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.

More than 19,500 undergraduates and 5,000 graduate students comprise the Old Dominion student body. Our community includes more than 1,100 international students with more than 100 foreign countries represented. Clubs and organizations for nearly every interest – more than 300 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, and in two other locations in the area. Through our distance learning programs, we deliver undergraduate courses and programs to students at community college sites and higher education centers across the Commonwealth of Virginia, at various military bases and corporations, and at several out-of-state or independent locations. A variety of course and degree programs are offered using interactive on-line Internet technologies, CD-ROM, and video streaming, to provide students the opportunity to take courses from any location.

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.

Carol Simpson
Provost