

Western Illinois University



Jack Thomas
President

Recognized as a “Best Midwestern University” and a “Best Midwestern College,” Western Illinois University (WIU) serves more than 10,300 students through its Macomb and Quad Cities campuses. Both campuses offer state-of-the-art technology and facilities, accomplished faculty and a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities. At the heart of the university are four core values of academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth and social responsibility.

The main campus, located in historic Macomb, is a traditional, residential four-year campus. WIU offers 61 undergraduate and 38 graduate degree programs, including doctorates in education and environmental science. With a student-to-faculty ratio of 14-to-1, the university’s 646 full-time faculty members teach 94 percent of all undergraduate and graduate courses, in addition to six preprofessional degree programs and 22 postbaccalaureate certificate programs.

WIU is the educational, cultural and athletic center of the region. Annually, 12 major theatrical and dance productions and studio shows are performed, along with outstanding concerts, lectures, presentations, films, dance performances and more. The Gwendolyn Brooks and Casa Latina cultural centers offer programs and activities focusing on African-American and Hispanic cultures, while the Women’s Center promotes gender equity through education, support and advocacy. WIU’s student organization for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning and ally (LGBTQA) community provides resources, support and programming.

The university’s athletics program sponsors 19 NCAA Division I intercollegiate men’s and women’s varsity sports. Football competes in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision through the Missouri Valley Football Conference; all other varsity sports compete at the Division I level through The Summit League.

Western’s Quad Cities (WIU-QC) campus has a student population of 1,430 and is the only public university in the Quad Cities region. WIU-QC offers select undergraduate and graduate program at its metropolitan, nonresidential campus in Moline.

WIU libraries house extensive collections and provide regional archives, research assistance, lectures and special events. The libraries offer online database access to thousands of academic periodic journals and publications, as well as Illinois Legal Aid Online. The main branch, the Leslie F. Malpass Library in Macomb, provides an inviting environment for research and study. The Leslie F. Malpass Library Archives and Special Collections Unit houses a treasure trove of university, community and regional history. The Special Collections document the cultural, economic and natural heritage of west central Illinois. Special-interest centers include the Center for Regional Authors, the Baxter-Snyder Center for Icarian Studies and the Center for Hancock County History, including the Mormon Collection. Publications of the Decker Press and a number of Civil War manuscripts are also part of Special Collections, along with collections related to Congressmen Thomas Railsback and Lane Evans. WIU’s Archives Unit includes regional materials, such as county and town histories, oral history tapes, diaries, letters, maps, photographs and newspaper clippings, along with a comprehensive digital image database, which can be found on its website at wiu.edu/libraries/archives.

The Macomb campus also has three specialized branch libraries for music, curriculum and physical sciences. The WIU-QC campus houses a branch library, which provides access to the same materials as the Macomb libraries, as well as the Jeff Leibovitz Holocaust Collection.

WIU is dedicated to providing an affordable, accessible education. Western’s Cost Guarantee program ensures that students pay a fixed rate for tuition, fees, room and meal plan during their years of continuous enrollment. It remains the only university in Illinois to guarantee all costs over a four-year period at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The Western Commitment Scholarship program ensures that any student who scores above the national average on the ACT and achieves at least a 3.0 GPA will receive enough federal, state and institutional aid to meet his/her financial needs of tuition, fees, room and meal plan.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and has a strong institutional commitment to diversity. The university is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Board of Trustees: Roger Clawson; Lyneir Cole; Cathy Early; Carolyn Ehlert Fuller; Todd Lester; Steve Nelson; Yvonne Savala; and Wil Gradle, *student trustee*.

Western Illinois University Administration

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Sherman Hall was the first building on Western Illinois University’s Macomb campus.