



## Focus on Duquesne University

Duquesne University's 5,800 undergraduates and 4,000 graduate and law students enjoy a clean, safe, grassy 58-acre campus on a bluff just above downtown Pittsburgh. In many ways they have the best of two worlds, as they enjoy a traditional campus experience with successful Division 1 sports teams and plenty of school spirit, while also having access to the city of Pittsburgh. The city, which has been undergoing a renaissance in the past decade and was recently ranked by *Forbes* magazine as the 11<sup>th</sup> best city in the nation for businesses, is a good place for students to find internships and potential employment upon graduation.

Founded in 1878 as a Catholic university, Duquesne continues to be associated with the Spiritan order, yet only fifty percent of the students identify as Catholic, and Jewish and Muslim students are welcome. Jewish students participate in the Hillel that serves the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon and are also welcome at a nearby synagogue. Muslim students enjoy their own organization right on campus.

All undergraduates are required to take three religion courses, one of which must be in theology, but a range of options in world religions are available. Church attendance is not mandatory, but services are generally well attended, and in keeping with Catholic teaching, community service is highly valued and much practiced.

The College of Liberal Arts is the largest division, followed by the School of Business, to which students may apply directly. The newest program in the A.J. Palumbo School of Business Administration is Health Care Supply Chain Management. In addition to the more their more conventional majors, they also offer Sports Marketing and Legal Studies.

Offerings at the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences include numerous dual degree B.S./M.S. programs as well as a B.A. in Physics combined with a B.S. in Engineering offered in cooperation with Case Western Reserve and the University of Pittsburgh.

A School of Biomedical Engineering is slated to open in the fall of 2014.

The School of Education offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in primary and some types of secondary education as well as Business, Computer and Information Technology.

The Mary Pappert School of Music offers degrees in Music Education, Technology, Therapy and Performance.

The Rangos School of Health Sciences is widely known for its programs, which include Athletic Training, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Physician Assistant Studies. It also has a new program in Speech-Language Pathology.

The School of Nursing is a direct-admit program and boasts a high performance record on the national licensing exams.

The Mylan School of Pharmacy is the only health science related program that students cannot apply to directly. Of the 200 pre-Pharmacy students each year, approximately 85% generally complete the full six-year program.

All Duquesne students must take 32 credits in the College of Liberal Arts. Freshmen and sophomores are required to live on campus, while housing is guaranteed for all four years, so everyone is fully integrated into the undergraduate community. The administration is proud of the close to 90% retention rate after freshman year, for which they give much of the credit to their strong advising and mentoring programs.

This year's freshman class had a 3.6 median GPA, 1140 median SAT (Critical Reading and Math only), and 24 median ACT. Applicants to most divisions will be considered with a 3.0 GPA, 1000 SAT (Critical Reading and Math only) or 22 ACT, but some of the programs are considerably more selective. For instance, applicants to the School of Business must be ready for Calculus as freshmen, while the School of Science is looking for a 3.2 minimum GPA and no grades below a B in science courses. Pre-Pharmacy students must have at least 1200 on the SATs and nothing lower than a B in science courses, and Physician Assistant program candidates must have at least 1250 on the SAT or 29 on the ACT. An audition is part of the application process to the School of Music.

Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, and Physician Assistant applicants must apply by the December 1 Early Action deadline. There is also a November 1 Early Decision deadline for all applicants willing to commit with a deposit by December 31. Otherwise admissions are rolling, but the application fee is waived for applications received before December 15. Duquesne is not on the common application, so the application must be accessed from the school's own website at <http://www.duq.edu>.

