Office of Undergraduate Studies

Case Western Reserve University confers baccalaureate degrees based on programs offered by the faculties of the Case School of Engineering, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, and the Weatherhead School of Management. Some major programs are offered in collaboration with the School of Medicine, the Cleveland Institute of Art, and the Cleveland Institute of Music. The faculties and administration are dedicated to offering educational programs that enable undergraduates to achieve disciplinary literacy in one or more major fields; to acquire educational breadth through study across the natural sciences, humanities and arts, and social sciences; and to learn to think critically and to communicate effectively. Overlap among the general education curricula for the various bachelor’s degree programs allows students flexibility in the choice of majors and degree program. Furthering the University mission, the educational programs aim to foster the development of qualities of integrity, creativity, leadership, and societal engagement.

Advisors for first-year students, major field advisors, other faculty, and navigators in Student Advancement assist students in selecting a field of study suited to each student’s interests and qualifications. Students with broad educational interests and goals may choose to add one or more minor fields of study to their major field of study; may pursue concurrently two or more majors for the Bachelor of Arts degree, two or more majors for the Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree, or two or more majors toward the Bachelor of Science in Management degree; may complete one degree program with a secondary major from another degree program; or may earn two bachelor’s degrees by completing both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Science degree or by fulfilling the requirements for two Bachelor of Science degrees. The Bachelor of Music degree offered by the Cleveland Institute of Music may be combined with either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree at Case Western Reserve University. Qualified students who wish to accelerate their undergraduate and graduate or professional studies may earn the opportunity to begin in the senior year advanced study toward a graduate or professional degree.

The University provides undergraduates with a rich variety of experiential learning opportunities both on and off campus. The location of the University in University Circle, with its outstanding array of cultural, educational, and health care institutions, and the proximity and accessibility of the university’s professional schools and their facilities enable undergraduates to draw upon diverse and distinctive resources to enrich their education. Programs that engage students in curriculum-related employment include the Cooperative Education Program (http://engineering.case.edu/coop) and the Practicum Program (https://case.edu/postgrad/experiential-education/practicum). Study abroad (http://www.case.edu/studyabroad), the exchange program with Fisk University (http://bulletin.case.edu/undergraduatestudies/collaborativeprograms), and the Washington Semester (http://politicalsecience.case.edu/undergraduate-programs/washington-center-program) immerse students in educational environments that build global and national knowledge and perspective. Research opportunities (https://case.edu/source) for undergraduates abroad at the University, in University Circle institutions, and in Cleveland. Individual departments offer independent study opportunities to motivated and qualified students, and some departments offer courses that incorporate practical field experience or community service.

Mission Statement of the Office of Undergraduate Studies

The Office of Undergraduate Studies collaborates with the schools, academic departments, faculty, and other administrative offices to develop and sustain academic programs and policies that inspire and challenge undergraduates at Case Western Reserve University.

In pursuit of this goal,

- We participate in curricular discussions and reviews within and among the units offering undergraduate courses and academic programs, and coordinate the presentation of undergraduate curricular offerings and policies to students, other members of the CWRU community, and external constituencies.
- We support faculty in their teaching and in their academic advising in the undergraduate majors and minors, administer the academic policies of the faculty, and monitor the progress of undergraduates in completing degree requirements, working closely with the Student Success Initiative.
- We work with the Office of Institutional Research to analyze data to inform the successful progress of undergraduates through the curriculum.

Administration

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