THE GRADUATE EXPERIENCE
AN INTRODUCTION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Washington University in St. Louis
WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

Washington University in St. Louis is one of the leading research institutions in the world. Founded in 1853, the university has a long history of pioneering achievements and a reputation for academic excellence. 24 Nobel Laureates have been associated with the university, many of whom did a significant portion of their award-winning work on campus. Seven Nobel Laureates were born outside the United States.

As a graduate student at one of our seven schools you will have an opportunity to conduct cutting-edge research alongside renowned faculty experts who are at the frontiers of advancing new knowledge to solve humanity’s most urgent challenges. Our faculty are known for both their productivity and the quality of their research, demonstrated by the high citation impact of their publications.

$711.8 MILLION
total research support in fiscal year 2018

3,000 research projects underway each year

RANKED #20 IN THE WORLD
by Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)

24 NOBEL LAUREATES

In 1947, four Washington University faculty members were Nobel Laureates, a record for an American university at the time. Pictured here, from left to right, are laureates Carl F. Cori, Joseph Erlanger, Gerty T. Cori and Chancellor Arthur H. Compton.

Pulitzer Prize 9
Poet Laureate of the United States 4
American Academy of Arts and Sciences 68
National Academy of Sciences 56
American Law Institute 39
National Medal of Science 15
RENOWNED FACULTY

Across disciplines our award-winning faculty are driving new ideas and providing students with unique educational opportunities.

HEATHER CORCORAN
DATA VISUALIZATION
Uses visual design to make health data more meaningful.

PANOS KOUVELIS
OPERATIONS & MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT
Expert on global supply chain management and operations strategy.

LEILA SADAT
INTERNATIONAL LAW
Launched efforts to write a global treaty on crimes against humanity.

JEFFREY GORDON
MICROBIOME RESEARCH
Pioneer of the field of microbiome research.

JONATHAN LOSOS
EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY
Leading international expert on biodiversity of species.

CRICKETTE SANZ
ANTHROPOLOGY
Award-winning anthropologist focusing on primate behavioral ecology and great ape conservation.

YOUNG-SHIN JUN
ENVIRONMENTAL & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
Developed new technique to purify drinking water.

MARK MANARY
CHILDHOOD MALNUTRITION
Inventor of life-saving therapy for severely malnourished children.

FRED SSEWAMALA
SOCIAL WORK
Develops economic empowerment interventions for youth impacted by poverty and HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa.
PROUD TO BE IN ST. LOUIS

A MAJOR METROPOLITAN CENTER THAT IS AFFORDABLE

We are fortunate to live and work in a region that offers a high quality of life that is still affordable. St. Louis ranks the 7th most affordable city in the United States according to Forbes.

HOME TO FREE, WORLD-CLASS ATTRACTIONS

Most of the city’s arts and cultural institutions are free. The zoo, art museum, history museum and science center all boast free admission.

SURROUNDED BY GREEN SPACES

The 1,300-acre Forest Park—bigger than Central Park in New York City—is our backyard. St. Louis has 108 city parks and a world-renowned botanical garden.

A CULTURALLY DIVERSE AND EXCITING CITY

Home to the Gateway Arch, the city has a rich history and culture. St. Louis has long welcomed international visitors and played host to the 1904 World’s Fair and Summer Olympics. The city’s neighborhoods are vibrant and varied, reflecting its historic charm and mix of world influences. With countless cultural festivals, a wide variety of cuisines, legendary sports teams, music clubs, a thriving art scene and a world-class symphony, there is something for everyone.

INNOVATION HUB

St. Louis is the region’s epicenter for innovation and entrepreneurship. It is a national hub for technology, biomedical and plant science research, and business development. Forbes ranks it #2 in top cities for startups in the United States. In 2002, the Cortex Innovation Community was formed by Washington University, BJC HealthCare, University of Missouri–St. Louis, Saint Louis University and the Missouri Botanical Garden as a hub for St. Louis’ growing ecosystem of innovative startups.
WHEREVER YOU ARE FROM, YOU ARE HOME

8,444 international students (fall 2018, graduate & undergraduate)

10,000 ALUMNI OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

35% of graduate students are international

1 in 3 faculty have international roots

25+ institutes, centers and programs with international focus

89 McDonnell Academy International Scholars in residence 2019-20

130+ NATIONALITIES REPRESENTED ON CAMPUS (students, scholars, faculty and staff)
Students, faculty, and staff from around the globe are welcomed at Washington University with open arms. They are valued and celebrated as members of our thriving community, and they play a vital role in making the university the exceptional institution it is today. International students, faculty, and staff bring backgrounds and perspectives that enrich our dialogues on campus, and their presence helps all members of our community become productive members and leaders of a rapidly changing and global society.

—Andrew D. Martin
Chancellor

A DIVERSE AND COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY

Washington University in St. Louis is committed to building a diverse and collaborative community. It draws talented people from all identities, backgrounds and corners of the globe. Thirty-five percent of our graduate students are international, and some of our biggest events on campus are cultural celebrations. We strive to instill all of our students with a global mindset. International students are an important part of our community, and we value the diversity that you help us to create.

Whichever graduate program you choose, you will discover a diverse and welcoming community with outstanding faculty mentors who are approachable and supportive. That distinct Midwestern friendliness and our culture of collaboration are some of the reasons why students at WashU feel at home. We are a community that supports curiosity and exploration across disciplinary boundaries, a place where people matter and serious work is done.
STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Recognizing the need for new research laboratories and specialized facilities, Washington University in St. Louis has made significant investments to develop its infrastructure. The university recently concluded a record-breaking capital campaign, Leading Together, raising $311 million for state-of-the-art facilities and $1.5 billion for academic programs. For example, renovation of Bryan Hall has added more than 25,000 square feet of new research space for chemistry, and Jubel Hall will feature 15,600 square feet of modern research lab space for engineering students. Olin Library has also been transformed with the addition of new spaces and resources for learning and research.

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

More than 6,000 graduate and professional degree students study at the university at any given time, enrolled in more than 100 different programs. Each of our schools offers graduate or professional degrees. Admission to these programs is school-based, often with departments determining which students to accept into their programs. Inquiries regarding specific degree programs should be made to the correct admissions office and the supervising department or school. The university also has numerous programs allowing students to earn two graduate and/or professional degrees at the same time. Students interested in joint or dual degrees must apply to and be admitted by each program separately.

GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We know a big part of your graduate school decision hinges on funding, both for your education and for research in your chosen field. We are dedicated to fully covering our graduate students’ needs, with most of our PhD students receiving a stipend and full tuition remission. The amounts and vehicles of financial support for graduate students are usually decided by individual schools. Specific information may be obtained from the departmental or administrative unit to which the student intends to apply.
PREPARING GLOBAL LEADERS

THE MCDONNELL INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS ACADEMY

One vehicle for financial assistance to international graduate students is the McDonnell International Scholars Academy. The Academy relies on strategic partnerships with 34 premier universities around the world to recruit future global leaders from these institutions. The Academy provides full tuition benefits, a 12-month living stipend and a generous travel allowance to talented graduate and professional degree students from partner institutions. Students are mentored by leading faculty at Washington University and are supported through leadership and professional development opportunities. For a list of eligible institutions, visit mcdonnell.wustl.edu.
TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Find out more online about our top-ranked schools and explore a wide range of programs.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Graduate School awards all Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees at Washington University in St. Louis. We prepare the leaders of tomorrow, enhance the culture of entrepreneurship and innovation, and improve the global quality of life through groundbreaking discoveries by fostering robust collaboration between faculty and students. Our graduate students are provided with substantial financial support, allowing them time to focus on academics and participate in intellectual activities outside of the classroom. The Liberman Graduate Center provides a dedicated space for graduate students and groups to convene, connect and engage. Additionally, the center houses our GradCareers office, designed to focus on developing professional skills and career search strategies for our graduate students.

graduateschool.wustl.edu

ARTS & SCIENCES

Arts & Sciences is the heart of Washington University and comprises the core disciplines of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. It includes departments ranging from English and Mathematics to Political Science and Anthropology. In addition to departments of international renown, our programs and research centers provide a platform for faculty and student collaboration across the traditional academic subject areas, creating new interdisciplinary studies. The mission of Arts & Sciences is to be a leading center for teaching, learning and research, extending the reach and effect of a liberal arts education while promoting excellence in scholarship and research.

artsci.wustl.edu

BROWN SCHOOL

The Brown School is one of the world’s top schools for the training of social science researchers. Its graduates are leaders in social work, public health and social policy. Ranked #2 in social work by U.S. News & World Report, 2018, the school is recognized for pioneering the development and use of evidence-based approaches in research and in practice, for its interdisciplinary focus, and for its international emphasis. Brown School faculty are world leaders in asset creation, a fundamental social development strategy to address global poverty. In partnership with several universities in China, the Brown School offers a dual-degree Master of Social Policy program.

brownschool.wustl.edu

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

ENOCH AZASU
“St. Louis is a great city that is affordable, livable and has so many exciting places to visit. As an international student, my transition to the United States was smooth due to the fact that the WashU community and the McDonnell Academy made my comfort a priority. There was no barrier whatsoever.”
ORIGIN: Ghana
PROGRAM: Brown School: Social Work (MSW)

URI GOLDSZTEJN
“At WashU I had the opportunity to work with top scientists on one of the most exciting projects in cardiac electrophysiology. Additionally, through the McDonnell International Scholars Academy, I interacted with exceptional world leaders and influencing institutions.”
ORIGIN: Israel
PROGRAM: McKelvey School of Engineering: Biomedical Engineering (PhD)
McKELVEY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

The McKelvey School of Engineering ranks among U.S. News & World Report’s top engineering schools with expert faculty in areas such as aerosol science, mechanobiology, imaging science and cybersecurity. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, the McKelvey School of Engineering leverages the strengths of schools and programs across the university and allows students the flexibility to work across departmental boundaries. Engineering graduate students engage in classroom discussions with MBA students in the Olin Business School, explore medical research in the School of Medicine, and, working with colleagues in the Brown School, use data to address some of the greatest social challenges our world faces.

engineering.wustl.edu

OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL

Olin Business School is one of the nation’s leading research institutions, with faculty whose research productivity consistently ranks among the highest in the business school community. Olin is home to one of the top MBA programs in the nation, which begins with a unique six-week global immersion for incoming students. Among its specialized master’s degree tracks, Olin offers a Global Master of Finance program in partnership with five leading universities around the world. The school is also a leader in executive education including the WashU-Fudan Executive MBA program in Shanghai, ranked #6 worldwide by The Financial Times, and its sister program in Mumbai in partnership with IIT Bombay.

olin.wustl.edu

SAM FOX SCHOOL OF DESIGN & VISUAL ARTS

The Sam Fox School offers a vast array of programs in art, architecture, and design and one of the country’s finest art museums. It ranks among the ten best architecture schools in the United States according to Architectural Record, 2018. Its nationally recognized faculty of artists, designers, architects, and scholars push the boundaries and conventions across media. More than 50% of the Sam Fox School’s graduate students are international, and its alumni work around the world.

samfoxschool.wustl.edu

SCHOOL OF LAW

The School of Law ranks among the top 20 law schools in the nation according to U.S. News & World Report, 2018. It offers a Master of Laws (LLM) program specifically designed for international lawyers, allowing them to increase their knowledge of U.S. or international law to more effectively practice in today’s global environment. LLM students design their own curriculum to suit their own academic and professional goals, either concentrating in specialized fields such as corporate or environmental law or selecting a general course of study. Earning an LLM may permit you as a WashULaw graduate to sit for several states’ bar examinations, including the New York State Bar Exam—the most popular bar among foreign lawyers.

law.wustl.edu

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

SEONGMI KIM

“WashU is very supportive and generous to graduate students. There are more than 400 faculty members in the Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences (DBBS) program alone, and you can join any of those labs after rotations. I didn’t know about WashU at all before applying to graduate school. My first visit to campus totally changed my perspective about graduate school and Midwest cities.”

ORIGIN: Korea
PROGRAM: Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences: DBBS, Molecular Microbiology and Microbial Pathogenesis (PhD)

SEONGMI KIM

INGRID DIEP

“It's been a privilege to have many strong female role models at the Brown School. Faculty are honestly engaged with students and take a genuine interest in their learning.”

ORIGIN: Australia
PROGRAM: Brown School: Public Health (MPH)
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
As one of the largest recipients of funding for research and training from the National Institutes of Health, Washington University School of Medicine is among the most dynamic and robust research enterprises in the United States. In fact, it ranks among the nation’s top medical schools for research according to U.S News & World Report. The school has a long tradition of innovation and discovery and has been associated with 18 Nobel Prize winners. Our medical students seize the opportunity to work with world-renowned faculty who are pushing their fields to new discoveries, including developments in genomics and genetic testing, personalized medicine, Alzheimer’s disease, cancer, cardiovascular disease, the microbiome, infectious diseases, imaging, brain mapping and more. medicine.wustl.edu

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
University College is the professional and continuing education division at Washington University in St. Louis, which also administers Summer School. Prepare for graduate school with International Summer Study offered by University College. This 5-week program allows international undergraduate students to enroll in two rigorous courses, experience American culture through campus activities and off-campus events, and connect with our faculty and university leaders. ucollege.wustl.edu

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

LUIS FERNANDO SOLARI
“WashU enabled me to be part of a strong international network of people from diverse backgrounds and nationalities. In particular, the vibrant community in the McDonnell Academy has been a relevant factor in developing my leadership skills.”
ORIGIN: Chile
PROGRAM: Olin Business School: Business Administration (MBA)

GIRISH SHARMA
“The McDonnell Academy is like a supportive family to me, which has not only helped me with my graduate studies and potential career paths, but also given me the understanding of the complex and highly intertwined global issues and the motivation to solve them.”
ORIGIN: India
PROGRAM: McKelvey School of Engineering: Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering (PhD)