The Wisconsin Experience

Your Journey Starts Here

At UW–Madison, you can create your own Wisconsin Experience. Our unique resources give scholars like you everything you need for a challenging and fulfilling collegiate career. Explore career ideas and academic possibilities with faculty, advisors, and tutors. Work, study, and conduct research alongside some of the best faculty in the world. Chart your path with a supportive network of proud Badgers.

RESIDENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Do you want to live and learn with students who share your interests? Residential Learning Communities bring together faculty, staff, and students around an explicit focus within our University Residence Halls. You’ll have the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty and staff through social, cultural, and educational activities.

Learning Communities:
• BioHouse Learning Community
• Bradley Learning Community
• Chadbourne Residential College
• Entrepreneurial Residential Learning Community
• GreenHouse Learning Community
• International Learning Community
• Multicultural Learning Community
• Open House: Gender Learning Community
• The Studio: Creative Arts and Design Community
• Women in Science and Engineering

FIRST-YEAR INTEREST GROUPS (FIGs)

FIGs are academic learning communities designed specifically for first-year students. Each FIG is a unique cluster of UW courses, linked together to explore a common theme or topic. These groups help you discover the interdisciplinary nature of your studies, creating a richer educational experience.

Current FIGs include:
• The Artist as Scientist
• Diversity in Education
• Global Food Security: The Real Hunger Games
• Hip Hop, Youth Culture, and Politics in Senegal
• Mechanical Engineering
• The World in 2050

HONORS PROGRAMS

Since 1958, when UW–Madison was one of the first schools in the country to introduce an honors program, we’ve been offering our most academically talented students unique opportunities to challenge and surround themselves with others who love to learn. We offer seven honors programs geared toward those who have a desire to accomplish something remarkable.
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

You are welcomed into the university’s vast research community from your very first year on campus—no need to wait until junior or senior year. The Undergraduate Research Scholars program helps first- and second-year undergraduates get hands-on experience in research or other creative endeavors, working with faculty and research staff. There are research opportunities across disciplines in STEM, arts, humanities, and social sciences.

Some of the 115 research centers on our campus:
- Antarctic Meteorological Research Center
- Arts Institute
- Center for Law, Society and Justice
- Center for Dairy Research
- McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research

MORGRIDGE CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The Morgridge Center connects campus and community through service, service learning opportunities, and community-based research to build a thriving democratic society. You can also take part in Wisconsin Idea Fellowships that support students in finding solutions to community issues.

Example communities our students are currently engaged in:
- Madison, Wisconsin
- Pérez Zeledón, Costa Rica
- Gatunga, Kenya
- Manabí Province, Ecuador

ADVISING

Undecided and still exploring our majors? The Cross-College Advising Service can help! These advisors will work with you to explore your options and interests.

You can attend a Majors Fair and meet advisors and professors from across campus to discuss what their students are doing to see if it’s a good fit.

If you’re interested in pursuing a career in medicine, visit the Center for Pre-Health Advising. Regardless of your undergraduate major, they will help you select coursework to make you the most competitive applicant for graduate and professional programs.