

Northeastern Illinois University



Richard J. Helldobler, Ph.D.
Interim President

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) was founded in 1867 as Cook County's first teacher training institution. The university has expanded to include graduate study and a variety of academic disciplines in the arts, sciences and business, allowing NEIU to fully represent the community in which it resides. The university continues its rich tradition of educational innovation and prides itself on preparing teachers and administrators to make a difference in Chicago.

Over the years, the name, location and mission of the university have changed, but the commitment to learning and teaching has remained a constant. While NEIU is 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 its history, the university has maintained, fostered and celebrated its commitment to diversity. Today, NEIU offers its 10,000 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 was the first four-year public university in the Midwest federally designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution. U.S. News & World Report designated NEIU as one of the most ethnically diverse universities in the Midwest. Nestled in the residential North 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 Center for College Access and Success 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 3 miles south of the main campus and provides educational, career and cultural opportunities to the Latino community. The Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, located on Chicago's South Side, was created to address issues and concerns in the inner city. NEIU also offers courses at the University Center of Lake County, a unique partnership of 20 Illinois colleges and universities.

NEIU faculty members are researchers who continue to participate and stay on the cutting edge of their disciplines. More than 70 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 both theoretical and applied learning experiences. In addition, the university offers students the ability to pursue their own research interests through symposia, 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. 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 is more to NEIU than classrooms and academics. Student life at the university is enhanced by more than 100 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 Bernard J. Brommel Hall at the main campus.