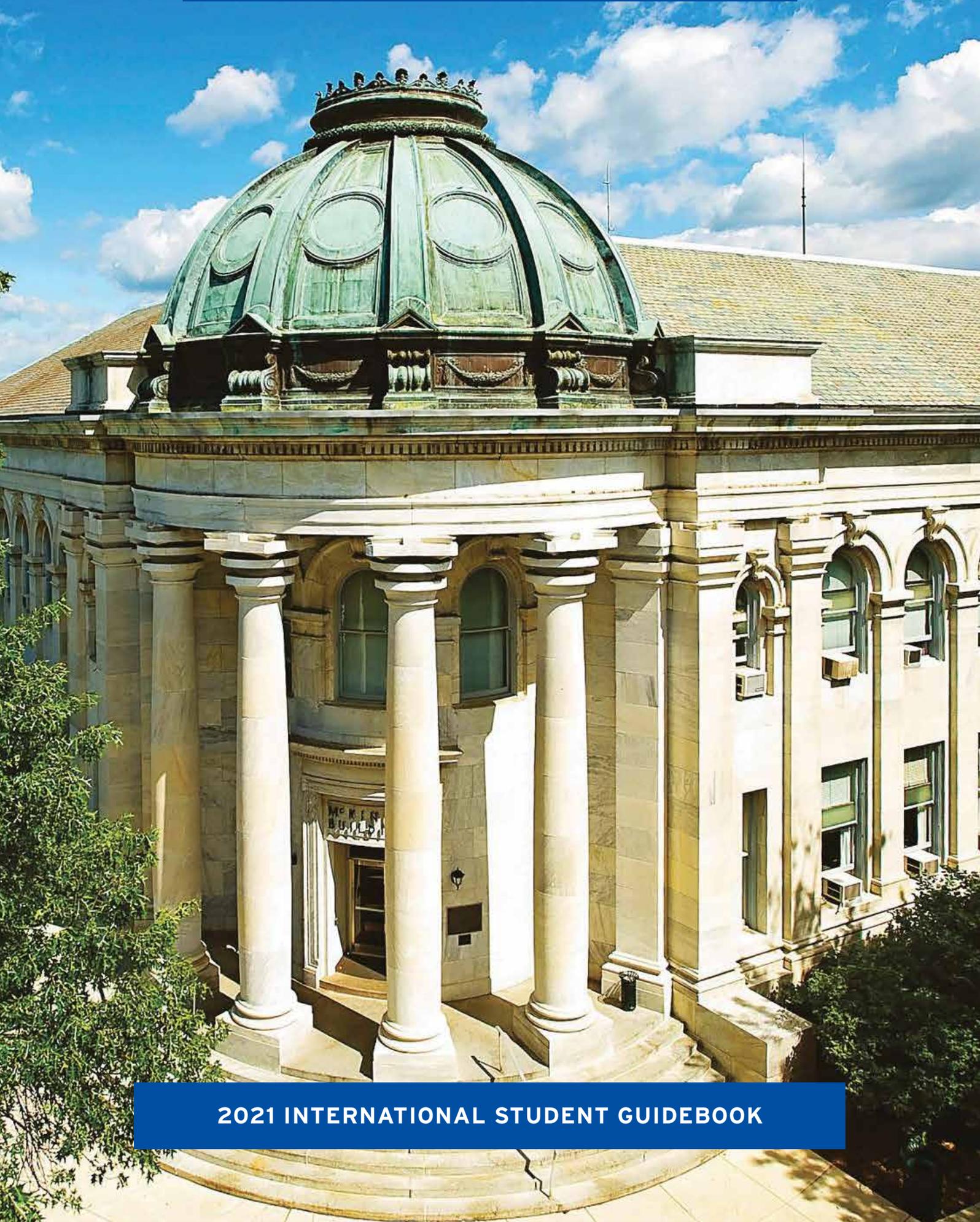




INTERNATIONAL ACCELERATOR
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC



2021 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

Welcome to American University

Located in Washington, DC, American University (AU) is one of the 100 best universities in the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. AU has a strong track record of international student success, both in and out of the classroom. With prestigious programs in political science, business, communications, and international relations, among others, it is easy to see why more than 2,000 students from over 120 different countries choose AU. Join us at AU, in an environment that inspires.

The International Accelerator at American University

About Our Signature Student Experience

As an international student enrolling through the American University International Accelerator Program (IAP), you have access to exclusive programs and services.

The AU International Accelerator team gives you personal attention from application to graduation. We set you up for success with:

APPLICATION SUPPORT

- Streamlined application process
- Assigned counselor
- Major/field-of-study guidance

PRE-ARRIVAL GUIDANCE

- Visa application and interview help
- Prep webinars and checklists
- Help with required forms

CAMPUS TRANSITION

- Airport welcome
- Student and parent orientation
- Cultural group outings and events

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- Classes for your academic level
- English-language & ESL help
- Tutoring support

All of these services are available to you at no additional cost—they are included in your tuition.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE IAP AT accelerator.american.edu](https://accelerator.american.edu)

We Set You Up for Success

The International Accelerator at American University is here to support your success, offering valuable services designed to help you thrive in your new home on campus.

Our dedicated support team can help you fill out your application and apply for a visa. They will even pick you up from the airport in Washington, DC! Once on campus, Student Services will help you get comfortable and can assist with transitioning to housing, dining, and all other on-campus concerns. You will also have access to an academic support team and tutors to ensure your success inside and outside of the classroom.

With multiple track options for both undergraduate and graduate students, the International Accelerator at American University is designed for students at all levels of English-language proficiency. For students seeking additional English-language support, the Pre-Sessional English track helps improve comprehension skills and preps students to take rigorous academic courses taught in English.

Highlights

- **#76** Best National University
—*U.S. News & World Report*, 2021
- AU's distinguished faculty includes former ambassadors, elected officials, and winners of Oscars, Emmys, Pulitzers, and the National Book Award.
- Faculty work is being sponsored by many of the most prestigious funders in the country, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



What Will You Achieve at American University?

Study in the capital of the United States, and learn from internationally recognized experts. Access jobs and internships with global industry pacesetters, political leaders, and international media outlets. Bring your big idea to life at the American University Center for Innovation. Come and see how our welcoming atmosphere, highly ranked research opportunities, and distinctive academic programs make AU a leading university for international students.

11:1

undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio

More than 90%

undergraduate internship participation

Graduation Census, 2016–2018

#76

Best National University in the U.S.

U.S. News & World Report, 2021

#68

Best Research School in the Nation

Forbes, 2019

150+

student-run organizations on campus

1st in the nation

First among urban university campuses and research universities in the U.S. to go carbon neutral

93%

undergraduate alumni have jobs, are in graduate school, or both, for 2016–2018

Graduation Census, 2018

Ranked #25

in undergraduate teaching

U.S. News & World Report, 2021

14

NCAA Division I women's and men's intercollegiate athletic teams

100%

renewables power all campus electricity

65+

accredited undergraduate degree programs

150+

accredited graduate degree and certificate programs

More than 70%

of American University undergraduate students study abroad

120+

home countries are represented among our student body

#51

Best College Value (Private)

Kiplinger, 2018

LOCATION

Washington, DC: the Capital City

Washington, DC, is a globally connected city with countless personal and professional enrichment opportunities. From an expansive network of museums to internationally recognized monuments, there is always something exciting to do in the capital city. Located on the East Coast of the United States, DC is a short trip from many other major cities, all easily accessible from any of the region's three airports or by train. DC enjoys the benefits four distinct seasons—spring with cherry tree blossoms, warm summers, beautiful fall foliage, and mild winters.



A Laboratory for Learning

Washington, DC, is an iconic city, as well as a hub for business and innovation. Here, you will find exciting opportunities for internships and hands-on experience in your chosen field. AU students are mentored by top professionals and can network with our well-connected alumni while living in one of the best cities for job growth in the United States. Washington, DC, is also home to the federal government branches and hundreds of international embassies. The most influential global leaders meet here to discuss world-changing events and make policy decisions.

Putting Theory into Practice

More than 90 percent of undergraduates and 60 percent of graduate students take advantage of DC's unique internship opportunities, including assignments at government agencies, international nonprofits, media hubs, and major corporations.



DC Highlights

Visit the White House, home and office to the president of the United States.

Take a walk along the National Mall and see the famous monuments that celebrate the history of the United States and give Washington, DC, its character.

Tour one of the many museums that make up the Smithsonian Institute, a network of 19 galleries and museums, plus the National Zoological Park.

Weather : Average Temperatures

SUMMER
29°C

WINTER
6°C



EAGLE SPIRIT

With 14 NCAA Division I teams to root for and 150+ student-run clubs and organizations, the AU campus offers many chances to connect with friends.



Washington, DC: Your Lab for Learning

At AU, you will have opportunities to conduct research on campus or at major research facilities nearby, including the National Institutes of Health and the Urban Institute. You can also pursue internships and work alongside professionals at prestigious organizations that serve local, national, and international communities. Our professors are leading their fields with active research; and you will benefit from their expertise and networks as they foster a globally focused and inclusive classroom experience.



At American University, We Know Success

Internship* and employer locations include:

- Amazon
- Apple Inc.
- AT&T
- BMW
- Boeing
- BP plc
- Capitol One
- Chanel
- CNN
- Goldman Sachs
- Google
- JP Morgan Chase & Co.
- KPMG
- Lockheed Martin

READ MORE AT american.edu/weknowsuccess

*Please note that students typically intern during years 2-4 at American University.



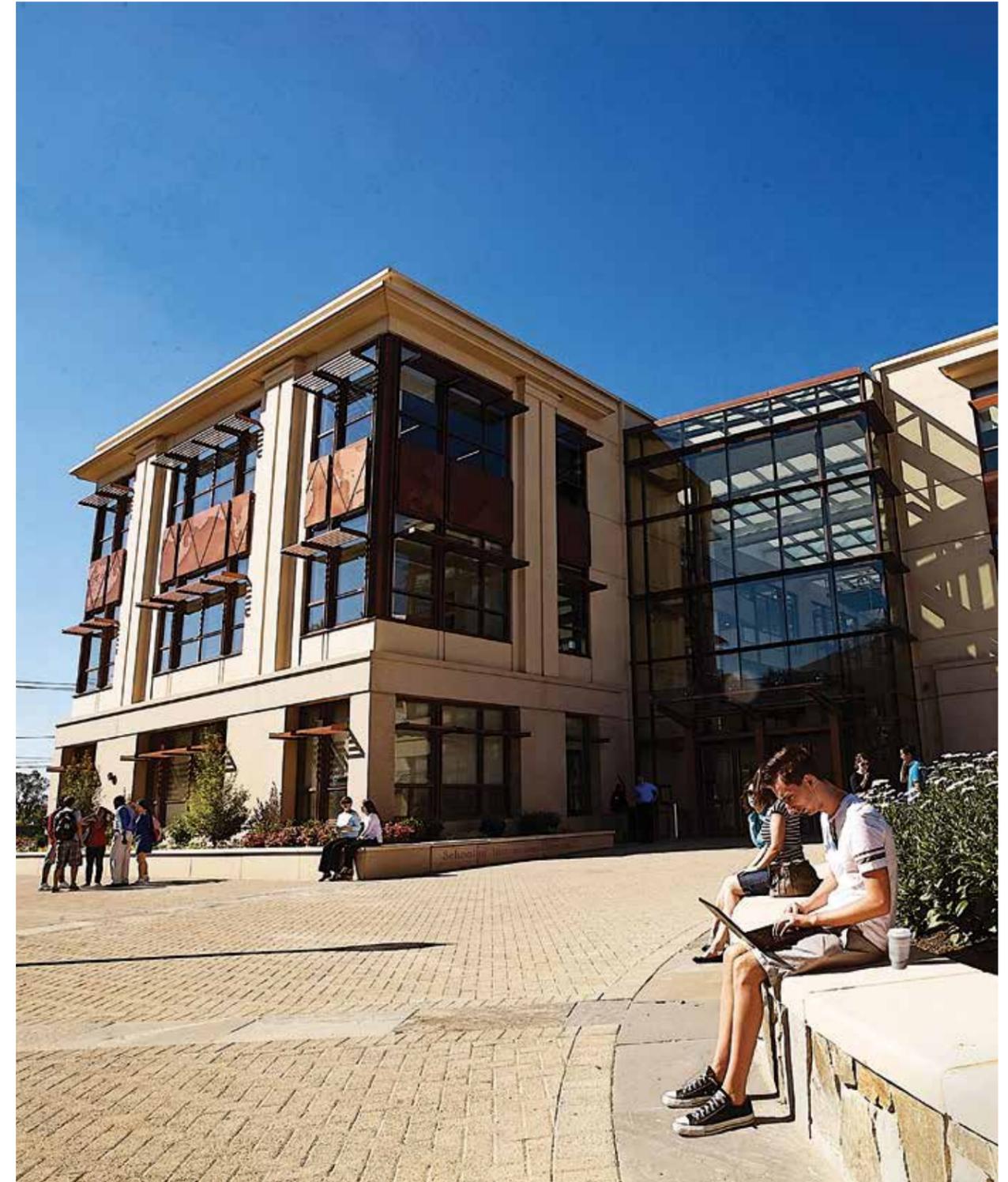
MINORI, Japan

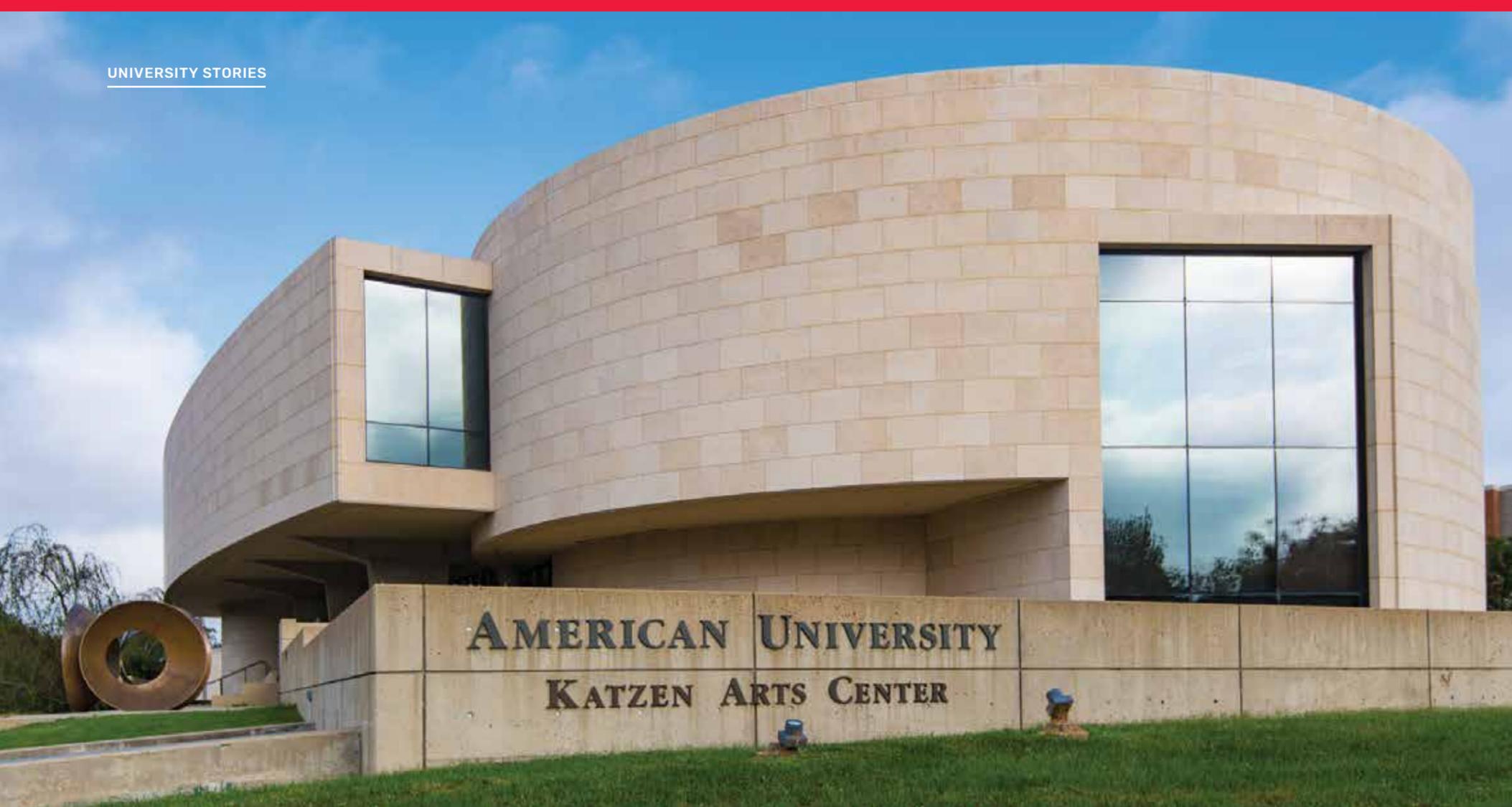


American University is not a typical university. AU students are doing their own things. They are more independent, doing internships, part-time jobs, and activities—much more than just schoolwork.



READ MORE AT accelerator.american.edu





Arts and Sciences Reimagined

Here at AU, we combine the creative drive of the College of Arts and Sciences with cutting-edge research to create an interactive and collaborative curriculum that provides the solid foundation students need to make a real impact in the world. Our faculty are world-renowned artists, scholars, and teachers who have molded a challenging curriculum enriched by our diverse and vibrant academic community.

Economics. Environmental science. Art history. Chemistry. Computer science. Biotechnology. Wherever your passions lead you, the College of Arts and Sciences offers the training and experience you need to succeed as a twenty-first-century professional.

Addressing World Hunger at AU



MARIA, Iowa, United States

Maria Rose Belding is the cofounder and executive director of MEANS, a company that helps food donors make excess supply available to food pantries.

Serving 48 states, MEANS has been recognized around the world by Deloitte, South by Southwest, the L'Oréal Women of Worth program, Oprah Winfrey, and President Barack Obama. Maria now leads a team dedicated to expanding her company's reach. For her accomplishments, Maria was named one of *Glamour Magazine's* 2018 College Women of the Year.

AUCI: Strategic Partnerships

AUCI works with industry leaders and governments to build a better tomorrow. Esteemed AUCI strategic partners include:

- Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing
- Deloitte
- Home Shopping Network
- Kauffman Foundation
- Small Business Administration
- Women Leadership Live
- World Bank Group

Change the World

American University's Center for Innovation Can Show You How

American University's Center for Innovation (AUCI) brings together students, business professionals, alumni, and more than 50 professors to nurture passionate students like you in developing the next leading start-up. AUCI provides the financial and professional support you need to build businesses that matter.

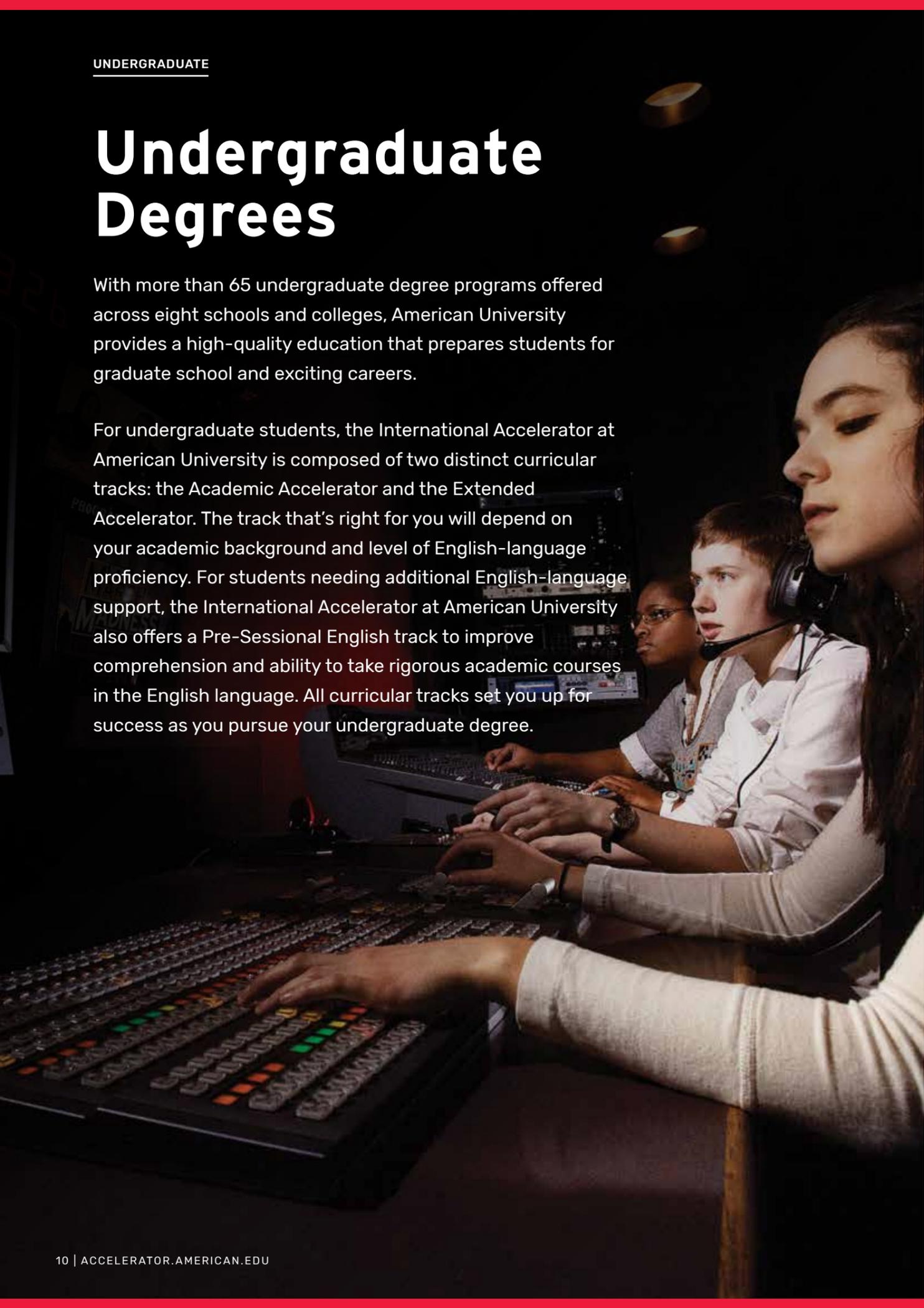
The Entrepreneurship Incubator, a key feature of AUCI, provides an innovative workspace; mentor, networking, and educational opportunities; and the technological resources to build successful student-driven for-profit and social entrepreneurial ventures. From the idea stage to investor pitches, we make your dream a reality.

Part of the Kogod School of Business, AUCI offers classes in entrepreneurialism to any AU student. Students in non-business majors can integrate their learning with the creative problem-solving skills of entrepreneurialism, finding innovative solutions to today's problems, while learning how to create business, nonprofit, and social ventures.

Undergraduate Degrees

With more than 65 undergraduate degree programs offered across eight schools and colleges, American University provides a high-quality education that prepares students for graduate school and exciting careers.

For undergraduate students, the International Accelerator at American University is composed of two distinct curricular tracks: the Academic Accelerator and the Extended Accelerator. The track that's right for you will depend on your academic background and level of English-language proficiency. For students needing additional English-language support, the International Accelerator at American University also offers a Pre-Sessional English track to improve comprehension and ability to take rigorous academic courses in the English language. All curricular tracks set you up for success as you pursue your undergraduate degree.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT DEGREES AT
accelerator.american.edu/undergraduate-degrees](https://accelerator.american.edu/undergraduate-degrees)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

- African American and African Diaspora Studies
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Applied Mathematics
- Arab World Studies
- Arabic Studies
- Art History
- Asian Studies
- Audio Production
- Audio Technology
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computational Science
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Data Science
- Economics
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Studies
- Foreign Language and Communication Media
- French Studies
- German Studies
- Graphic Design
- Health Promotion
- History
- Jewish Studies
- Language and Area Studies:
 - French/Europe
 - German/Europe
 - Russian/Area Studies
 - Spanish/Latin America
- Languages:
 - Arabic
 - Chinese
 - French
 - German
 - Hebrew
 - Italian
 - Japanese
 - Korean

- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Literature
- Mathematics
- Mathematics and Economics
- Music
- Musical Theatre
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy
- Photography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Religious Studies
- Russian Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish Studies
- Statistics
- Studio Art
- Theatre
- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

KOGOD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

- Accounting
- Business Administration:
 - Accounting
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Finance
 - Information Systems & Technology
 - International Business Management
 - Marketing
- Business and Entertainment Business, Language, and Culture Studies:
 - Arabic
 - French
 - German
 - Russian
 - Spanish
- Finance

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

- Communication Studies
- Film and Media Arts
- Foreign Language and Communication Media
- Journalism
- Public Relations and Strategic Communication
- Photography

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

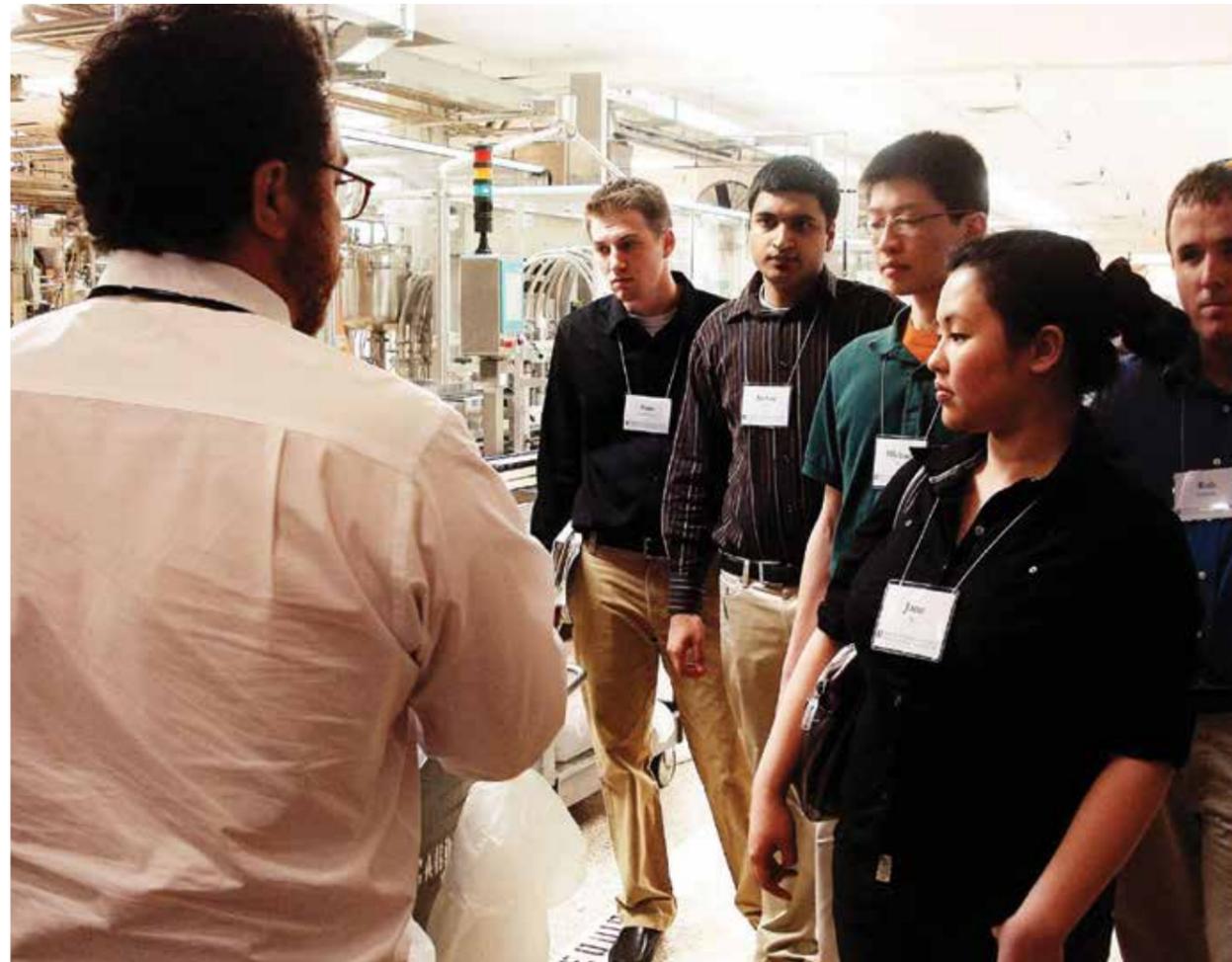
- International Studies:
 - Environmental Sustainability and Global Health
 - Foreign Policy and National Security
 - Global and Comparative Governance
 - The Global Economy
 - Global Inequality and Development
 - Identity, Race, Gender, and Culture
 - Justice, Ethics, and Human Rights
 - Peace, Global Security, and Conflict Resolution

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- Communication, Legal Institutions, Economics, and Government (CLEG)
- Data Sciences for Justice, Law, and Criminology
- Data Sciences for Political Science
- Justice and Law
- Political Science

Educating Tomorrow's Leaders

AU's academically rigorous curriculum challenges you to combine intense theoretical study with meaningful real-world learning experiences. Whichever major you choose, you will acquire a solid foundation in the liberal arts and pursue in-depth study in your chosen field. Faculty at AU are both world-class academics and renowned practitioners. Our professors teach, mentor, and invest in the success of every student. AU is a vibrant, scholarly community, offering excellent opportunities for internships, research, and creative expression.



Turn Your Passion into a Vocation



ENRIQUE,
El Salvador

Enrique immigrated to America from El Salvador at the young age of 14. Once here, he set his sights on learning English, doing well in school, and attending a top-tier college. While studying at American University, Enrique was a teaching assistant, held an internship at the Embassy of El Salvador, and volunteered at the Latino Student Fund. After graduating, Enrique moved on to a position at the World Bank Group.

More than **90%** of students employed after graduation or in grad school

READ MORE AT accelerator.american.edu

Important Costs and Dates: Undergraduate Accelerator

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TUITION AND FEES STARTING AT

Fall 2020	\$54,354-\$60,229*
Spring 2021	\$53,598-\$60,229*
Summer 2021**	\$6,578

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall 2020	July 15, 2020
Spring 2021	December 1, 2020
Summer 2021**	March 30, 2021

*Does not include the price of Pre-Sessional English if applicable.

**Available to Pre-Sessional English students only. Cost listed here does not include additional required program costs.

Note: Costs are estimates and subject to change. For detailed information, visit accelerator.american.edu.

Opportunities for Every Calling

MEDIA INNOVATION LAB

In collaboration with Sony Electronics, our Media Innovation Lab features high-definition broadcast and production equipment, along with a TV studio news desk and green screen.

MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTER

A TV studio, film and video editing suites, and audio production suites are all in one place, so students can learn every side of media production—from “action” to “cut.”

TOP-NOTCH RESEARCH

American University boasts more than 40 research centers, institutes, and laboratories on campus. With esteemed faculty at their side, students work with state-of-the-art equipment to gain industry experience related to their chosen field.

“For international jobs, a U.S. degree shows that I have experience, even more than just having English-language ability. It was hard to argue or debate with other native students, but it is getting easier after one year in the International Accelerator. I love my Intercultural Understanding class. It makes it easier to join a different cultural environment. The professor brings us to different places to learn about cultures, such as restaurants, art shows, museums, and volunteering.”

— **BAOSEN, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, CHINA**

 **BEGIN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS AT**
accelerator.american.edu/apply-now

Graduate Degrees

Take your learning to the next level at American University, with more than 150 accredited graduate degree and certificate programs. Join more than 6,000 graduate students preparing today to become tomorrow's leaders.

The Master's Accelerator is offered through the International Accelerator and is composed of two distinct curricular tracks: the Advanced Master's Accelerator and the Master's Accelerator. The track that's right for you will depend on your academic background and level of English-language proficiency. For students seeking additional English-language support, the International Accelerator at American University also offers a Pre-Sessional English track to improve students' comprehension and ability to take rigorous academic courses in the English language. All tracks prepare students for success in their chosen graduate program.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT DEGREES AT
accelerator.american.edu/masters-degrees](https://accelerator.american.edu/masters-degrees)

The degrees listed below are available through the Master's Accelerator. For more information about all master's degrees offered at American University, please visit american.edu/programs/graduate.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Art History (MA)
 Biotechnology (MS)*
 Chemistry (MS)*
 Computer Science (MS)*
 Data Science (MS)*
 Economics (MA)
 Environmental Science (MS)*
 Health Promotion Management (MS)
 International Economics (MA)
 Mathematics, Information Security (MS)*
 Quantitative Analysis (PSM)*
 Statistics (MS)*
 Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages – TESOL (MA)

*STEM program

Note: Data Science is a joint program with the College of Arts and Sciences.

KOGOD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Accounting (MSA)
 Finance (MSF)
 Real Estate (MSRE)
 Taxation (MST)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Education Policy and Leadership

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Data Science (MS)*
 Political Science (MA)
 Public Administration (MPA)
 Public Policy (MPP)

Next-Level Learning at American University

AU graduate students are innovators and intellectuals who are inspiring meaningful change in the world. Our programs—from business and communication to public affairs, sciences, and the arts—give you a broad range of academic options. Beyond the classroom, explore opportunities to deepen your experience through research and skill-building opportunities both on campus and around Washington, DC.



“If you study in a great city like DC, you have more opportunities to talk to native English speakers and learn about American culture and practice your speaking skills. In my classes, other students are helpful and patient and teach me professional knowledge. Every class at American University has a small size. The professors are all excellent. They are intelligent and graduated from good universities. They have high-quality education skills and knowledge about their fields. They are also patient, enthusiastic, and helpful.”

— KAIWEN, ACCOUNTING, CHINA

Limitless Possibilities



Connie Morella,
School of Public
Affairs, MA '67

Connie Morella served as U.S. Ambassador to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris from 2003 to 2007. She represented Maryland's 8th district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1987 to 2003. While in Congress, Morella successfully initiated legislation addressing domestic violence and child support, as well as programs for the elderly, environmental protection, health care reform, and human rights issues.



Learn from the Experts

PUBLISHED LEADERS

College of Arts and Sciences faculty members publish with Oxford, Routledge, Harvard, and other prestigious academic presses.

REIMAGINING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

School of Public Affairs (SPA) faculty are prolific scholars, researchers, lecturers, executives, and ambassadors. Their influence resonates through leadership positions in research centers within SPA and across the university.

PRESIDENTIAL PEDIGREE

Six sitting presidents have served on American University's Board of Trustees, and several presidents—including John F. Kennedy and Barack Obama—have spoken on campus.

“At American University, I can enhance my knowledge and develop my skills. The International Accelerator at American University gives you English courses and master's courses and helps to improve presentation skills, writing, and communication skills.”

— RIRUMPOHN, REAL ESTATE, THAILAND

READ MORE AT accelerator.american.edu



YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK IS WAITING

With more than 128,000 alumni worldwide, American University has the networking connections to get your career started.

Prestigious Graduate Programs

Our graduate students are diverse, driven, and successful. Within six months of graduation, more than 90 percent of our master's degree recipients further their education or have secured employment at top organizations, including Amazon.com, Boeing, Ernst & Young, Harvard Medical School, and Oracle. Our graduates work on policy for governments, both local and national. They work with internationally recognized media outlets and continue their education at the best graduate schools in the world.

AU's graduate school programs in public affairs and political science are ranked in the top 100 in the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.



“ I wanted to come to the United States because it has the best education system in the world. I got to know the campus, the staff at the library and writing center, the advisors, the other students, and I felt like a member of the university. Other students are very enthusiastic and friendly to me. [...] Plus, professors here are concerned about their students and make me feel like they care about how much we study; and this makes me want to study more. ”

— YANG, ACCOUNTING, CHINA



School of Public Affairs

HIGHLY RANKED

The American University School of Public Affairs offers one of the nation's top programs in public affairs (*U.S. News & World Report*, 2020). It is ranked in the top five for its international global policy and administration program and public management and leadership program.

SPA ANALYTICS AND MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (SAMI)

Here, industry-leading experts teach mapping, regulatory compliance, policy writing, media training, and more essential public affairs skills.



Elyas, Indonesia

“ When I saw the ranking for American University, I was impressed and wanted to enroll. Even from my first time here, I have had a great experience. I love all of my professors. The courses fit with my career and goals. I would definitely recommend this beautiful university to all of my friends in Indonesia and around the world.”

— ELYAS, PUBLIC POLICY, INDONESIA

Important Costs and Dates: Master's Accelerator

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TUITION AND FEES STARTING AT

Fall 2020	\$22,897-\$31,300*
Spring 2021	\$22,897-\$31,300*
Summer 2021**	\$6,578

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall 2020	July 15, 2020
Spring 2021	December 1, 2020
Summer 2021**	March 30, 2021

*Does not include the price of Pre-Sessional English if applicable.

**Available to Pre-Sessional English students only. Cost listed here does not include additional required program costs.

Note: Costs are estimates and subject to change. For detailed information, visit accelerator.american.edu.



Kogod School of Business

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

Kogod's hands-on programs teach real-world applications, helping turn your aspirations into outcomes.

STATE-OF-THE-ART

Access cutting-edge facilities, including our Financial Services and Information Technology Lab, as well as our Office of Career Engagement and Center for Business Communications.

BUILDING SKILLS

Kogod's focus on experiential learning enhances students' leadership abilities, communication skills, and professional confidence. Our extracurricular hands-on experiences include national case competitions, networking events, and student-run organizations.

[BEGIN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS AT
 accelerator.american.edu/masters-
 accelerator/apply-now](https://accelerator.american.edu/masters-accelerator/apply-now)

How to Apply

Our dedicated admissions team is here to answer your questions about campus visits, scholarship opportunities, tuition and billing, and more. Applying to an international school can be challenging, but with American University's International Accelerator, we are ready to help.

Students applying through the International Accelerator will benefit from:

STREAMLINED APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit a simple application and receive an offer of admission that's best for you, all within two weeks.

ENROLLMENT SERVICES ADVISOR

With counseling from start to finish, we make the enrollment process easy to understand and finish quickly.

VISA INTERVIEW SUPPORT

For many students, navigating the U.S. visa process can be overwhelming, but we're here to help. Whether you have questions about which visa to apply for or what to expect during your visa interview, dedicated advisors will aid you in conquering your application with ease.

PRE-ARRIVAL SUPPORT

From what to pack to booking your flight, we give you detailed information on how to best prepare for your campus arrival.

 **BEGIN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS AT**
accelerator.american.edu/apply-now



 **AMERICAN COLLEGIATE**
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC

THE LATEST ON COVID-19
Student health and safety are our top priorities. Stay informed with COVID-19 updates from our campus teams.

 **READ MORE AT**
american.edu/coronavirus

Ready to start your undergraduate degree at American University without additional English-language support? American University's International Admissions team will assist you with direct entry admissions. Begin the process at american.edu/admissions/international.



Interested in Pursuing Higher Education Beyond the Walls of American University?

Designed for global scholars, American Collegiate offers a unique path for aspiring undergraduate students seeking admission to America's most selective colleges and universities. A combination of rigorous coursework, personalized support, and standout experiences, American Collegiate at American University will help you achieve your goals and earn transfer admission to another top university or college in the United States after your first year.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

You will:

- complete the program and earn at least 24 academic transferable credits hours;
- receive guidance to select a major and the best-fit transfer school destination; and
- apply as a transfer student anywhere in the United States or the world.

 **LEARN MORE AT**
americancollegiate.com/washington-dc

Transfer Results

- **American University**
#76 National Universities
- **Boston University**
#42 National Universities
- **Emory University**
#21 National Universities
- **George Washington University**
#66 National Universities
- **New York University**
#30 National Universities
- **Royal Holloway, University of London (United Kingdom)**: #34 Best Global University in the United Kingdom
- **University of Melbourne (Australia)**
#1 Best Global University in Australia
- **University of Southern California**
#24 National Universities

U.S. News & World Report 2021 rankings, unless otherwise noted



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL ACCELERATOR
4400 Massachusetts Ave.
NW Washington, DC 20016

 auaccelerator  @auaccelerator  @auaccelerator



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SHORELIGHT
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