

DEPAUW

Welcome

A photograph of a man with curly hair and a beard, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and safety glasses. He is holding a clear plastic bottle with a white cap in his hands, looking at it intently. In the background, another person wearing glasses is partially visible. The setting appears to be a laboratory or a classroom. The image has a yellowish tint.

Being Ambitious at DePauw

From the intellectual engagement of academic life at DePauw, to the vibrant campus and culture it supports, to the sense of accomplishment and purpose that shapes our ambitious students, we expect much of those who enroll at DePauw. But we also build a team to provide the guidance and support that ensure our students succeed.



YOUR TRANSITION

This is the beginning of a new chapter. Starting today, you are no longer a prospective student at DePauw, but a member of DePauw's community of scholars. From more than 5,000 applicants, you are among the select few who will make up the Class of 2020. You hail from around the world – from Indiana, New York, and every region of the United States, to Ecuador, China and everywhere in between. You are musicians, scientists, athletes, volunteers and leaders in countless other ways.

The full arc of your DePauw experience stands before you. A course you'll take may lead you to apply for an internship or research project. Your Extended Studies may make you want to study abroad in Morocco, Italy or other country. A student club or student research project may give you the leadership experience that lands you a job. Whatever your experiences bring,

one will lead to the other, forming a DePauw story that only you can shape.

The pages that follow will sketch out how those four years will unfold, beginning with your first semester on campus. Your class is among the most accomplished to set foot on DePauw's campus, and we expect great things from you. To support your efforts, we are building a team of advisors that will equip you to make the most of your time at DePauw.



LIVING INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE

The fundamental element of your DePauw experience will be the challenging intellectual life that is inherent to DePauw's brand of liberal arts. You'll learn to connect the course you took in philosophy with another you took in physics. You'll consider how the most pressing challenges facing society can only be solved with the perspective of multiple disciplines. You will gain experience with international issues as well as the complexities of privilege, power and diversity. Most importantly, you'll learn to think, speak and write in ways that give you the confidence to succeed.

In your first year, the cornerstone of academic life will be your first-year seminar. Alongside about 15 other first-year students, you'll be introduced to the nature of writing-intensive, discussion-based classes at DePauw. Your professor – a scholar who may be an author, musician, scientist or poet – will be your academic advisor. For most of you, your seminar professor will be your academic advisor until you declare a major. Your professors will know your name and come to know your work. They will view it as their job to engage you, challenge you and guide you. Together, your professors will teach you to be a scholar.

Ask them questions. Go visit their offices. Most importantly, let them introduce you to new knowledge, new perspectives and new experiences.

A CULTURE SHAPED BY YOUR PEERS

Remember that life at DePauw may center on the classroom, but it extends far beyond it. The campus culture thrives – and depends on – the energy of students like you. In class and outside of it, DePauw students teach each other. They hold each other accountable. They set examples for their peers. The classroom may be the start, but the full strength of the DePauw experience comes in how you draw inspiration, strength and support from those around you, the people who will be by your side as you shape your time on campus.

Even as a first-year student, you and your friends might create a new student organization. You might join Student Senate. Your late-night talk with a hallmate may completely transform how you think about politics, science and the world.

The transformative nature of your experience will depend on those with whom you share it, just as the strength of their experience will depend on you.

As you build this new network of friends, peers and partners, your first-year mentor will be there to guide you. An upperclass student selected for the insight and energy they bring to academics and social life at DePauw, they won't have answers to all of your questions, but they'll have much to share. And they'll be there when you need them.



"At DePauw I've had the good fortune of surrounding myself with people who push me outside of my comfort zone, enabling me to accomplish things I never thought I could. I know these relationships will last a lifetime."

– VICTORIA HOUGHTALEN '18



A PLAN FOR SUCCESS: YOUR TEAM

In essence, you will take ownership for shaping your DePauw experience. Your planning. Your preparation. Your ambition to learn and grow. Our alumni rolls are filled with graduates whose four years on campus transformed them and launched lives of incredible purpose and accomplishment. We expect nothing less for you.

And we stand ready to assist you along the way. In addition to your academic advisor and first-year mentor, DePauw's faculty and staff will give you the tools you need to explore your passions. From the moment you step on campus, staff in the Hubbard Center for Student Engagement will be ready to help

you plan your first internship or Extended Studies experience.

They take pride in making you think about things – your major, studying abroad, your senior capstone project – before you think you're ready. They know that the experiences of your first year on campus pave the way for opportunities that grow exponentially through graduation.

Why do they do this? Because they want to make sure that – when you graduate from DePauw – you wind up doing what you love.

In the weeks ahead, look for emails and mailings with additional information about everything from housing to classes and life on campus.

YOUR FOUR-YEAR PLAN

FIRST YEAR

AL Students enroll in a first-year seminar. Students work with their faculty advisors to build an academic plan that encourages exploration and lays the foundation for future work.

SL Student life assigns peer mentors and resident assistants for each new student, and students participate in first-year programming designed to assist students in adjusting to college life.

HC Early advising focuses on encouraging students to begin developing their cocurricular plan, including off-campus study, community service and career exploration.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

AL Students continue exploring the curriculum broadly, which leads to declaring an academic major during the spring semester.

SL Students identify and begin to more deeply involve themselves in student organizations (e.g., athletic teams, Greek organizations, musical ensembles).

HC The Sophomore Institute introduces students to professional skills development, networking and the full scope of Hubbard Center resources. Students further develop their cocurricular plan and prepare for off-campus study, externships and internships.

JUNIOR YEAR

AL Coursework focuses on high-level, discipline-specific study and provides opportunities for students to connect their major to other academic areas and research opportunities across the curriculum.

SL Students position themselves for major leadership roles in campus organizations, living units and peer mentoring programs.

HC Students engage in major cocurricular activity: semester-long, off-campus study; internships; and/or off-campus, extended studies experiences as outlined in their cocurricular plan. Center advising begins to shift focus to career planning, graduate school planning, preprofessional advising, postgraduate fellowships and awards.

SENIOR YEAR

AL Students complete the academic program (including senior thesis, projects, recitals and other capstone experiences).

SL Students complete final leadership opportunities on campus and begin to live independently.

HC Advising shifts fully to support student preparation for postgraduate opportunities, including job search, graduate school applications, and postgraduate fellowships and awards. Students are officially welcomed into the alumni network.



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OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

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