Lawrence University is a residential liberal arts college and conservatory of music, both devoted exclusively to undergraduate education. It is a supportive academic community of 1,500 intellectually curious, diverse and multi-interested students from nearly every state and 50 countries—all committed to a rigorous and challenging educational experience.

The Lawrence faculty is devoted to “Engaged Learning” as the most effective way to prepare students for lives of personal fulfillment and professional accomplishment. It is a demanding approach to education for students who demand much of themselves. It is what characterizes a Lawrence education and distinguishes Lawrentians.

Using this engaging approach to learning, Lawrence helps students develop the abilities that are highly valued by graduate schools as well as employers. Among these are the ability to solve problems, communicate effectively, work collaboratively and thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Lawrence is located adjacent to downtown Appleton, a vibrant community of 73,000 in which the city and the college benefit from one another. The Fox Cities, a cluster of 19 cities and towns along the Fox River with a combined population of more than 222,000, is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the state and has consistently been named one of the best medium-size metropolitan areas in the nation, based on quality-of-life indicators. By car, Appleton is 30 minutes south of Green Bay, 90 minutes north of Milwaukee, two hours from Madison, three hours from Chicago, and five and one-half hours east of Minneapolis/St. Paul. The Outagamie County Regional Airport is approximately five miles from campus and is served by United Express via Chicago; Delta via Atlanta, Detroit, and Minneapolis/St. Paul; and Allegiant Air via Las Vegas, Phoenix/Mesa, and Orlando.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The 88-acre Lawrence campus is situated on a bluff overlooking the historic Fox River and contains 62 instructional, residential, recreational, and administrative facilities. Adjacent to downtown Appleton, the campus is bordered on two sides by attractive early 20th-century residential neighborhoods. Björklunden vid Sjön, a 437-acre estate on Lake Michigan in Door County, serves as the college’s northern campus, hosting curricular retreats and seminars for students each weekend throughout the academic year and continuing education seminars during the summer for alumni and the public.

Lawrence is a residential college, and more than 96 percent of all students live on campus in one of eight residence halls, 17 small houses and other student residences.

ACCRREDITATION

Lawrence is accredited as a degree-granting institution by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The Conservatory of Music is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Three 10-week terms (Fall, Winter, Spring) comprise the academic calendar, spanning mid-September through mid-June. A full-time course load for students is three-six unit courses each term (18 units) or a minimum of 15 units.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The program emphasizes rigorous and engaged instruction through a rich set of courses emphasizing small group or single-student tutorial courses, independent study projects, studio work and faculty-student research and scholarship collaborations. Nearly 90 percent of our recent graduates have had one-on-one course experiences. This emphasis on engagement is made possible by one of the lowest student-to-faculty ratios in the country (among the top 20). The university also offers a large number of interdisciplinary courses, emphasizing engagement with contemporary world concerns, and has extensive programs of off-campus study and community internships. Each student is encouraged to develop the capacity for self-direction and concern for effective and ethical action in the contemporary world. All students begin their program with a nationally known Freshman Studies Seminar course and complete their requirements with a student-centered Senior Experience.

Lawrence offers majors in traditional liberal arts disciplines and interdisciplinary programs; student-designed majors are also available. Within the Bachelor of Arts program there are 33 majors, 38 minors, and 3 interdisciplinary areas. Majors in the B.A. degree program include anthropology, art history, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, Chinese language and literature, classics, East Asian studies, economics, English, environmental studies, French, gender studies, geology, German, government, history, linguistics, mathematics, mathematics-computer science, mathematics-economics, music, natural science interdisciplinary, neuroscience, philosophy, physics, psychology, religious studies, Russian language and literature, Russian studies, Spanish, studio art and theatre arts. Minors are offered in anthropology, art history, biomedic ethics, biology, chemistry, Chinese, cognitive science, computer science, creative writing, East Asian studies, economics, education studies, English, environmental studies, ethnic studies, French, gender studies, geology, German, government, Greek, history, Japanese, Latin, Latin American studies, linguistics, mathematics, music, neuroscience, philosophy, physics, psychology, religious studies, Russian, Spanish, studio art, teaching ESL, and theatre arts. Interdisciplinary areas include film studies, innovation and entrepreneurship, and international studies.

Lawrence also offers three majors in its professional music program leading to the Bachelor of Music degree performance, theory/composition, and music education. Students seeking the B.Mus. degree may also complete any of the minors or interdisciplinary areas listed above as part of their program.

Professional study in music and study in the liberal arts may be combined in a five-year, double-degree program leading to both Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees, the latter with a major other than music.

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Established in 1894, the Lawrence Conservatory of Music is an integral component of a nationally recognized, exclusively undergraduate institution. Music students at Lawrence University take full advantage of course work in the liberal arts and sciences, often pursuing double degree programs and benefiting from the opportunity to work directly with senior faculty members across the disciplines. The Conservatory offers the Bachelor of Music degree in performance, music education, or theory/composition, and the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in music.

GRADUATION AND RETENTION

2008 Cohort 6-year Graduation Rate 79%  
Freshman to Sophomore Retention Rate (2013–14) 90%  
Degrees Awarded (2013–14) 383  
Students Receiving Degrees (2013–14) 366  
B.A. + 295 (81%)  
B.Mus. 54 (15%)  
B.A./B.Mus. 17 (5%)

Majors with the largest number of graduates (in descending order): music performance (58), biology (49), psychology (42), government (40), English (27), economics (26), biochemistry (21), history (19), anthropology (17), environmental studies (17), music education (17), mathematics (15), theatre arts (15), art studio (12), Spanish (10).  

ENROLLMENT (FALL 2014)

Total Enrollment 1,519  
Full-Time 1,473 (97%)  
Part-Time 46 (3%)  
Degree-Seeking Students 1,483  
Men 676 (46%)  
Women 807 (54%)  
Total Student FTEa 1,488  
Race/Ethnic Compositiona  
African American 51 (3%)  
Asian 60 (4%)  
Hispanic/Latino/Latina of any race 100 (7%)  
Two or more races 59 (4%)  
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 0 (0%)  
Native American/Alaskan Native 8 (0.5%)  
Non-Resident International 158 (10%)  
Race/Ethnicity Unknown 9 (0.6%)  
White 1,074 (71%)  
Geographic Representation 45 states plus the District of Columbia and Virgin Islands 38 foreign countries

a Part-time includes three-quarter time, half-time, and less than half-time.  
b Based on PEDS calculation of FTE by enrollment headcount: Full-time + (Part-time/3)  
c Percentage exceeds 100 due to rounding.
ENTERING FRESHMEN PROFILE (CLASS OF 2018)

Number Applied 2,747
Acceptance Rate 73%
Number Matriculated 385
Average Combined SAT Score* (verbal + math) 1,290 (for submitters only)
Average ACT Score* 29 (for submitters only)
Top 10% of High School Class 41%
Average High School GPA** 3.51

* SAT and ACT scores are not required for application.
** Reflects only unweighted high school grades; weighted grades have not been used.

OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMS
Lawrence encourages students to engage in at least one term of study away from the campus and offers 56 off-campus programs: 9 domestic and 47 international. Nearly 40% of each graduating class will have studied abroad during their time at Lawrence. The college itself sponsors the Lawrence London Centre and the Francophone Seminar in Dakar, Senegal and administers a Marine Biology term including field study in Grand Cayman. Other programs are offered through Lawrence’s membership in or affiliation with a variety of organizations including the Associated Colleges of the Midwest, Associated Colleges in China, Great Lakes Colleges Association, Institute for the International Education of Students, and International Studies Abroad. Study abroad programs are offered for students in all academic areas and students receive strong advising and administrative assistance as they consider their options, prepare for their program, and upon returning to campus.

Sponsored Off-Campus Program Participants (2013–14) 134
Domestic 8 (6%)
Study Abroad 126 (94%)

FINANCIAL AID PROFILE (AS OF OCTOBER 2014)

Total Financial Aid $48.3 million
Lawrence Gift Aid $33.2 million (68.7%)
Average Need-Based Financial Aid Package $35,576
Degree-Seeking Students Receiving Aid (Fall 2014) 1,448 (98%)
International Students Receiving Aid 131
Domestic Students Receiving Need-Based Aid 971
Domestic Students Receiving Non-Need Based or Merit-Only Aid 46

FACULTY (2014–15)

Full-time Faculty (Fall 2014) 161
FTE Faculty a 173
Percent Full-time Faculty/FTE 93%
Full-time Faculty who Hold the Ph.D. or Other Terminal Degree 93%
Full-time Tenure-Track Positions (134) with Tenured Faculty 75%
Student-Faculty Ratio a 8.6:1

CLASS SIZE (2013–14)

1 (College) 569 (18%)
1 (Conservatory) 1,427 (45%)
2-9 441 (14%)
10-19 463 (15%)
20-29 155 (5%)
30-39 45 (1%)
40-49 32 (1%)
50 Plus 27 (1%)

FACULTY (2014–15)

Full-time Faculty (Fall 2014) 161
FTE Faculty a 173
Percent Full-time Faculty/FTE 93%
Full-time Faculty who Hold the Ph.D. or Other Terminal Degree 93%
Full-time Tenure-Track Positions (134) with Tenured Faculty 75%
Student-Faculty Ratio a 8.6:1

a Based on IPEDS FTE calculation: Full-time + (Part-time/3)

FRESHMEN STUDIES

Entering students enroll in Freshman Studies, a two-course sequence specifically designed to acquaint them with the modes of inquiry characteristic of intellectual discourse at Lawrence and to enhance their reading, writing, and speaking skills. Through the study of important works of systematic thought or creative imagination, the course raises for discussion and analysis important ideas of abiding concern. Freshman Studies is both an introduction to and an integral part of a Lawrence education.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Secondary education certification (early adolescent through adolescence, grades 6–12) is available for most majors offered in the B.A. curriculum. Early childhood through adolescence (K-12) certification is offered in art, foreign languages (Latin, Chinese, Japanese, French, German, Russian, and Spanish), and music (choral, general, and instrumental). Certification in elementary education will begin in Fall 2016.