Welcome to SMU!

You’re here because you want to learn more about pursuing an exceptional education at SMU. That’s a smart choice. Here on the Hilltop, we seek the bold, curious and creative – idealists and entrepreneurs, enablers and disruptors, scholars and problem solvers – who think big to change the world.

We are thrilled you’re spending time with us today and hope that what you see and experience on the Hilltop will help you imagine life as a Mustang. We’d like to picture you becoming part of a vibrant community that will prepare you to own your future. And we’re confident that the global gateway of limitless opportunities created by SMU and Dallas will shape and position you for success no matter where you go or what you pursue.

We’re proud of our welcoming community, which is just minutes away from the business and cultural hub of downtown Dallas. As you explore SMU, feel free to ask our students and faculty for directions. You already may be familiar with our century-plus history of academic excellence, the legacy of our athletics teams and our campus-wide love of spirit and traditions. You may even have heard of Peruna, our feisty mascot, who likes to charge across the field when the Mustangs score a touchdown. Or all this may be new to you! Either way, you’re in for a treat!

We hope you learn more about SMU, where students from across the country, around the world and all walks of life forge their success in an academic environment that inspires their best efforts, every day. Here, you can pursue multiple areas of study, engage with faculty in small classes, pick up practical skills through internships and gain career experience to succeed in today’s global marketplace.

Enjoy your visit, and know that you’ve taken an important step toward an extraordinary college experience on the Hilltop.
Unleash your potential among ambitious peers who push you to find success – however you might define it.

Our community of the bold, curious and creative is looking for students who want to push the boundaries of conventional knowledge and contribute to the world in meaningful ways. Founded in 1911 and opening for its first classes in 1915, SMU started with one building – Dallas Hall – and has grown to encompass 234 acres and 107 buildings in the prestigious Park Cities neighborhood of Dallas.

With every possible amenity within walking distance – dining, hotels, shopping, transportation – there’s no need to go far. But if you want to get out and explore all that Dallas has to offer, downtown is just five miles away with a world of possibilities.

A rigorous education in an exceptional setting

At SMU, we believe that scholars are taught and leaders are mentored. This informs how we shape world changers. With our century-plus history of graduating scholars who know how to lead and our recent ranking among the nation’s best colleges, our graduates can trust that, with drive and experience, they will be prized assets in their professions.

Your undergraduate professors are leaders in their respective fields and dedicated educators. And with small class sizes (11:1 student-to-faculty ratio), you will get to know your professors personally. They will take an interest in your success and be some of your biggest advocates when it comes time to find internships or your first job.

Want to double major? There are numerous ways to do it. Want to add a minor or maybe two? You can do that, too! How does it work? The flexibility of the University Curriculum allows you to structure a plan that meets your academic objectives. Together with your academic advisor, you will work to determine how you can meet the goal of graduating in four years with multiple areas of study. You may even discover new interests and goals that you never knew you had!

The learning doesn’t stop at the classroom, either. From research opportunities such as Big iDeas and the Richter International Fellowship Program to the opportunity to study at SMU-in-Taos, in New Mexico, or at one of more than 150 SMU Abroad programs, you can craft an academic experience that is perfectly you.

0, we see the Varsity, Varsity, Varsity; As she towers o’er the hill over there, And our hearts are filled with joy, SMU, SMU, alma mater, we’ll be true forever. SMU Alma Mater, Varsity
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

We’ve got the best college town in the country.

Those hats, those boots, those cowboys – everyone knows Dallas ... or do they? Dallas is all of those things and so much more! We may have the most well-known namesake TV show, but we’ve also got the country’s largest contiguous urban arts district, six professional sports teams and a thriving culinary culture fit for all you foodies out there. The Dallas area is also home to a network of more than 60,000 proud SMU alumni – handy when it comes to finding your first job or internship!

The Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex is the nation’s fourth-largest metropolitan area and is served by both DFW International Airport and Dallas Love Field. With DFW Airport’s 250-plus national and international destinations, now easily accessible by the DART Rail’s Orange Line, and the convenience of Love Field (located just four miles from campus), you’re less than a four-hour flight away from any major U.S. city.

Dallas isn’t just our location, though – it’s a huge resource for our students, too! With nearly 2,000 employers posting job openings through Handshake, the shared SMU Career Services Platform, you’re sure to find one that fits your career goals. You don’t have to wait until you’re ready to graduate to start getting career advice and exploring your possibilities, either. The Hegi Family Career Development Center will help you with everything from resume writing to networking and career coaching as early as your first year. We’re here to make sure our students are successful in whichever field they choose to pursue.

YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD

Living in a residence hall is just one part of the complete college experience. At SMU our Residential Commons system will have you living in a multifunctional environment where classes, faculty mentoring, studying and dining converge into one dynamic experience. Assignments to one of the 11 communities where you’ll live for at least your first two years at SMU are made so that each community represents the University’s diversity as a whole. This is where you’ll create lifelong connections, collaborate with Faculty in Residence and find your place.

Although each co-ed community is architecturally distinctive, the rooms across campus are all similar: mostly double-occupancy, with the same furnishings and access to amenities. But that doesn’t mean they’re all alike! Each Commons has its own identity, complete with unique traditions, gatherings, meaningful activities and even the signature crests and colors you see below. Your experiences are yours to design. They will teach you about yourself, others and the world around you!
Design a custom path to fit your goals, your strengths and your ambition.

SMU is a nationally ranked global research university with a liberal arts tradition. Our eight degree-granting schools (five of them for undergraduates) offer a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences. With more than 100 majors and 85 minors, you will have the ability to create an academic program that fits with your career plan, and the opportunity to explore options that you may have never thought of before. The flexibility of the University Curriculum will allow you to double- and even triple-major.

smu.edu/majors

DEDMAN COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES smu.edu/dedman

Dedman is SMU’s largest and most diverse academic unit, challenging students through a wide range of studies. The heart of the University and home to the humanities as well as to natural and mathematical sciences, it offers more than 30 undergraduate majors and over 50 minors, and pre-professional programs such as pre-law and pre-health.

Innovative Offerings
The interdisciplinary Embrey Human Rights Program is dedicated to learning about and promoting human rights locally and around the world. SMU was the first university in the South and fifth in the nation to offer a human rights undergraduate major. The Dedman College Interdisciplinary Institute brings together faculty and students from the humanities, sciences and professions for collaborative research and curriculum development, offering students engaged learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

COX SCHOOL OF BUSINESS smu.edu/cox

The Cox School equips students with the knowledge, skills and experience needed to become business leaders. Major publications, including The Economist and Bloomberg Businessweek, rank SMU Cox among the top business schools in the nation and the world. Among the Cox School’s advantages is its location in Dallas, frequently cited as one of the best places to pursue a career.

Academic Programs
Cox offers a Bachelor of Business Administration with majors in Accounting, Finance, Financial Consulting, General Business, Management, Marketing, Real Estate Finance, and Risk Management and Insurance. Incoming first-year students who want to pursue a major in Cox School of Business apply for direct admission to gain opportunities for early access to important coursework in their fields.

Seven Ways to LEARN OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Study abroad at one of more than 150 programs in 50-plus countries, with the same tuition costs as attending class on campus. We can even help you design a plan in a new locale that meets your plan of study and your bucket list.

smu.edu/abroad

Have a Big iDea? Turn it into big cash by pitching an innovative solution and solid business plan to solve real-world problems in Dallas and beyond. Teams can earn grants up to $5,000 for their startup ideas.

smu.edu/bigideas

Engage in cutting-edge undergraduate research, starting with your first year at SMU. With a classification as a “higher research activity” institution by the Carnegie Foundation and the can-do spirit of Dallas fueling you, there’s no limit to what you can discover.

smu.edu/research
SCHOOLS OF

Seven Ways to
LEARN OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Take advantage of SMU intersessions – short academic sessions outside the fall and spring semesters – to earn class credit. You could also go to SMU-in-Taos, our campus in New Mexico, or study abroad over the intersessions!

smu.edu/intersessions

Go deeper with your studies by participating in the invite-only University Honors Program or Hilltop Scholars Program. Students benefit from smaller classes, one-on-one faculty mentorship, special events and the Scholars’ Den.

smu.edu/honors

Get involved with your cause, whether it be climate change, poverty intervention, cancer research and fundraising or youth education. Through Alternative Breaks and community service, SMU Mustangs are making the world a better place. smu.edu/ab

Take on a special project in research, civic engagement, creative work or internships and let SMU’s distinctive Engaged Learning program pair you with a faculty mentor and a community organization that needs your ideas.

smu.edu/engagedlearning

LYLE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING smu.edu/lyle

The Lyle School prepares today’s engineering students to be tomorrow’s innovators and problem solvers. With both technical and leadership skills, Lyle students and faculty see no problem as being too big for the next generation of engineers. With nearly 30 ways to design a degree from the five departments – civil and environmental engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, management science and mechanical engineering – students gain both a specialization as well as a broad understanding of their chosen disciplines.

New Initiatives

The Lyle School is home to the Deason Institute for Cyber Security, an interdisciplinary research center aiming to immerse and train students to help develop solutions for today’s cybersecurity threats. Through the Institute, Lyle students have the unique opportunity to learn, innovate and emerge as leaders in a growing industry affecting the world’s governments and top companies.

MEADOWS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS smu.edu/meadows

The Meadows School prepares students to lead professional careers in the arts and communications and to apply their education in innovative ways. The school also provides opportunities for all SMU students to grow in appreciation of the arts through its Brown Bag Dance Series, music recitals, lectures and theatre performances. Meadows features one of the only fully endowed undergraduate advertising institutes in the country, and it offers journalism students the opportunity to train in a cutting-edge convergent media lab.

Creative Outlets

Meadows offers bachelor’s degrees and minors through 11 divisions: Advertising, Art, Art History, Arts Management and Arts Entrepreneurship, Corporate Communication and Public Affairs, Creative Computation, Dance, Film and Media Arts, Journalism, Music and Theatre. For performing and visual arts students who satisfy the dual-admission process of both University and Meadows admission, including an audition or portfolio submission, Meadows provides a conservatory atmosphere in a liberal arts setting with a strong business foundation. As an example of combining arts with business, Meadows is the first school in the U.S. to offer a minor in arts entrepreneurship.

SIMMONS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT smu.edu/simmons

The Simmons School offers two areas of study: Applied Physiology and Sport Management (APSM) and Education. The APSM program prepares students for a bright future in the fields of sports, health and fitness. With Dallas being the fifth-largest sports market in the country, APSM students benefit from connections with numerous professional teams and respected sports marketing agencies with which to work. The Education major develops educators who are ready to challenge ideas and expand minds.

Research and Community Programs

The Applied Physiology Laboratory is rapidly expanding with the goal of becoming one of the premier Applied Physiology laboratories in the United States. With more than 3,000 square feet of space available, the AP Lab is home to a biochemistry laboratory, anthropometric suite, teaching area, research area and a controlled environmental room. The Budd Center: Involving Communities in Education engages SMU faculty and students in transformative leadership and learning experiences to close the education gap in urban, low-income communities.

Take advantage of SMU intersessions – short academic sessions outside the fall and spring semesters – to earn class credit. You could also go to SMU-in-Taos, our campus in New Mexico, or study abroad over the intersessions!

smu.edu/intersessions
Take the next steps on your journey to world-changing academics.

SMU takes a holistic approach when reviewing applications and carefully considers each applicant with the goal of adding depth to our diverse, challenging community of scholars. The strongest applications are not always those with the greatest number of accomplishments, but those that resonate with authenticity and passion. We want to get to know you, your interests, your background, your aspirations and how SMU can help you to become the next great world changer.

SMU does not have minimum requirements for admission; many factors play a part in the admission process. We want to consider your application on its own merit, rather than with a pre-set formula. We’ll take into account many facets of your education, including classroom performance, rigor of your curriculum, ACT/SAT scores, quality of essays and recommendations, extracurricular activities, talents, character and life experiences to form a full picture of you and your educational goals.

Application Types
SMU will equally consider all applications, no matter which one you choose to submit:

- SMU Online Application: smu.edu/apply
- The Common Application: commonapp.org
- Apply Texas: applytexas.org
- Mycoalition for College: coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

Standardized Test Requirements
SMU accepts self-reported standardized test scores.

- **SAT**
  Highest math and evidence-based reading and writing scores, even if they come from different test dates
- **ACT**
  An ACT superscore is a new final composite score that is made up of your best individual section scores across all ACT tests you took. The average of these best individual section scores is calculated to create a brand-new composite ACT score. Writing is not counted.

  *(Note: SMU does not require the SAT optional essay.)*

Auditions and Portfolios
All music, theatre, dance, studio art and film B.F.A. applicants are considered “Dual Admit” students, who must apply to and be admitted by both SMU and the Meadows School of the Arts. In addition to their SMU application, “Dual Admit” students must also audition or submit a portfolio to Meadows. An SAT or ACT score report is not required for admission consideration from applicants seeking dual admission. Applicants should only submit an SAT or ACT score report for academic award consideration. Students pursuing a B.F.A. in studio art or film and media arts must submit a portfolio online.

Early Decision at SMU
Already know you want to be a Mustang and SMU is your school of choice? Apply for Early Decision and submit a signed Early Decision Agreement form with your application. Not sure which deadline to choose? Get some helpful answers to your questions at smu.edu/earlydecision.

Application Checklist

- Application for admission
- Personal essay
- Official high school transcript
- Official SAT or ACT scores *optional for non-U.S. citizens*
- Counselor recommendation *required*
- $60 nonrefundable application fee
- Extracurricular resume *optional*
- Teacher recommendation *optional*

*Your complete application, including supporting materials, must be postmarked by these dates.*
Finance your future with help from an advisor who will tailor a solution to your family’s unique situation.

A top-tier education at SMU is a smart investment in your future – one in which you’re leveraging your skills and education for a rewarding career. SMU creates value by allowing you to pursue multiple areas of study and gain career experience through internships and co-ops to develop those skills and proficiencies most sought by employers and graduate programs.

As an SMU student, you’ll be assigned your own financial aid advisor who will work with you to help make your college investment best fit your family’s budget. With three out of four students receiving academic- or need-based financial aid in the form of scholarships, grants and loans, we’ll help best leverage this important contribution to your future.

### Academic Scholarships

SMU offers a range of scholarships that reward your demonstrated academic performance; some are even for full tuition and fees. The best part is that for most of them, you don’t have to fill out a separate application – you’re automatically considered when you apply for admission. Many of the available scholarships can be combined, too.

There are specific scholarships available for National Merit Scholars, International Baccalaureate Diploma recipients and many others for our top applicants. And, if you’ve expressed an interest in a specific major on your application, you may be eligible to receive a scholarship from one of the University’s academic schools or departments.

*A separate application and a YouTube statement is required for the Hunt Leadership Scholars. Learn more at smu.edu/hunt.

### Need-based Assistance

Every family’s financial situation is different; to fit yours, the University offers SMU opportunity scholarships as well as state and federal sources of financial assistance, depending on financial need, residency and citizenship. Both the FAFSA and CSS PROFILE™ must be completed each year for continued consideration for need-based aid.

U.S. and dual citizens as well as permanent residents who want to be considered for need-based financial aid must submit:

- **FAFSA** For federal and state aid [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov)
- **CSS PROFILE™** For institutional aid [cssprofile.collegeboard.org](http://cssprofile.collegeboard.org)

### Financial Aid and Scholarship Application Deadlines for First-Year Students

All incoming students are considered for our generous scholarship and financial aid opportunities.

- **November 1** Early Decision I, Early Action and priority scholarship and financial aid consideration
- **January 15** Early Decision II, Regular Decision and priority scholarship and financial aid consideration

**Electronic submission or postmark deadline**
As you tour campus today, don’t forget to use #SMUVisit on social media to let all your friends know that you want to become a Mustang!
See for yourself why Condé Nast Traveler 2018 counts SMU among America’s most beautiful college campuses.

The beauty of SMU isn’t just in the landscape and architecture, but also in the location. During your visit, we invite you to enjoy one of the many dining options on or within a short walking distance of campus. Either way, you’re sure to enjoy the great variety that our location affords us and get another glimpse into the possibilities that await you when you become a Mustang!

George W. Bush Presidential Center
SMU is proud to be the only private university with a presidential library on its main campus. Housing both the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum and the Bush Institute, the Center is a one-of-a-kind bipartisan resource, allowing SMU students, faculty and visitors to examine and understand presidential decision-making. SMU faculty participate in nonpartisan symposia on topics from education reform to global health, human freedom and economic growth, and SMU students benefit from available internships, work-study opportunities and class participation in events and research. To visit the Center during your time at SMU, please go to georgewbushlibrary.smu.edu/visit.

Meadows Museum
The Meadows Museum houses one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside Spain. The internationally renowned collection is a unique resource for not just SMU students, faculty and staff, but also for local schools, colleges, the DFW community and visitors from around the world. To learn about current exhibitions, visit meadowsmuseumdallas.org. Admission passes are available from the Office of Undergraduate Admission and on the Museum website.