

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

CARROLLTON, GEORGIA



The University

A coeducational, residential institution, the University of West Georgia (UWG) is a charter member of the University System of Georgia. From its beginnings in 1906 as the Fourth District Agricultural and Mechanical School, West Georgia has grown into a leading comprehensive university that enrolled 11,252 students in fall 2008 from Georgia, thirty-seven other states, and seventy-two other countries. About 65 percent of enrolled students are women, and 35 percent belong to minority groups. Today, UWG offers 115 programs of study through four colleges—the College of Arts and Sciences, the Richards College of Business, the College of Education, and the School of Nursing. Fifty-nine programs are available at the bachelor's level, thirty-two at the master's and specialist levels, three at the doctoral level, nine at the postbaccalaureate certificate level, two at the post-master's certificate level, and one certificate of less than one year. In addition, the Honors College, the only college of its kind in Georgia, offers an honors curriculum, and the University's Advanced Academy of Georgia is one of approximately fifteen residential early-entrance programs in the nation that allows gifted high school-aged students to live and study full time at a university while completing high school graduation requirements in absentia. The Graduate School has one of the highest percentages of students enrolled in graduate classes in the University System of Georgia.

UWG takes its mission of Educational Excellence in a Personal Environment seriously. Faculty members teach their own courses and take a personal interest in students. Undergraduates receive access to technology and research opportunities that are not usually available at other schools. In 2003, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) gave UWG a rare commendation for technology resources, equipment, and support, which a SACS visiting team called "far above that of similar institutions." There are thirteen residence halls on campus, seven of which are reserved for upperclassmen. Every residence hall has an Internet port for each occupant. If they wish, freshmen can join a learning community of students who live in the same hall, share classes, and often earn higher grades as a result of this arrangement. Extracurricular activities are sponsored through approximately 125 student organizations, which cover academics, professional and honor groups, politics, religion, service, recreation and sports, social fraternities and sororities, and a national champion debate team. The UWG Department of Athletics offers a varied and comprehensive intercollegiate program. The University fields teams in eleven sports and competes in the Gulf South Conference of NCAA Division II. Women's teams compete in basketball, cross-country, golf, soccer, softball, and volleyball; men's teams compete in baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, and golf. UWG also has a national champion cheerleading program. The coed squad has captured eight consecutive national Universal Cheerleading Association Division II titles since 2002, and the all-girls' team won the honor in 2004, 2006, 2007, and 2008.

The University of West Georgia is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's, master's, education specialist, and doctoral degrees. All programs preparing teachers through the master's level are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission approves UWG to recommend candidates for education certificates. The College of Education and community counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. The speech-language pathology program is accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The undergraduate Bachelor of Business Administration and graduate Master of Business Administration and Master of Professional Accounting degrees in the Richards College of Business are accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Only seventeen institutions in Georgia hold this accreditation. Both the Bachelor and Master of Professional Accounting programs are accredited separately by AACSB International. The University's Department of Chemistry is accredited by the American Chemical Society, the Department of Psychology by the Council for Humanistic Transper-

sonal Psychology, and the computer science program by the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The Master of Public Administration degree is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. Other programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the National Association of Schools of Theatre, and the National Association of Schools of Music. All art programs are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Location

Fifty miles west of Atlanta, the campus extends over 645.02 wooded acres, and its picturesque blend of pre-Civil War and late-twentieth-century architecture complements the similar Southern style of surrounding Carrollton, Georgia. Named a City of Excellence in Georgia and listed in *The Best Small Southern Towns* (Peachtree Publishers, 2001), Carrollton is the cultural, educational, health-care, and commercial center for the west Georgia region. A progressive city of about 22,000 with a diverse economic base, Carrollton offers a wide range of opportunities for professional work experiences as well as cultural activities and entertainment. Shops, galleries, and restaurants line the revitalized downtown square, and the city offers movies, dancing, theatrical productions, and dining that ranges from Southern to gourmet and international cuisine. A \$6-million Cultural Arts Center showcases the arts, and recreational activities abound through an award-winning parks and recreation program and the county's 34,000 acres of state, public, and private recreational parks and facilities.

Majors and Degrees

UWG offers eleven baccalaureate degrees as follows: Bachelor of Arts in anthropology, art, biology, chemistry, chemistry/secondary education, English, French, geography, German, global studies, history, international economic affairs, mass communications, mathematics, philosophy, political science, psychology, Spanish, and theater; Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting, economics, finance, management, management information systems, marketing, and real estate; Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and art education; Bachelor of Music in music education and in music with studies in business, performance, performance with emphasis in jazz studies, performance with emphasis in piano pedagogy, and theory and composition; Bachelor of Science in biology, biology/secondary education, computer science, criminology, earth science/secondary education, economics, economics/secondary education, geography, geology, mathematics, physics, physics/secondary education, political science, and sociology; Bachelor of Science in Chemistry; Bachelor of Science in Education in business education, birth to five teacher preparation, early childhood education, middle grades education, physical education, secondary teacher education, special education, and speech-language pathology; Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science; Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies; Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Bachelor of Science in Nursing, RN to B.S.N.; and Bachelor of Science in Recreation. Preprofessional programs are available in allied health, dental hygiene, dentistry, forestry, law, medicine, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, and veterinary studies medicine. A dual-degree program in engineering is offered with Auburn University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Mercer University, and the University of Georgia.

Academic Programs

The academic year consists of two 15-week semesters that begin in August and January, and a summer semester that includes a May minisession and sessions in June and July. During the freshman and sophomore years, students complete the core curriculum, 60 semester hours of general education courses designed by the faculty to provide a foundation for all degree programs. Included in the core are courses in written and oral communication, mathematics, natural science, technology, social science, and the humanities and fine arts as well as courses designed to lead to one's chosen major. Undergraduates have nationally acclaimed access to research opportunities, and

instruction is enhanced by faculty member research that is supported by more than \$2.1 million in grants.

Off-Campus Programs

The UWG Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is offered in Rome, Georgia, at Georgia Highlands College; in Dalton, Georgia, at Hamilton Medical Center; and also at the University's Newnan Center in Newnan, Georgia. Other off-campus classes are also offered at the University's Newnan Center. Online courses are offered to students through the Distance and Distributed Education Center. Some degrees may be earned by attending only evening and weekend classes. The University of West Georgia has study-abroad opportunities for students at any academic level and in any major. Study-abroad programs for credit are offered in art (Bayeux and Paris); economics and finance (Carrollton, New York, and London); French language and civilization (Tours and Paris); geography (Canada); German language, history, and English (Germany); Japanese language and culture (Kagoshima); management and marketing (Carrollton and London); and Spanish language and culture (Cuernavaca). UWG students may also participate in University System of Georgia summer study-abroad programs, offering core courses in Athens, Berlin, Italy, London, Madrid, Paris, and St. Petersburg. Juniors and seniors may participate in semester- and year-long exchanges available with 141 institutions in forty countries.

Academic Facilities

The \$19.5-million Technology-enhanced Learning Center (TLC) is a three-building complex that occupies more than 1 acre and features pioneering classroom and laboratory technology. TLC laboratories offer access to computers and tabletop labs for conducting hands-on experiments while receiving instruction, and about 2,600 computer network connections provide Internet access from virtually anywhere in the complex.

The new \$22-million Campus Center houses a 13,000-square-foot fitness center with more than 200 pieces of exercise equipment, two fully equipped aerobics rooms, four indoor basketball courts, a ½-mile indoor track, and a 50-foot climbing wall. Personal trainers, fitness classes, and a wide range of intramural sports are available to all students, and recreation equipment can be checked out for such activities as canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, tennis, or baseball. Student organization offices and a 9,000-square-foot ballroom offer expansive areas for group activities, and a game room with pool tables, wide-screen TV, Xboxes, and other games is a great hangout after classes. Wireless service and Internet connections are available throughout the building.

With 6,475 seats, UWG's new \$24.7 million Coliseum is the largest seating venue on campus and in the west Georgia region. Built in two sections connected by a two-story glass atrium, it can be configured into a single arena for indoor sporting events, concerts and other large events such as commencement and orientation. In addition, the building's larger section can be configured into five individual instructional spaces for the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Studies, and the smaller section houses academic offices and classrooms featuring a state-of-the-art human performance lab and strength lab.

Costs

Based on a 12-hour or more on-campus semester, tuition and fees for the 2008-09 school year were \$1598 per semester for Georgia residents and \$6389 per semester for nonresidents. Room charges were \$1310 per semester, and board cost \$1393 per semester. Books totaled approximately \$1000 per semester, and other expenses varied by major. Part-time students are charged tuition and fees per semester credit hour.

Financial Aid

All applicants interested in federal and state financial aid programs must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and any required documents regarding their own and their family's financial resources. In order to receive financial aid at the University of West Georgia, students must be in good academic standing and they must be accepted for admission. The state of Georgia provides the HOPE Scholarship to eligible students who are Georgia residents. In addition, UWG offers outstanding students a variety of academic and performing arts scholarships. Some academic scholarships are available to students regardless of their major, and others are for students

majoring in particular fields. Still others are designed to encourage students from a specific county or minority group to attend the University. Work programs that are open to students include the Federal Work-Study Program, student assistantships, internships, and cooperative work situations.

Faculty

UWG has 428 full-time faculty members, 69 percent of whom hold the terminal degree in their associated field. The student-faculty ratio is approximately 18:1.

Student Government

The Student Government Association deals with matters of student affairs, sets forth general principles of governance of the student body, and approves mandatory student fees. Any enrolled undergraduate or graduate student is eligible to participate in student government.

Admission Requirements

To ensure admission as a freshman, it is desirable for applicants to have a combined SAT I score in the range of 950 or higher or an ACT composite score of 19 or higher as well as a high school grade point average in academic courses of 2.4 or higher. In fall 2008, entering freshmen had a mean SAT score of 1012 (510 critical reading, 502 math) and a mean GPA of 3.05. In addition, all freshman/freshman transfer applicants must complete 16 high school college preparatory units (including a math course higher than algebra II/geometry), according to standards approved by the University System of Georgia for admission to a four-year state university. Transfer students are considered for admission on the basis of their previous college records and such additional information as is pertinent to their academic abilities. A minimum college cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for transfer admission.

Application and Information

Every undergraduate applicant must submit a formal application to the Admissions Office along with a \$30 nonrefundable application processing fee. June 1 is the deadline for application and document submissions for fall semester, including final high school/college transcripts. Spring and summer semester deadlines are approximately November 15 for spring and May 15 for summer. Prospective students should visit the University's Web site for additional admissions requirement information. Beginning freshmen are encouraged to complete the application procedures during the first half of their senior year in high school. For further information, students should contact:

Director of Admissions
University of West Georgia
Carrollton, Georgia 30118
Phone: 678-839-4000
E-mail: admiss@westga.edu
Web site: <http://www.westga.edu/admiss>



The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) has given UWG a rare commendation for technology resources, equipment, and support "far above that of similar institutions."