

ALASKA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Anchorage, Alaska

Founded in 1959, Alaska Pacific University (APU) is a four-year liberal arts college on a 170-acre wooded campus right in the heart of Anchorage and near the foothills of the Chugach Mountains. The additional 700-acre Kellogg campus 45 miles east of Anchorage serves as the university's environmental learning center and is home to Spring Creek Farm, APU's community service agriculture project. Attracting students from around Alaska, the lower 48 and the world, the diverse on-campus community of approximately 500 students includes student-led clubs and a regional Olympic training center for cross-country skiers. Intentionally small class size underscores APU's commitment to student-centered, experiential learning that emphasizes rigorous academics and challenging field work in the arts and sciences. Adhering to a founding commitment to help Alaskans achieve higher education that contributes to Alaska's well-being, APU emphasizes teaching and research that engages the region's social, cultural, environmental and geopolitical issues.

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 10:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: Business Administration & Management, Environmental Science (including Earth Science & Marine Biology), Liberal Studies (including Religious Studies, Writing, and Pre-Med among others), Outdoor Studies and Counseling Psychology. APU also offers [Graduate degrees](#) including: MS Counseling Psychology; MS in Environmental Science; General MBA as well as MBAs in Information and Communication Technology, Strategic Leadership, and Healthcare Administration; Master of Arts; and MS in Outdoor and Environmental Education.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: A 4-week Fall Block and 4-week Spring Block followed by an 11-week Fall Session and 11-week Spring Session respectively. During the four-week Block, students take one intensive course, giving them an opportunity to take a field course, travel course or another hands-on course.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- Energy efficient boiler and lighting upgrades in Atwood Center
- Overhaul of mechanical and electrical in Moseley Sports Center
- Lighting and control upgrades in many buildings
- Biodiesel alternative fuel initiative
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) on organic farm
- Weekly on-campus, year-round farmer's market featuring APU produce
- Food composting program
- Locally sourced food purchase plan for students
- Trayless cafeteria
- Paperless records

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH

- Outdoor Programs – offer students in all majors camping, hiking, mountaineering, canoeing, river rafting, sea kayaking, skiing, ice climbing and biking trips
- APU's Nordic Ski Center
- The Jim Mahaffey Trail System
- Kellogg Farm – provides diverse opportunities for learning and teaching about the natural world and the human-nature relationship
- The Consortium Library – a shared resource between University of Alaska-Anchorage and Alaska Pacific University that gives students access to over 930,000 volumes, 250 databases and 70,000 journals and e-books
- Expedition Alaska – an experience for first-year students

COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC, Bar Harbor, Maine

College of the Atlantic (COA) is a four-year liberal arts college located on a 38-acre campus in the small coastal town of Bar Harbor, Maine on Mount Desert Island. The oceanfront campus is tucked between the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the mountains and trails of Acadia National Park just down the road on the other. The college includes two organic teaching farms and two remote island research stations. Chartered in 1969 by a group of local community members and educators, it has chosen to remain small with approximately 350 students from 36 countries and 43 states. The diverse student body is matched by 35 faculty members who encourage interdisciplinary problem solving and an ever-evolving curriculum that adapts to students' interests and the changing world. COA students craft their own interdisciplinary program of study to receive a Bachelor of Arts or a Master of Philosophy in Human Ecology. A human ecological perspective integrates knowledge from all academic disciplines and from personal experience to investigate the relationships between humans and our social and natural communities. Common themes include marine studies, sustainable agriculture and food systems, environmental law and policy, fine arts, ecological planning, sustainable business and entrepreneurship, ecology and natural history, graphic design, conservation biology, film and animation, literature and writing, education and international environmental diplomacy

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO - 10:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: All students major in Human Ecology, selecting courses from across three academic resource areas –Arts & Design, Environmental Science and Human Studies. Human Ecology is the study of our relationship with our natural, social, and built environments.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: COA is on a trimester schedule, with 10-week terms in fall, winter, and spring.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- Recently the college has shifted from buying carbon offsets, instead investing in a student-centered approach where students are directly engaged in sustainability and energy projects that impact the campus and the community
- The Kathryn W. Davis Student Residences – feature a centralized wood pellet boiler burning a renewable fuel, a heat recovery ventilation system, recycled cellulose insulation, a gray water recovery system, compact fluorescent or LED lighting and composting toilets
- Solar panels on many facilities
- Two electric vehicles and solar car charging stations on campus and at the college's farm
- More than 30% of food is sourced from local, organic, or sustainable sources; all food waste is composted

- Divestment in fossil fuels and tobacco companies

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH

- On-campus library, GIS lab and art gallery
- Offshore island research stations on Mount Desert Rock and Great Duck Island– provide students with opportunities to participate in ongoing ornithological and marine mammal research projects and conduct their own research
- Dorr Museum of Natural History
- The Hatchery: a sustainable business incubator
- Greenhouse, gardens, two organic farms
- Allied Whale, COA's marine mammal research group
- The Herbarium, a shared resource between COA and Acadia National Park, allows botanists to observe differences in species with respect to time and geography

DICKINSON COLLEGE, Carlisle, PA

Dickinson College is a four-year residential liberal-arts college located in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Chartered in 1783 just days after the conclusion of the American Revolution, Dickinson was established to provide a different kind of education, one that is rigorously rooted in the traditional liberal arts while also useful for citizens of a new democracy. The college includes a 50-acre farm, the Center for Sustainability Education, the Center for Global Studies and Engagement, the Center for Civic Learning and Action and various athletic facilities. More than 2,300 students from 44 U.S. states and 46 foreign countries are encouraged to be actively engaged with the wider world.

Dickinson offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in 22 disciplinary majors and 20 interdisciplinary majors, including 13 language programs. More than 50% of students study abroad. Students are encouraged to get involved in 100+ student-run clubs and activities, including varsity, club and intramural sports; music and drama; publications; fraternities and sororities; and religious, political, special-interest and community-service organizations. Dickinson offers students pathways to civic engagement, such as service learning, community-based research and independent applied research. Dickinsonians are encouraged to develop intellectual independence and a passion for learning, and to explore how they can make a difference in their communities in informed, thoughtful and sustainable ways.

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 9:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: Over 40 programs, including Africana Studies, Anthropology, Archaeology, Art and Art History, Astronomy, Biology, Earth Sciences, East Asian Studies, Economics, Environmental Studies/Science, History, International Business & Management, Law & Policy, Neuroscience, Psychology, and Women's & Gender Studies, to name a few.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: A fall semester and spring semester, each 16-weeks in length

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- Over 100 sustainability courses offered across the curriculum
- Offer training to faculty from Dickinson and other colleges in educating for sustainability
- Student farmers produce food for the campus and community
- Students work with watershed organizations to monitor and protect waterways in PA, NY and WV
- Students conduct sustainability research on campus, Dickinson Farm, Carlisle, abroad & U.N. climate change conferences
- 3-MW solar field generates 25% of campus electricity use
- Zero net GHG emissions achieved in 2020
- Working with Borough of Carlisle to develop a climate action plan
- All food waste from dining hall composted at Dickinson Farm
- LEED certified buildings: 1 Platinum, 5 Gold

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH

- Center for Sustainability Education
- Center for Civic Learning and Action
- Center for Global Study & Engagement
- Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM)
- Dickinson College Farm, 80-acre USDA-certified organic farm
- 38 study-abroad programs in 24 countries on 6 continents
- Mosaics: multicourse community-based study and research programs
- The Hive beekeeping cooperative
- The Handlebar bicycle cooperative
- Center for Sustainable Living student residence, aka The Treehouse
- Baird Sustainability Fellows
- Archaeology laboratories and dig simulator
- Reineman Wildlife Sanctuary

NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, Sarasota, FL

Founded in 1960 and located in Sarasota, New College of Florida is a public liberal arts college that prepares intellectually curious students for lives of great achievement. As the designated Honors College of Florida, New College offers rigorous academics, small class sizes, student evaluations that go beyond grades, and a learning environment that cultivates a culture of discovery through students' independent study and senior thesis projects. New College offers nearly 40 undergraduate majors and a master's degree program in Data Science. The 110-acre bay front campus is home to more than 800 students and 80 full-time faculty engaged in interdisciplinary research and collaborative learning. Undergraduates spend all four years living in on-campus residence halls, many of which were designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei. New College ranks as the #1 public university in the nation for the percentage of its graduates who earn PhDs in science and engineering. It is the only liberal arts college in the nation with a marine science research center located on its main campus. In 2018, New College adopted a ten-year strategic plan that is focused on growing enrollment to 1,200 students and raising four-year graduation rates to 80%. New College is a member of the Cross-College Alliance with four other higher education institutions in Sarasota and Bradenton that provide cross-enrollment in courses.

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 10:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: Academic programs in natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities that encompass nearly 40 majors including anthropology, biochemistry, environmental studies, and marine biology.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: The academic year consists of two fourteen-week semesters and a four-week January Interterm devoted to independent study.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- Received TreeCampus USA designation for its urban forestry management practices
- LEED Gold certification for the sustainability features of its two newest buildings
- The campus also features a natural plant habitat for native species of Florida
- Apiary that provides hives for thousands of bees.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH

- The Heiser Natural Sciences Complex contains a state-of-the-art Optical Spectroscopy and Nano-materials lab, research greenhouse, chemistry labs, and multiple spectrometers.
- The Pritzker Marine Biology Research Center includes seven research labs and over 100 aquaria, anchored by a 15,000-gallon research and display tank.
- The Public Archaeology Lab features more than 1,600 square feet of workspace for processing and interpreting artifacts as well as storage space for excavated finds.
- New College also owns an undeveloped section of Tidy Island in Sarasota Bay, where faculty and students conduct ecological research.

NORTHLAND COLLEGE, Ashland, WI

Founded in 1892, Northland College is a four-year liberal arts college that has been a leader in blending an environmental focus with a liberal arts mission since 1971, enabling those it serves to address the challenges of the future. Some 600 students from 30+ states and several countries attend Northland College. Northland College makes the most of its location in Ashland, Wisconsin, located next to Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake in the world and home to the Apostle Islands and surrounded by a million acres of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Faculty, staff, students, and community experts lead undergraduate research, internships, fieldwork, and coursework on the water, in the field, and in the community. Listed as one of Sierra magazine's "cool schools," Northland College is leading sustainability in higher education. Currently 46 percent of the campus dining budget is spent on local foods and the College has a goal of reaching 80 percent by 2020. The composting center, run by students, is growing and taking in food waste from households in town. Last year alone, the College composted 96,000 pounds of food waste, then distributed and sold the compost to local farmers and gardeners. Students also manage the multiple gardens on campus—and the College is adding sustainable agriculture as a minor starting in Fall 2019. The Hulings Rice Food Center along with two other centers of excellence, employ students to lead research and innovation on topics concerning the region. The Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation investigates and monitors water quality in Lake Superior and the surrounding rivers, streams, and lakes—including Bay City Creek that flows through campus to the lake—and looks for solutions. Through research, polls, and studies, the Center for Rural Communities attempts to better understand rural communities and fill in the gaps of data, often missing in controversial issues.

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 11:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: Over 40 programs including Art, Biology, Chemistry, Education, English, Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology, Forestry, Gender and Women's Studies, Geology, Graphic Design, Humanity and Nature Studies, Meteorology, Native American Studies, Natural Resources, Outdoor Education, Religious Studies, Sociology and Social Justice, Sustainable Community Development and Writing among others.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: A 14-week Fall Term and Winter Term followed by a 4-week May Term. During the May Term, students take one intensive course, giving them an opportunity to dive into a field course, travel course or another hands-on experience.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- Local Foods Initiative – a partnership with Chartwells, UW Extension, Chequamegon Food Co-op, Bayfield Regional Food Producers Cooperative and local farms
- Mino Aki Garden – produces fresh produce for the cafeteria and campus events
- Renewable Energy Fund – led by students to support campus sustainability initiatives
- Renewable energy including wind towers, solar panels and geothermal heat
- Reuse Room
- McLean Environmental Learning and Living Center residence hall
- LEED Gold-certified buildings
- Native landscaping

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH————

- Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute
- Applied Research and Environmental Laboratory
- Center for Rural Communities
- Food Lab and Composting Facility
- Indigenous Culture Center
- Member of Center for Ecological Living and Learning (CELL)
- Member of Round River Conservation Studies
- The Outpost – outdoor gear rental
- Sunshine Bike Shop
- Northland College community radio station
- Greenhouse

PRESCOTT COLLEGE, Prescott, AZ

In 1963, the Ford Foundation challenged the country's most innovative educators to come together and design an "ideal college for the future that would prepare students for contributing in an ever changing, and ever faster moving, world." Founded in 1966, Prescott College is a four-year liberal arts college made up of a community of intellectuals and explorers whose connecting threads are a passion for social justice and the environment, and a keen sense of adventure. Prescott College is located in a resort town and surrounded by Granite Mountain, the Granite Dells, The Prescott National Forest and Thumb Butte, making the area attractive to students who seek outdoor adventure. The college includes the main campus and multiple field stations including Kino Bay Center for Cultural and Ecological Studies and Jenner Farm.

The approximately 1,000 students that attend Prescott College participate in the many cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities that Prescott College and the surrounding area offer. Offering undergraduate degrees in six interdisciplinary Areas of Study, students can pursue a wide variety of disciplines, in addition to incorporating interdisciplinary study. Through experiential learning and self-direction within an interdisciplinary curriculum, Prescott College strives to educate students of diverse ages and backgrounds to understand, thrive in and enhance our world community and environment. At Prescott College, the best learning is collaborative and the best teaching is individual.

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 7:1

MAJORS/ AREAS OF STUDY: Students pursue undergraduate degrees in six interdisciplinary Areas of Study including Adventure Education, Arts and Letters, Cultural and Regional Studies, Education and Teacher Preparation, Environmental Studies and Human Development. Within these Areas of Study, students can explore competencies/majors in Adventure Education, Agroecology, Conservation Biology, Counseling Psychology, Cultural and Regional Studies, Geography, Latin American Studies, Marine Studies, Peace Studies, Photography, Psychology, Visual Arts, Women's Studies and Writing and Literature among others. Prescott College also offers graduate programs including a Master of Arts; Master of Education; Master of Science in Counseling and PhD program.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR: A 4-week Fall Block and 4-week Winter Block followed by an 11-week Fall Semester and 11-week Spring Semester respectively. During the four-week Block, students take one intensive course, giving them an opportunity to take a field course, travel course or another hands-on course.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABILITY

- LEED Platinum certified townhouses
- Many buildings have been converted to classrooms from their previous purposes
- Crossroads Center was built was reclaimed timber and CORTEN steel
- Pledge to develop a timeline for becoming "carbon-neutral"
- Funding for student projects related to sustainability
- Prescott College Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) through Jenner Farm
- Helping Understand Bicycles (HUB)
- Butte Creek Restoration Council

SPECIAL PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & RESEARCH

- Wilderness orientation for Resident Undergraduate students
- [Kino Bay Center for Cultural and Ecological Studies](#)
- Member of CIEL – Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning
- Member of Arizona Wilderness Coalition
- Institute for Sustainable Social Change
- Maasai Community Partnership Project
- Centaur Leadership Services (CLS) – offers Equine-Assisted Learning (EAL) and Equine-Assisted Mental Health (EAMH) programs