, all designed to meet expectations of 21st century students and their active, wellness-oriented lifestyles.

About half of Winthrop's students live on campus, only a short walk away from classrooms, the cafeteria, art galleries, Dacus Library, and Dinkins Student Center. The Recreational and Research Complex, surrounding the Winthrop Lake, consists of a modern 6,100-seat sports coliseum, a 9-hole golf course, an 18-hole disc golf course, and numerous athletic fields. The campus computing infrastructure provides state-of-the-art learning facilities, including Internet access from all campus buildings and residence halls, and wireless access in numerous campus locations.

Profile

Winthrop University is a comprehensive, learning university with competitive admission that offers challenging academic programs of national caliber. Many students completing their degrees go on to graduate study, and a substantial number, having enjoyed their stay as undergraduates, continue in graduate programs at the university.

Location:

Rock Hill, South Carolina geographic center of the Carolinas, 20 minutes south of Charlotte, North Carolina

Faculty 2007-2008:

559 faculty (full- and part-time)

Students:

6382 (Fall 2007)

5,012 undergraduates

46 percent undergraduate residential

Academic Year:

Two semesters

Optional summer sessions: One 3-week Maymester, two 4-and-a-half- week sessions and one 9-week session

Undergraduate Degrees:

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Social Work

Graduate Degrees:

Winthrop offers both master's and specialist degrees.

Athletics:

NCAA Division I intercollegiate competition in men's and women's basketball, tennis, golf, soccer, and track and cross-country; women's softball and volleyball; and men's baseball.

Office Hours:

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Telephone:

803/323-2211

Address:701 Oakland Avenue
Rock Hill, SC 29733**Directions for Correspondence**Winthrop University
Rock Hill, S.C. 29733

OFFICE	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER	EMAIL (add @winthrop.edu)
Academic Records & Transcripts			
Records & Registration	126 Tillman	323-2194	recandreg
Admissions Information			
Admissions Office (Undergraduate)	Joynes Hall	323-2191	admissions
Catalogs			
Records & Registration	126 Tillman Hall	323-2194	recandreg
Financial Assistance			
Office of Financial Aid	119 Tillman Hall	323-2189	finaid
Graduate School Information			
Graduate School	209 Tillman Hall	323-2204	graduatestu
Health & Counseling Services	Crawford Building	323-2206	
Identification Cards	15 Tillman Hall	323-4774	
International Center	206 Tillman Hall	323-2133	
International Admissions, Study Abroad, National Student Exchange			
Library	Dacus Library	323-2131	
Parking Regulations			
Campus Police	Good Building	323-3333	
Payment of Fees			
Cashiers Office	22 Tillman Hall	323-2167	cashiersoffice
Personnel			
Office of Human Resources	303 Tillman Hall	323-2273	HRhelp
Registration Information			
Records & Registration	126 Tillman Hall	323-2194	recandreg
Student Activities			
Student Affairs	Dinkins Student Center	323-2248	studentlife
Student Career Development			
Career Development Center	Crawford Building	323-2141	
Student Employment			
Office of Human Resources	303 Tillman Hall	323-2273	HRhelp
Veterans Affairs			
Records & Registration	126 Tillman Hall	323-3691	va