

Northeastern Illinois University



Sharon K. Hahs
President

Northeastern Illinois University was founded in 1867 as Cook County's first teacher training institution. The university has a rich tradition of education innovation and prides itself on preparing teachers and administrators who make a difference in Chicago. That tradition continues today and has expanded to include all the university's academic disciplines, allowing NEIU to fully embrace the community in which it resides.

Over the years, the name, location and mission of the university have changed, but the commitment to learning and teaching has continued throughout the generations. While NEIU provides an important resource for students from Illinois, the university attracts students from all over the world and is poised to become a model of regional public education with a truly global mission. NEIU's learning environment is enriched through the community's ethnic, cultural, age and language diversity. Throughout history, the university has maintained, fostered and celebrated its commitment to diversity. Today, NEIU offers its 11,000 students more than 70 undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts, sciences, education and business. Students are encouraged to integrate classroom instruction with field-based learning, research, and service locally and around the globe.

NEIU is the only four-year public university in the Midwest federally designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution. *U.S. News and World Report* designated NEIU as the most ethnically diverse university in the Midwest. Nestled in the residential Albany Park neighborhood with its tree-lined streets and single-family homes, the university is just 20 minutes from downtown Chicago. NEIU has four other locations as well. The Chicago Teachers' Center in the River West Plaza has been an educational center for elementary and secondary schoolteachers for 30 years. El Centro on Chicago's northwest side is just four miles south of the main campus and provides educational, career and cultural opportunities to the Latino community. On Chicago's south side is the Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, created to address issues and concerns of the inner city. NEIU also offers courses at the University Center of Lake County, a unique partnership of 18 Illinois colleges and universities.

NEIU faculty members are authors and researchers who continue to participate and stay on the cutting edge of their disciplines. About 75 percent of the university's courses are taught by full-time faculty members, and the student to faculty ratio is 16 to 1. The faculty members' academic and professional backgrounds provide students with many learning experiences. In addition, the university offers students the ability to pursue their own research interests through symposiums, faculty-advised independent studies and research positions. Many of the academic departments host annual conferences designed to foster discussion about current issues in their fields. Recognizing the advantage that international experience brings to education and the workplace, the university also offers short-term and traditional study-abroad programs.

NEIU also offers students opportunities to strengthen academic foundations or participate in rigorous independent study. The University Honors Program gives students a distinct advantage when entering the professional world or graduate school. The First-Year Experience Program helps students make successful transitions from high school to the

university. Unlike other universities that offer orientation, NEIU integrates First-Year Experience classes into the core freshman curriculum. For the nontraditional student, the university offers degree programs designed to meet the needs of experienced adults that are compatible with career and family responsibilities.

There’s more to NEIU than classrooms and academics. Student life at the university is enhanced by more than 70 student organizations. Students can participate in student government, Greek life, ethnic organizations, academic interest groups, media organizations and other special-interest groups. Involvement in these groups promotes individual student development and contributes significantly to the diversity and richness of campus life.

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Northeastern Illinois University’s Science Building at the Albany Park campus.