Graduate Catalog

Welcome Letter from the Provost

Welcome to Old Dominion University! Located in the Hampton Roads Metropolitan area of coastal Virginia, you will find Old Dominion University to be a vibrant and active community of scholars and students.

Almost 20,000 undergraduates and more than 4,500 graduate students comprise the Old Dominion student body. Our community includes more than 800 international students with 115 foreign countries represented. Clubs and organizations for nearly every interest – more than 350 in all – thrive at Old Dominion University, nurturing the personal and social development that is essential to the university experience.

We are committed to the success of our students. Our Academic Enhancement unit serves as the central venue for undergraduate students to locate all of the services they need to ensure their progress from the moment they enter Old Dominion University through graduation and beyond. We offer a broad range of undergraduate degree programs in our colleges of Arts and Letters, Business, Education, Engineering and Technology, Health Sciences, and Sciences. Interdisciplinary options are also available. Through our Career Advantage Program, we guarantee a practical, faculty-directed, for-credit experience related to a student’s major for all undergraduate students. Our students also participate in study abroad programs in Europe, South Africa, Australia, Korea and many other international destinations.

Old Dominion University’s main campus is located in the city of Norfolk, but the ODU community extends well beyond, with Regional Higher Education Centers in Virginia Beach, Hampton and Portsmouth. Through our distance learning programs, we deliver undergraduate courses and programs online to students located throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation and the world using a variety of delivery technologies.

The Honors College, with an emphasis on critical thinking and issues of global importance, offers specially designed, low-enrollment courses to honors students and selected juniors and seniors; it is also the central home for our many undergraduate research opportunities, where undergraduate students can work alongside faculty members and graduate students in cutting-edge research projects that extend our knowledge in areas as diverse as Modeling and Simulation, Bioelectrics, International Studies, Sciences, Educational Leadership, and many other disciplines. Our graduate students also have the opportunity to receive highly practical training in our professional schools such as in our MBA program, in a wide range of Education programs, and in the Health Sciences and Engineering.

Our faculty members bring a wealth of talent to our classrooms each day. Many of our faculty have been recognized on the state, national, and international levels with prestigious awards for teaching, research and service. Their lively and provocative teaching, commitment to academic excellence, and innovative research that is both fundamental and applied, enrich the surrounding region and combine into a fusion of ideas and practice that makes the Old Dominion experience a truly rewarding one for all students.

We look forward to you joining the Old Dominion University community.

Augustine O. Agho, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Nature of Announcements

Announcements contained in this publication are subject to change without notice and may not be regarded in the nature of binding obligations to the University. The University reserves the right to change any provisions or requirements. Only the Provost or designee can approve changes to the Catalog except where otherwise stated within.

When students matriculate with Old Dominion University, they come under the academic requirements of the edition of the Catalog at that time. Students may graduate under these academic requirements within a period of eight years even though subsequent Catalogs may change. Academic requirements include competency requirements, grade point average requirements, and degree program requirements. Grading practices, tuition, fees and other matters are not considered to be “academic requirements” and are subject to change at the discretion of the University.

Should new changes be to their advantage, graduate students must have permission of the graduate program and dean to select a newer catalog. However, because academic programs are subject to requirements imposed by outside accrediting or certifying agencies, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the United States of America, such outside requirements take precedence.

It is the policy of Old Dominion University to provide equal employment, educational and social opportunities for all persons, without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, veteran status, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation or genetic information. Old Dominion University complies with the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (as amended).

The University is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity employer.

Student Responsibility for Catalog Information

Students are held individually responsible for the information contained in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Failure to read and comply with University regulations will not exempt students from whatever penalties they may incur.

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