critical thinking
AND
creativity
Essential preparation for 21st-century careers

Rankings
ONE OF THE TOP 6 REGIONAL PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN THE MIDWEST
“America’s Best Colleges” U.S. News & World Report

ONE OF THE TOP 10 BEST ONLINE MBA PROGRAMS
“Best Online Programs” U.S. News & World Report

A “BEST MIDWESTERN COLLEGE”
A “GREEN COLLEGE”
The Princeton Review

ONE OF TOP 5 IN UW SYSTEM FOR ANNUAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT
PayScale.com

BEST FOR VETS, Military Times

MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL, Victory Media

17TH IN THE NATION FOR THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO STUDY ABROAD
Institute of International Education

Facts at a Glance
FALL 2014 ENROLLMENT 10,689
UNDERGRADUATES 10,164
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 263
MULTICULTURAL STUDENTS 860
STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD 1 IN 4
STUDENTS ENGAGING IN RESEARCH W/ FACULTY 1 IN 3
STUDENTS DOING INTERNSHIPS 1 IN 2
FACULTY-TO-STUDENT RATIO 1-TO-21
AVERAGE CLASS SIZE 29
FACULTY WHO ARE FULL TIME 82%
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS 270
MUSIC AND DANCE ENSEMBLES 50+
NCAA DIVISION III SPORTS TEAMS 22
MAJORS 52
MASTER’S PROGRAMS 9
DOCTORAL PROGRAM 1
UW-Eau Claire Centers & Institutes

Center of Excellence for Student Research
Designated in 1988 as the University of Wisconsin System’s Center of Excellence for Faculty and Undergraduate Student Research Collaboration, UW-Eau Claire has a dynamic program that engages more than 800 students each year. Undergraduate students work collaboratively with faculty on original research ranging from sciences to business to the arts, and 150 students each year go to professional conferences, including NCUR, to present their research. An annual student research day—Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (CERCA)—is held Spring Semester to showcase project results; 2015 marked its 23rd year and 585 students presented their collaborative research with 196 faculty mentors.

Institute for Health Sciences
Nurses for Wisconsin Learn. Teach. Lead. is an initiative that is supported by a $3.2 million award from the UW System 2013-2015 Economic Development Incentive program. Four University of Wisconsin System nursing programs—UW-Eau Claire (lead), UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Oshkosh—offered fellowship and loan forgiveness programs to encourage nurses to pursue doctoral degrees or postdoctoral training and assume nurse educator positions in Wisconsin.

The program made 41 awards to PhDs and Doctorate of Nursing Practitioner (DNP) fellows and has helped retain ten crucial nursing faculty through the loan forgiveness feature of the program.

Institute for Health Sciences is a multipurpose organization that supports the advancement and visibility of the UW-Eau Claire pre-professional and professional health science programs. Health Careers Center is a specialized career center established to assist students in exploring health careers, building effective skills and tools for career development, and preparing for admission into health professional programs.

Human Development Center and the Center for Communication Disorders
Providing clinical services, including behavioral and speech/language, to children and families in the Eau Claire area. Both centers are staffed by university faculty who mentor undergraduate and graduate students as they gain clinical training.

Center for Health Administration and Aging Services Excellence
A unique partnership that combines the energy of academia with provider organizations and professional associations. CHAASE serves as a bridge between academics and practitioners in the senior care continuum and is a conduit to advancing a national presence in the field of healthcare administration and aging. In 2010, the healthcare administration program was reaccredited for a five year term by the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB). The healthcare administration program, first accredited in 2005, is one of only seven NAB-accredited programs in the country.

 Partnerships exist with 72 practicum experience sites in 6 states in the upper mid-west. This practicum experience, plus coursework, makes graduates eligible to sit for the Nursing Home Administrators licensure examination in Wisconsin and 15 other states. Graduates are prepared to go on for advanced degrees and to assume senior positions in aging service, the government sector, or the acute care sector.
The Materials Science Center
Building on a strong tradition at UW-Eau Claire of engaging students in collaborative research with faculty scholars, the MSC incorporates research into the undergraduate experience. Faculty in the MSC bring expertise in nano-materials, semiconductors, thin films, surface science, polymers and environmental chemistry to industrial collaborations. Through extensive partnerships with regional universities, technical colleges, and industries—and summer research experiences, academic coursework, internships, and fee-for-service projects—the MSC satisfies regional industry’s immediate materials characterization needs and prepares its future STEM workforce.

Active participation in research experiences by undergraduates is an effective means to solidify interest in science and retain STEM majors, especially for students from groups underrepresented in the scientific workforce. Students use cutting-edge techniques and instruments (e.g., transmission electron microscopes, nanoindenters, scanning auger nanoprobes) and see themselves as doing science as a career. This gives them a distinct advantage as they apply for jobs and graduate school.

The Responsible Mining Initiative
A new endeavor, supported by a $450,000 grant from the UW System 2013-2015 Economic Development Incentive program. So far, the Responsible Mining Initiative has signed three MOUs that created high-paying summer internships for students and attracted an additional $50,000 from the private sector. This UW-Eau Claire program is the first of its kind in the Upper Midwest.

Metallic and non-metallic resources are the foundation of a strong economy, and environmentally safe, responsible resource recovery is vital. Responsible mining demands professionals with backgrounds in geology, hydrogeology, restoration ecology, and regulatory policy, but a dedicated program that provides the necessary training does not exist in the upper Midwest. The Responsible Mining Initiative will increase STEM participation and contribute to the development of an educated and skilled workforce in Wisconsin.

UWEC’s emphasis on undergraduate research has also developed my ability to draw connections between material learned in my courses and their applications to the real world—a skill that will prove absolutely essential as I continue on my academic path at Oxford.

TAYO SANDERS II, Neenah, WI

48% of undergrad students work in an internship before graduating
Watershed Institute for Collaborative Environmental Studies (WICES) has the goal to develop an increased environmental awareness, vital ecological literacy, a commitment to conservation and sustainability, and a respectful, appreciative, and ethically intentional relationship between human society and the natural world.

WICES assets include interdisciplinary expertise in biology, chemistry, economics, English, geography and anthropology, philosophy and religious studies, and public health nursing.

WICES has existing partnerships with a variety of local and statewide groups concerned about environmental civic agency, including the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Clear Vision Eau Claire, Lower Chippewa River Alliance, River Country Resource Conservation and Development Council, and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Active research projects include a collaboration with University of Iowa for sample collection and community education related to sand mining and a WICES faculty member’s recent book, Empire of Water: An Environmental and Political History of the New York City Water Supply.

The Cyberbullying Research Center
A comprehensive website, including blog and news feed, that provides information about all aspects of cyberbullying. Up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents is included. The center’s website includes everything from strategies for keeping teens safe online to tips for preserving evidence when cyberbullying occurs. It gets up to 1.5 million hits from 70,000 unique users a month.

The Cyberbullying Research Center’s co-director, an internationally known expert on cyberbullying, has been invited by the U.S. Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Obama administration to share his research and insights on the causes of and solutions for bullying at the White House. He has served as a visiting scholar with the FBI, conducting research and training bureau staff on cyberbullying issues.
Sponsors
Federal and private sponsors for STEM research and education have recently included:

- National Science Foundation through its Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI), Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), and Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) programs.

- U.S. Department of Energy through their Early Career Research Program.

- The Camille & Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Inc. and its Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award program

- Research Corporation's Cottrell College Science Award.

- Wisconsin Alliance for Minority Participation (WiscAMP) Small Grants program to increase the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded to underrepresented minorities in STEM fields.

- UW System and WiSys Technology Foundation have furthered economic development-related research and supported workforce development through undergraduate research experiences.

UW-Eau Claire has a long history of funding from the U.S. Department of Education. Current grants include:

- Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program

- Student Support Services | Upward Bound

- Student Support Services for Students with Disabilities

experience AND inspiration
Providing valuable resource and high quality programs

A faculty member in Environmental and Public Health received a Fulbright Scholar award in 2012. He taught and conducted research at the University of Eastern Finland, where he studied the exposure of Finnish children to heavy metals and impacts on health. UW-Eau Claire has had four other Fulbright scholars since 2007.
UW-Eau Claire Partnerships

Confluence Project
In keeping with The Wisconsin Idea, UW-Eau Claire strives to serve our community and state through education, research, and outreach. Through a unique partnership, Zach Halmstad, UW-Eau Claire alumnus and co-founder of JAMF Software, pledged $500,000 to support the construction of a new arts center in downtown Eau Claire that will serve both community arts activities and UW-Eau Claire’s nationally renowned Music and Theatre Program. This public-private partnership is known as the Confluence Project and includes plans to construct a commercial/retail complex and UW-Eau Claire student housing at the downtown site. The nearly $70 million project is being funded through a combination of private investment, state and local funding, as well as $13.5 million in philanthropy. Halmstad graduated with a degree in music and used his liberal arts education to create an international software company. More than 35% of JAMF’s employees are UW-Eau Claire graduates with degrees ranging from computer science to English. Halmstead has indicated that realization of the Confluence Project is key to him being able to attract and retain talented employees for his rapidly expanding company.

The Small Business Development Center
The Center for Business Solutions is dedicated to providing easy and affordable access to recognized experts, high quality programs, and valuable resources within the University to help local and regional businesses realize their goals. The Small Business Development Center helps with idea evaluation, start-up guidance, and expansion assistance for business owners and entrepreneurs.

The Chippewa Valley Center for Economic Research and Development
Providing local/regional economic data along with research and analysis as a service to the community.