

THE GRADUATE EXPERIENCE



AN INTRODUCTION
FOR INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS





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. 26 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 WashU, 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.

OVER \$1 BILLION
TOTAL SPONSORED
RESEARCH SUPPORT
IN FISCAL YEAR 2025

**#2 IN NIH RESEARCH
FUNDING**
WASHU MEDICINE,
2024

4,000
RESEARCH PROJECTS
UNDERWAY EACH YEAR

**RANKED #26
IN THE WORLD**
BY ACADEMIC
RANKING OF WORLD
UNIVERSITIES
(ARWU2025)

RENOWNED FACULTY

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



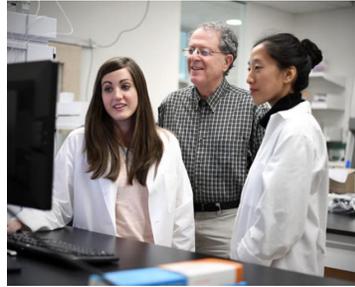
Markus Baer
ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR

Studies creativity and innovation and all its related activities.



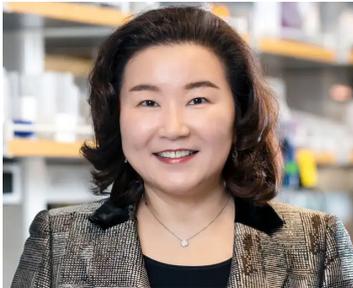
Heather Corcoran
DATA VISUALIZATION

Uses visual design to make health data more meaningful.



Jeffrey Gordon
MICROBIOME RESEARCH

Pioneer in the field of microbiome research.



Young-Shin Jun
ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Uses nanoscale interfacial reactions and nucleation to solve important energy and environmental challenges.



Jonathan Losos
EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Leading international expert on biodiversity of species.



Mark Manary
CHILDHOOD MALNUTRITION

Inventor of life-saving therapy for severely malnourished children.



Linda J. Richards
NEUROSCIENCE

Recognized internationally for her expertise in brain development and developmental disorders.



Leila Sadat
INTERNATIONAL LAW

Launched efforts to write a global treaty on crimes against humanity.



Proscovia Nabunya
SOCIAL WORK

Utilizes asset-based interventions on children and families' social, economic and health well-being in HIV-impacted communities in sub-Saharan Africa.



26 NOBEL LAUREATES

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

More recently, virologist Charles M. Rice was awarded the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, and Philip H. Dybvig, faculty at Olin Business School, was awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

5
PULITZER PRIZE

3
POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES

78
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

64
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

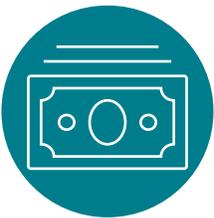
31
AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE

10
NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE

PREPARING GLOBAL LEADERS

THE McDONNELL INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS ACADEMY

One vehicle for financial assistance to international graduate students is the McDonnell International Scholars Academy's fellowship program, which offers generous financial support towards graduate and professional degree studies at WashU. Applications are accepted from graduates of universities across the world, with a special interest in those students from its network of partner universities. The program cultivates a community of culturally and academically diverse leaders, driven to address the world's most complex challenges. A transformational experience, the program enhances leadership capacity through mentorship, professional development and unique engagement opportunities. It is this foundation that builds the character and conviction to lead with a global mindset and social responsibility. McDonnell Scholars are selected based on their ability to emerge as leaders who are experts in their fields with perspectives that reflect cultural competence. For more information, visit mcdonnell.WashU.edu



12
MONTH LIVING STIPEND



~100
McDONNELL ACADEMY
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS
IN RESIDENCE



ANNUAL TRAVEL ALLOWANCE



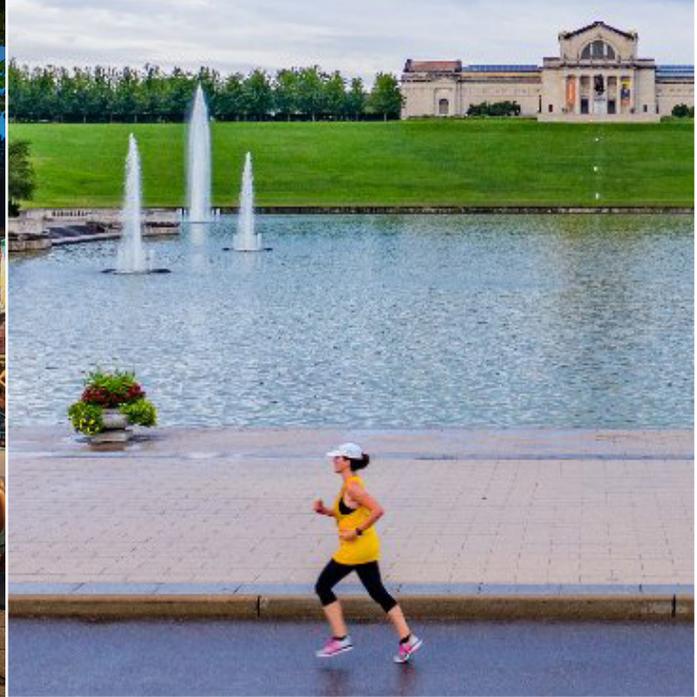
FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP
AWARDED



CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL
TRIPS & EVENTS



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITIES



PROUD TO BE IN ST. LOUIS FOR 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 consistently ranks among the most affordable cities in the U.S. Residents enjoy an outstanding culinary scene, hip nightlife, beloved sports teams, and miles of green space.

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. In 2002, the Cortex Innovation Community was formed by WashU, 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.

MOST BEAUTIFUL AND AFFORDABLE CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

TRAVEL & LEISURE, 2023

1,300
ACRES COMPRISE
NEARBY FOREST
PARK

400+
STARTUPS AND
COMPANIES AT
CORTEX



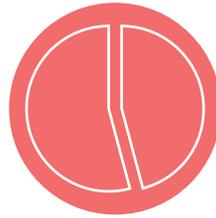
WHEREVER YOU ARE FROM, YOU ARE HOME



4,155
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
(FALL 2025, GRADUATE &
UNDERGRADUATE)



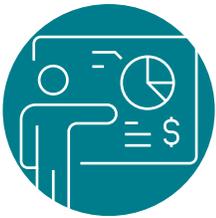
1 IN 3
FACULTY HAVE
INTERNATIONAL ROOTS



42%
OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
ARE INTERNATIONAL



25+
INSTITUTES, CENTERS AND
PROGRAMS WITH
INTERNATIONAL FOCUS



130+
NATIONALITIES
REPRESENTED ON CAMPUS
(STUDENTS, SCHOLARS,
FACULTY, AND STAFF)



18,000+
ALUMNI OUTSIDE THE
UNITED STATES



70%
OF POSTDOCTORAL
APPOINTEES ARE
INTERNATIONAL



50%
UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD



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.

Forty-two 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.

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Students, faculty, and staff from around the globe are welcomed at WashU 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



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 led 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 features 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

About 8,000 graduate and professional degree students study at WashU 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.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

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

Faculty that *inspire*.

Advisors that *guide*.

Students driven to *change the world*.

ARTS & SCIENCES

Arts & Sciences is the heart of WashU 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.WashU.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, and social policy. Ranked #2 in social work by *U.S. News & World Report*, 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.WashU.edu

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.WashU.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 #1 worldwide by *The Financial Times*, and its sister program in Mumbai in partnership with IIT Bombay.

olin.WashU.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*. 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.WashU.edu

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

The School of Continuing & Professional Studies (formerly University College) serves adult learners of all ages and backgrounds through focused degrees and custom programs that align with the St. Louis job market. The school has introduced a range of certificate and degree programs in high-demand fields, with about half of classes offered online to better meet the needs of working adults.

caps.WashU.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*. 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.WashU.edu

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 19 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.WashU.edu

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

With the School of Public Health at Washington University in St. Louis, WashU has established its first new school in 100 years. More than a school, it will be an interdisciplinary, collaborative, innovative, data-driven and people-focused home for research and education equipped to meet current and future challenges in public health in St. Louis and globally.

publichealth.WashU.edu



CAMPUS RESOURCES

OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS (OISS)

OISS empowers international students with the knowledge and resources needed to navigate immigration compliance, while guiding them with care and compassion. As an F-1 or J-1 international student at WashU, OISS will help you maintain your status and issue your immigration documents (I-20s or DS-2019s) through the MyOISS platform. The team of student advisers conducts workshops, advises on work authorization, updates you on immigration regulations, and meets with you one-on-one virtually or in person.

oiss.WashU.edu

THE GRADUATE CENTER (TGC)

The Graduate Center (TGC) is a central hub dedicated to enhancing the academic development of all graduate and professional students at WashU. In addition to academic and research skill development, TGC's curated programming, opportunities, and resources encourage graduate and professional students to foster interdisciplinarity and to grow scholarly communities among their peers.

