Northwestern University

Self-Guided Tour

Welcome to Northwestern University! Thanks for taking the time to explore our campus. Our tour is designed to introduce you to our diverse and collaborative community, and to help you imagine whether Northwestern's flexible, interdisciplinary and innovative academic and social environment is the right fit for you.



Interview of the Northwestern Tour Guide team



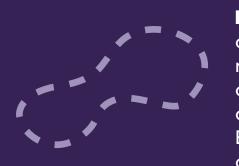
Welcome to **Northwestern University**, founded in 1851 here in Evanston, Illinois. Northwestern is located about 12 miles north of the Chicago Loop (the downtown Chicago area) and 2 miles north of the Chicago cityline. We feel so lucky to live so close to such an amazing city and throughout this tour will definitely point out the ways in which Northwestern and its students benefit from being in the Chicagoland area. We also love our Evanston campus and hope that you enjoy getting to know this area a little better today. Currently you are about a five minute walk from downtown Evanston, where there are tons of restaurants, coffee shops, and local businesses all accessible to Northwestern students.

Step 1 If you're a prospective undergraduate student, register for today's tour here to let our team know that you visited campus and to stay in touch with us throughout your college search.

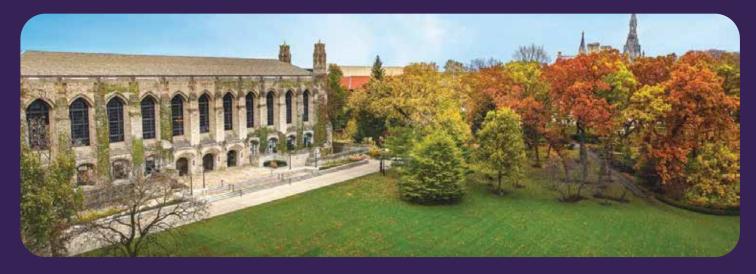
Step 2 Plan your route!



Regular Route Spend 45-60 minutes exploring the core of campus with a comprehensive introduction to academic spaces, residential options, campus traditions and student life resources. Learn more about daily student life through stories and insight from over 20 current student tour guides.



Long Route If you have the time to dive deeper into campus, take 75-90 minutes to explore our long tour route. It includes the content from the Regular Route and brings you further north to explore more academic spaces (including the School of Engineering), the North Residential Areas, and athletic, recreation, and entrepreneurial resources.



Build your own adventure The routes above are only suggestions. Much like the real Northwestern student experience, you should feel free to chart your own course, explore as much of campus as possible and find spaces that fit your unique interests. Use our interactive map below to explore different campus sites and guide your exploration.

Step 3 Keep learning. No matter where you are in your college search journey, our team is here to help you learn more about Northwestern. Connect with us on social media, check out our website to explore more engagement opportunities, and contact us with any questions.



Enjoy your visit to Northwestern. Go 'Cats!

(1) SEGAL VISITORS CENTER



(1) Begin your tour outside of the **Segal Visitors Center.** Admission staff members are generally available in-person and by phone at (847) 491-7271, Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM and on select Saturday mornings, to answer any questions you may have during or after the tour. Walking west (away from the lake!), safely cross the street at the crosswalk toward Fisk Hall to begin your walking tour.

On your right you will see **Fisk Hall**, built in 1899 and home to the **Medill School of Journalism**, **Media, Integrated Marketing Communications**. Medill is one of our six undergraduate schools and offers a Journalism major as well as a certificate in Integrated Marketing Communications. One of the leading journalism schools in the country. Medill boasts unique opportunities like the **Journalism Residency** and **Medill on the Hill**. These programs encourage students to engage with the world around them and help expand their knowledge of journalism and integrated marketing communications.



(2) FISK HALL

STUDENT STORIES

My first professor in Medill, Michael Deas, has become not only a mentor but also a friend. He took the time and effort to make our class close and colloborative and I met some of my closest friends on campus there. Outside of the class, he still takes the time to email our entire class to make sure we are all doing ok and to address whatever might be going on in the world at the time. Every time I see him on campus he stops whatever he is doing to catch up with me. He has also been my go-to reference whenever I'm going through a recruiting process for a new job or opportunity.

Ben, Medill School of Journalism

"I took part in the Medill on the Hill Program, which is a political reporting program in Washington, D.C. I spent half of the week covering news on Capitol Hill and the other half in journalism and political science classes. Everything that we worked on was published to the Medill on the Hill website, but there were many opportunities to have pieces published in partner publications like USA Today and Sojourners Magazine. While I was there, I covered the impeachment trials, the State of the Union address, and countless Senate hearings. While having these once in a lifetime experiences, I was also able to network with several journalists and Medill alumni."

Janea, Medill School of Journalism

"I met one of my best friends on the second day of school because we lived in the same residential college. We don't study the same thing or do any of the same extracurriculars, so we probably never would have met if it weren't for the community-building programming that every residential building offers. Getting to know the people you live with is an amazing way to build community, especially before you get a chance to get to know people from your classes or clubs."



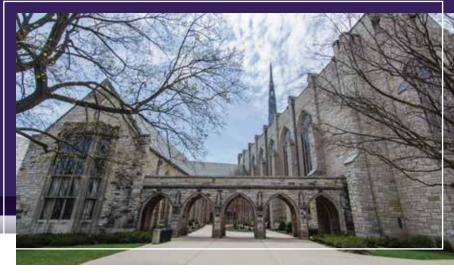
Coming up on your right you'll see two of our on-campus housing options. If you face the buildings, East Fairchild, or the Communications Residential College (CRC), is on the right, and West Fairchild, or the International Studies Residential College (ISRC), is on the left.

There are 27 residential buildings in total, located in 4 residential areas across campus: South, Southwest, North, and Northeast. Each area is home to about 1,000 students and comprised of 4-8 buildings, including both residence halls and residential colleges. Each area is led by Faculty-in-Residence (live-in Northwestern faculty) and Resident Directors (live-in Residential Life professionals). Students have access to all the amenities in each area, including gyms, dining halls, study and lounge spaces, and more. Students can also live in all-gender or special-interest housing. Northwestern students live on campus for at least two years.

You are currently in the South Area; to visit the Northeast Area, continue onto the Long Route after Deering Library (7). To learn more about our housing options or to take a virtual residential life tour, you can visit the Undergraduate Housing page.

"My first year I lived in Elder Residential Hall and I loved all the built-in programming my faculty-in-residence offered to help folks get to know each other. We'd have Wednesday night fireside chats about everything from the Oscars to conspiracy theories, monthly Pizza 'n' Puppies nights where we catered in pizza *and* puppies, and Sunday-night Apple Cider 'n' Donuts to decompress before the upcoming week of classes. I met a ton of my best friends at those events (and just hanging out in my floor's common room), and I'm still super close with those folks three years later!" **Robby, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences**

(4) ALICE MILLAR CHAPEL



(4) On the south side of Sheridan Road, across from the Weber Arch, you'll see the Alice Millar Chapel, one of the many spaces of faith on campus. For a full list of religious and spiritual organizations on campus visit the Religious and Spiritual Life page.

At Northwestern, we want to ensure students that there are that students have spaces on campus where they can gather, practice, celebrate, and live out their individual identities on campus on both a student, personal and institutional collective level. Northwestern's Campus Inclusion and Community division seeks to work collaboratively with the university community to cultivate inclusive learning environments. They do so by providing students with education through Social Justice Education, enrichment through Student Enrichment Services, and engagement through Multicultural Student Affairs.

Northwestern is committed to supporting a diverse and inclusive campus community. It's important to us as students that this is important to Northwestern as an institution; to explore Northwestern's diversity and inclusion initiatives and commitments visit the webpage here.

Check out Multicultural Student Affairs at any or all their 3 locations—the Gender & Sexuality Center (Norris), the Multicultural Center (21), and the newly renovated Black House (22)!

STUDENT STORIES

"My first year on campus I felt a little bit lost after fall quarter, but I was really lucky to find a home in United Christian Ministries (UCM) on campus. UCM is a Christian group on campus focused on inclusivity, discussion, and community. Every Sunday the group enjoys a home-cooked meal together in an actual house on campus. This fostered such a sense of warmth and care that I really needed after a few months of adjustment to campus."

Kayla, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

WEBER ARCH

The Weber Arch was built in 1993, 142 years after Northwestern was founded. It has since become a staple of Northwestern's campus and its traditions. At the beginning of every year during our Wildcat Welcome orientation week, incoming Northwestern students gather together where you're standing now and march through The Arch together as a symbol of the beginning of their Northwestern journey. The marching band plays, the President speaks, and family members inevitably cry. Four years later, seniors gather with their graduating class one more time to march back out of The Arch and into the real world. March through the Arch is one of the few times your whole class will be together, and one of our favorite traditions!



STUDENT STORIES

"I love March Through The Arch! As a Peer Adviser I've done it multiple times now, and there is something so fun about the energy that everyone has (especially all of the student organizations) as they gather around The Arch and cheer for the new students. I think it's a great welcoming tradition and honestly something that I think about all the time as I walk through The Arch (which happens multiple times a day) and is one of those Northwestern memories that I won't ever forget."

Radhika, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

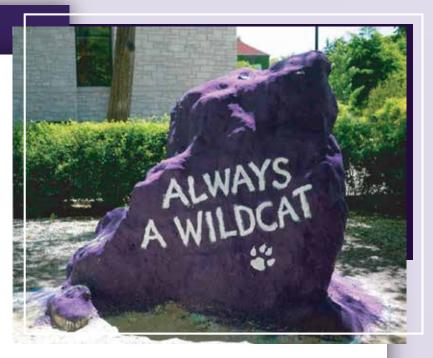
Walk through the Arch and continue down the path toward the Rock (you'll know it when you see it!)

(5/6) You are now entering Rock Plaza. On your right is Harris Hall which houses the History Department. On your left you'll pass University Hall, which, in addition to housing the English Department, was also the first building on Northwestern's campus. It is built from the same limestone as the Chicago Water Tower and initially housed much of the University. Just ahead of you behind the rock is Kresge Centennial Hall, built for Northwestern's Centennial. All of these buildings house departments in the Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences, the largest of our six undergraduate colleges. Weinberg offers roughly 50% of the majors on campus and is most distinguished by its Foundational Disciplines model.

Foundational Disciplines are the hallmark of Northwestern's liberal arts education. Rather than having specific class requirements or general education courses, Weinberg students take two classes in each of six foundational intellectual areas. Students are able to choose from any of the classes offered in those areas based on their own interests and strengths, allowing them to explore many different areas of study in addition to their major.

THE ROCK

Finally, in front of you is The Rock, which is not, in fact, a rock. As the story goes, many years ago The Rock was actually a large purple quartz fountain. One winter, the fountain froze over and the pipes burst, rendering it totally useless. A few years later, a group of first-years went out in the middle of the night and painted The Rock, writing something along the lines of, "freshmen rule, seniors drool." The fourth-years were not too happy about this and washed The Rock the next day.



Four years later, when the same first-years became seniors, they once again visited The Rock in the middle of the night and painted something like, "seniors rule, freshmen drool." From then on, painting The Rock became a tradition. There are only two rules for painting The Rock: you have to paint in the middle of the night like the first students did, and you have to guard The Rock for at least 24 hours beforehand. After that, you can paint it with pretty much anything, as it is a testament to free speech on our campus. There is even a 24/7 "Rock Cam" publicly accessible online, which some students use to paint and broadcast messages to friends and family at home.

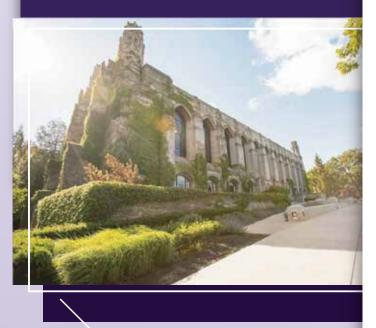
STUDENT STORIES

"My favorite story to tell from my time in Weinberg revolves around the relationship I've built with my initial academic advisor. This professor taught my first-year seminar (a thematic class outside my major focused on teaching a specific subject while also easing into the world of collegiate academic writing). Since my seminar was my smallest class, I was able to ask specific and frequent questions about any of the course material, writing in general, or even just questions I had regarding my adjustment to college. I came from an education system that didn't enforce the technical MLA writing style conventions that a lot of my peers already knew, but my professor was patient and attentive in helping me catch up on these subjects. In addition to this, she also advised us with course selection. After the class was over, she checked in on the students in our seminar every couple of weeks to see how we were doing. Having someone with her skills and knowledge take an active interest in my wel I being meant so much to me and my cl assmates, as navigating academics (and life) independently for the first time can be daunting. Now, almost a year later, I'm actually using the skills I learned in her class to assist her with her research, and conduct some of my own."

"One of my favorite campus traditions is painting The Rock. I've guarded and painted The Rock twice and both times have been super fun. It's a really fun way to bond with other people in your organization and seeing the design you painted is really cool too. It's something I recommend that everyone does at least once." Janea, Medill School of Journalism

Turn left in front of Kresge and begin walking north on the sidewalk. Stay to the left of the orange building, Annie May Swift Hall (commonly referred to as the Peanut Butter Building for its instantly recognizable color), which is the home of the Radio, Television, and Film Department, and continue until you reach Deering Library on your right.

(7) CHARLES DEERING LIBRARY



Fun fact: The meadow behind you is Deering Meadow, our first football field.

Built in 1933, Charles Deering Library is one of our oldest (and definitely most-Instagrammed) libraries on campus. It holds some special collections as well as the University Archives, which happens to be the home of our first mascot, Willy the [taxidermied] Wildcat. Deering is one of our three main libraries, along with University or Main Library and Mudd Library. Deering is known for its long reading room and the fact that it is 24-hours silent (like, pindrop silent).

It was modeled after the chapel at King's College in Cambridge, which was also the inspiration for the Great Hall in the Harry Potter movies, so we have a very realistic Harry Potter building on campus! University Library, which is attached to Deering, is the largest of the three and holds the majority of our research materials. Mudd Library, which is on the northern side of campus, is our STEM library.

STUDENT STORIES

"I love studying in Mudd Library! The mix of loud, collaborative spaces and quiet, individual areas always provides the environment I need for working, and I'm always likely to run into friends throughout the building. The layout of the building feels much less isolating than the beautiful yet eerily silent Deering library." **Margaret, Medill School of Journalism**

"Let's talk about office hours! Regardless of class size, every single professor is required to have office hours for every class they teach, which is essentially a few hours each week where they open their office doors for students to come ask questions about the class, their academic field, or just chat about anything they feel like. Once during my first year, I went with a friend to office hours for her professor— I'd never met this professor before and I wasn't in his class, but 30 minutes later I walked out of his office with a book lent from his personal library and a new addition to my academic support system." Continue up the same path north. On the left, you will see a large, concrete building called The Jacobs Center.

(8) THE JACOBS CENTER

The Jacobs Center to your left was the main building for the Kellogg School of Management,Northwestern's graduate business school, until 2017 when the Kellogg Global Hub opened. The Global Hub is one of many buildings that Northwestern has constructed or remodeled in the last few years, including a new residence hall (560 Lincoln), Mudd Library, and many more. We'd also like to note here that despite having a well-known business school on our campus, Northwestern does not offer an undergraduate business major.



However, there are tons of opportunities available for undergraduates who are interested in business. In addition to business-related student organizations and student startups, there are a lot of academic pathways that focus on business. The most popular major at Northwestern is economics, and Weinberg also offers a Business Institutions minor that provides a broad introduction to the business world. Lastly, Kellogg itself offers two undergraduate certificate programs: Financial Economics and Managerial Analytics.

These are just a few of the ways Northwestern students can study and engage with business without majoring in it! You can explore all business-related options on Northwestern's Roads to Business site.

Continue following the same path north.

To skip ahead to the Regular Tour Route, click here.

To continue on the Long Tour Route, when the path breaks into a sidewalk on the right and asphalt on the left, follow the asphalt path left. You'll see Lunt Hall, which holds the Math department, as well as Shanley Hall, one of our blackbox theaters on campus, on your left. Once you pass Lunt Hall, turn left on the sidewalk to get out onto the sidewalk onuntil you reach Sheridan Road. Turn right and continue walking north along Sheridan Road until you arrive at the Ford Motor Company Engineering and Design Center on your right. We encourage you to step into the foyer, which overlooks "The Shop" on its right side.



(9) FORD MOTOR COMPANY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN CENTER (FORD)

The Ford Motor Company Engineering and Design Center (Ford) is one of Northwestern's primary hubs for engineering students. It houses the Segal Design Institute, an interdisciplinary center providing all students-whether they're studying engineering or something else-with hands-on opportunities to design real products for real people.

The Segal Design Institute's specific programs include the Segal Design Certificate, an undergraduate curriculum in design available to all majors, and the MMM Program, or the Multidisciplinary MBA + MS Design Innovation, for our graduate students. Ford is also home to 'The Shop," a 24/7 resource with every tool and piece of machinery an engineering or design student could dream of.

STUDENT STORIES

"The Segal Prototyping and Fabrication Lab is one of my favorite places on campus and I was lucky enough to spend so much time in this space starting right away in my first quarter at Northwestern. I was never someone who had experience with any type of shop work or machinery, so the idea of having access to all of this equipment was pretty intimidating. Every first year student undergoes a safety orientation to get general access to the shop, and this was such a fun day as a first-year student. We all made tiny houses out of foam, wood, and metal to get acquainted with various machines. From there, any heavier machinery that I wanted to learn about was available with further training if I just ask ed! It was so nice to have guidance in such a fun and safe way in navigating this shop. The adult and student shop trainers are so equipped to help everyone who is working there!"

Tricia, McCormick School of Engineering

Exiting Ford, turn right and begin walking north on Sheridan Road. Immediately after passing Ford, turn right into the alleyway and continue walking until you reach a clearing at the end of the alley. At this point, the Technological Institute is to your left, and just in front of you on your right is Ryan Hall.

(10) TECHNOLOGICAL INSTUTUTE



Fun fact: The Technological Institute is the second largest low-rise building in the country, second only to the Pentagon! There are over seven miles of hallways. Because of this, Tech actually has its own maps app called "Tech Room Finder," where you can type in a room number and get directions!

(10) The entrance to the Technological Institute (or "Tech") on your right is the home of the McCormick School of Engineering. In line with Northwestern's commitment to a liberal arts education, McCormick teaches what we call "Whole-Brain Engineering."

This means that McCormick is committed to doing more than just educating engineers; instead, McCormick empowers its students to engage both the analytical, logical left-brain and the creative, artistic right-brain to become effective leaders and designers. McCormick works very closely with departments and organizations at Northwestern and beyond to supplement engineering curriculum with design, entrepreneurship, leadership, and personal development.

STUDENT STORIES

"I took a class called CIV_ENV220: Structural Art where we analyzed structures all over the world for their structural successes and failures as well as their symbolic and social successes and failures, ranging from the Eiffel Tower to the Gateway Arch to buildings right here in the Chicago area. Our final project of the quarter involved each of us putting together a presentation on a building in Chicago that we chose, but instead of each taking turns in front of a PowerPoint, we actually went into the city where we did a "hop-on, hop-off" style tour and gave our thoughts and summarized our opinions on the building while we stood right in front of it. Our professor even surprised us with tickets to the top of the Sears Tower at the end of the day which was so incredible. Definitely a great example of McCormick utilizing the city right in its backyardand balancing the theoretical with hands-on."

Continue past the Technological Institute, and take the second right into the parking lot, walking toward Sargent Hall. Turn left to enter the Northeast Residential Area.

(11) NORTHEAST AREA



One of four Residential Areas on campus, the **Northeast Area** includes 3 residential colleges and 7 residence halls, all ranging in size, programming, and community culture. **Sargent Hall** is one of our medium residence halls (100-200 residents), and houses one of Northwestern's 6 dining halls on the first floor.

Continue north on the path past Bobb-McCulloch Hall on the right. Once past the building, turn right.



On your left, you'll find **Slivka Hall**, our Residential College of Science and Engineering. With suite-style rooms and Lisa's Café on the ground floor, Slivka is one of the hallmarks of the Northeast Area. To your right, **Bobb-McCulloch Hall** stands as one building made up of two residence halls. Both Bobb and McCulloch are among the largest residence halls on campus, and together are no less than a Northwestern establishment (just ask former Bobb resident, George R.R. Martin!).

Continue east on the asphalt path, turn right onto the sidewalk along Campus Drive. Cross safely to the East side using the crosswalk and continue east on the sidewalk.

(12) HENRY CROWN SPORTS PAVILION



The structure to your left houses our North Campus Parking Garage, The Garage (for Innovation & Entrepreneurship), and our athletic facilities, including our new Ryan Fieldhouse and Walter Athletics Center. The first entrance to your left will take you directly into the Henry Crown Sports Pavilion, our largest gym on campus. All students have access to this gym, as well as Blomquist Recreation Center in the Southwest Area. In addition to the gym facilities at Henry Crown, you'll find an indoor track, our Norris Aquatic Center, Combe Tennis Center, and the Wellness Suite. Students at Northwestern have the chance to engage in campus recreation through these facilities, group classes and personal training sessions, 45+ club and intramural sports, as well as through our Sailing Center and beaches!

Our Varsity Athletic Fields (19) are located about ¾ miles off campus on Central Street. Northwestern is a part of the Big 10 Athletic Conference, and, in addition to being a founding member, is the only school in the Conference to provide free entrance to all of our sports games. Northwestern students love to come together to celebrate and support our Wildcats across teams!

Enter the Henry Crown Sports Pavilion & Aquatic Center and turn left down the hallway before you reach check-in for the gym. Just past the café and on the right, there is a door labeled, "The Garage".

(13) THE GARAGE

The Garage is Northwestern's entrepreneurship and innovation hub. Housed inside the parking garage in the Crown Sports Pavilion, The Garage hosts 10 programs for undergraduate students focused on startup incubation, student development, and offers funding opportunities.

Exit the Henry Crown Sports Pavilion & Aquatic center, and continue South across N. Campus Dr. Take a slight right on the sidewalk after crossing, and walk toward Mudd Library, our STEM/Engineering Library. Continue south on Tech Dr. with Mudd Library on your left and the Technological Institute on your right. At the end of Tech Drive, you'll see Ryan Hall. Take a slight left into the Research Quad.

Use the crosswalk to cross the street and continue on the brick path north. You'll pass Annenberg Hall on your right, and Dearborn Observatory on your left. When you reach the end of the path, take a sharp right at Ryan Hall into the Research Quad.

You should see Ryan Hall on your right and the Hogan Biological Sciences building on your left. Continue south through the Research Quad.



(14) SILVERMAN HALL

Silverman Hall is the last building in the Research Quad and houses the Chemistry of Life Processes Institute. Like Silverman, many of the buildings in the Research Quad house different labs and offices that all have opportunities for undergraduate students to engage in research.

Northwestern allots \$3.5 million to undergraduate research every year, allowing undergraduates to get involved in research to whatever degree they desire! Students can work with professors and graduate students on their research projects or even conduct their own research during their time at Northwestern. Departments like the Office of Undergraduate Research provide Summer and Academic Year Undergraduate Research Grants from which students can receive up to \$3,500 to fund their research as well as living expenses when applicable.

(15) ANNENBERG HALL

Just after passing Silverman, you'll find the rear entrance to Annenberg Hall on your right. This building is home to the School of Education and Social Policy (SESP). SESP is the smallest of our six undergraduate schools, but more students transfer into SESP after arriving on campus than any other undergraduate school at Northwestern. In addition to traditional education-focused majors, SESP offers interdisciplinary concentrations that can serve as great foundations for just about any career path. SESP requires its students to complete a quarter-long Practicum between their sophomore and junior years either remotely, or in Chicago, San Francisco, Washington, D.C, or Milan!



"I have so much #SESPLove! My first SESP class was Introduction to Learning and Organizational Change and it made me fall in love with my major. The class was centered around learning the principles of how people in organizations (from small businesses to hospitals) work together toward success. For the final project, we worked in small groups to pick a local Evanston organization and analyze it based on the principles we learned in class. My group chose a coffee shop (check it out, Backlot Coffee!). We presented our findings and recommendations to our class as well as to the owner of Backlot. This was such a cool experience because I still go to Backlot to grab a snack and study with friends, and can see some of the changes we suggested be implemented in the cafe. As a first-year I was able to have a very real impact on the Evanston community. Every SESP class I've taken since has followed suit; we have final projects where we get to actually apply what we've been learning in the classroom to make changes on campus and in our community."

Mary, School of Education and Social Policy

After passing Annenberg, continue south along the cobblestone path, keeping our beloved "Fake Michigan" pond (not to be confused with the real Lake Michigan) on your left. Continue following the path as it transitions from cobblestone to sidewalk, and when you reach the end of the sidewalk, continue onto the asphalt path. You should see the Norris University Center in front of you as you turn left onto the asphalt path; follow the asphalt path around Norris.

(16) NORRIS UNIVERSITY CENTER



(16) Norris University Center is our student union. It's a central hub for student life on campus, both because of the student organization offices it holds, and especially because of the Starbucks (which we lovingly call "Norbucks"). Here at Northwestern, we have over 500 student organizations! However, if you come here and don't find the one for you, it's also super easy to start an organization with the help of a few friends and a faculty advisor.

STUDENT STORIES

"I love my student organizations so much. They're where I've met some of my closest friends and have made many of my favorite memories in college. One of my favorites is A&O Productions—we put on concerts, speaker events, and film premieres and it's amazing to be in charge of something that makes people so excited. Since I've been a part of the org we've brought Issa Rae, Pete Davidson, and Jaden Smith as performers. Not only have I helped put on some amazing events, but I've also learned a lot from dealing with talent agents and working with data we've polled from students to pick the best acts possible. It takes months to prepare for a show but seeing it all come together is extremely rewarding." Continue around Norris. When the asphalt path you're walking on forks, turn right onto the sidewalk and walk directly toward Norris. Follow the path until you reach Norris, and then turn left to walk up the ramp into Arts Circle. At the top of the ramp, you should be standing in between Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on your left and the Block Museum of Art on your right.

(17) ARTS CIRCLE

You are now standing in Arts Circle. On your left is Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, which hosts performers and speakers throughout the year, and on your right is the Block Museum, our free art museum. The Block Museum is connected to the Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts and the Marshall Dance Center. These are some of the main buildings for the School of Communication.



The School of Communication offers majors in Communication Studies and Human Communication Sciences but is also the main academic home for the arts on campus through its Theatre, Dance, Performance Studies, and Radio, Television, & Film (RTVF) departments. Academic pursuits represent one of the ways that students on campus can engage with the arts, but Northwestern also has an extremely active student art scene.

Northwestern has a vibrant performance and art scene, with over 80 student-run productions every year, ranging from theatre performance like The Dolphin Show's production of Matilda (2023) to burlesque shows, dance performances, comedy nights and much more. These performance opportunities are available to students across majors and schools at Northwestern!

STUDENT STORIES

"I was really into dance and choreography in high school but hadn't found a path to pursue it in my first year at Northwestern. A friend in my a cappella group was music directing a student-run musical her second year here and told me they were in need of someone to choreograph the show, something that I had never done on my own but was really excited about. She put me in contact with the director, who sat down with me to talk about the exact responsibilities and his vision and expectations for the show. By the end of that meeting, everything was set and I was already working on choreographing a number for the dance call. Even though I am an engineer, it was never called into question whether I was qualified. I was simply really excited about the process and had a passion for dance and choreography, which was enough to be given the responsibility. Through that process, I met even more friends in the arts that I now support in more productions, and also know that I can audition and be a part of more shows and it will never be weird that I don't study it!"

Tricia, McCormick School of Engineering

Continue south on the sidewalk in Arts Circle. At the end of the sidewalk, you can turn left at the crosswalk, walking directly toward the Ryan Center for the Musical Arts.



Directly in front of you is the Ryan Center for the Musical Arts, the home building for the Bienen School of Music. This is another one of our newest buildings, completed in 2015, and houses faculty offices, student practice rooms, classrooms, and studios as well as a 400-seat recital hall. The Bienen School of Music is a conservatory-style school and requires an audition during the application process. Students in Bienen also have the opportunity to complete the Dual Degree program, which is a 5-year program in which students receive two separate Bachelor's Degrees from Bienen and another undergraduate school on campus. The combination of a conservatory curriculum and access to a large research university makes Bienen unique among its music school peers.

Continue on the sidewalk path walking past the Ryan Center on your left, and south toward Lake Michigan and Chicago. At the end of the sidewalk path, turn right onto the asphalt path in front of Northwestern's Sailing Center.

You have arrived at perhaps the best view Northwestern's campus has to offer. Here, looking out over Lake Michigan and at the Chicago skyline (if it's a clear enough day), you can see some of the best parts of Northwestern. NU students really get the best of all worlds—we get to live on a beautiful, lakeside campus (that you just walked around!), we have the beautiful setting of a college town in Evanston, and being so close to a world-class city like Chicago allows Northwestern students to expand and apply their learning with real-life experiences.



"I love exploring Chicago neighborhoods. One of my favorites, Andersonville, has an amazing annual sidewalk sale throughout the whole neighborhood. My favorite bookstore is there, there are countless coffee shops and gift shops, and an amazing brunch restaurant, M Henry. Chicago neighborhoods are just a train ride away, and it's so nice to be able to explore the city!"

Hannah, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

"The spring of my first year on campus, I took a history class on the musical "West Side Story." While we analyzed many clips from the movie in class, the best moment from the quarter was traveling into Chicago with my classmates to see the live performance. It was playing at the Lyric Opera of Chicago just in time for us to see in the last few weeks of class. Northwestern covered the price of tickets, and we all ventured down to the city to analyze everything we had just studied in the live production. Having Chicago so close made this class just that much more special. We got to study the production up close and personal, and analyze it from various forms of media. It was the cherry on top to an already fantastic class, and I am so glad that we were able to have the experience."

As Northwestern's motto states,

"AND is in our DNA."

Northwestern students and faculty are committed to exploring the full spectrum of learning opportunities on campus and beyond. We as Northwestern students are lucky enough to be able to become so passionate about our education here, and learn how we can apply those passions in the world after our time at Northwestern – one of the reasons so many of us chose Northwestern, but also one of the reasons we choose to stay. We hope you enjoyed the walking tour today, and again please feel free to call or visit the website for our Undergraduate Admissions Office if you have any questions.

This path leads back to the Segal Visitor Center where we began the tour; follow it around with the Sailing Beach on your left and Visitor Center on your right to return to the parking garage.

STUDENT STORIES

""Our motto is "AND is in our DNA", but it's true. A double major in engineering and theatre with a minor in French and a member of the cooking club is a dime a dozen. However, not only does everyone do everything, everyone does it with a passion, work ethic, and level of professionalism that is unparalleled. NU students don't just do everything for the fun of it—they do it because they truly care about what they are spending their time one. And when you care about something, the end product is going to be just that much better. The communities and teams I find myself working with are so welcoming, passionate and dedicated to whatever the given task. The people I have met here, from that classmate I asked for help once to my best friend, have made me a better student, friend, and human. You will find truly everything you want here, from a Big IO sports scene to a small class discussion and to a cozy college town to one of the biggest cities in the nation. I truly can say that Northwestern is not only everything and more, but it will make you everything AND more that you ever wanted to be."

Sammi, School of Communication

BUILDINGS NOT COVERED:

19. Varsity Athletic Venues

20. North Residential Area

21. Northwestern Career Advancement 620 Lincoln St.

22. Health Professions Advising 1940 Sheridan Rd.

23. Multicultural Center 1936 Sheridan Rd.

24. The Black House 1914 Sheridan Rd.

25. Southwest Residential Area