

Interested in a guided tour packed with even more information and an inside look at the university? Campus tours are conducted at the Fairfax Campus weekdays and on Saturdays. Call to make a reservation or reserve a space online at admissions.gmu.edu. Or take a virtual tour any time, any place, on our web site at www.gmu.edu.

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Inside Patriot Circle a self-guided tour

Welcome to George Mason University

This self-guided walking tour of George Mason University's Fairfax Campus points out some of our cultural, academic, administrative, and research facilities. With more than 140 buildings on three campuses, the university has much more to offer than what is highlighted here, and you are encouraged to take a look at other areas of interest that may not be specifically located on this tour path.

About George Mason University

Mason's growing reputation as an innovative educational leader is rooted in Virginia's strong educational tradition. Originally a branch of the University of Virginia, Mason began offering courses in liberal arts and engineering in 1957. It became an independent university on April 7, 1972. Today, Mason enrolls more than 30,000 students and offers 64 undergraduate degrees, 69 master's degrees, 25 doctoral degrees, and 1 professional degree (law).

Mason has expanded its presence to serve the entire Northern Virginia region by employing the revolutionary concept of the distributed university. In collaboration with county and state governments, the university established campuses in Prince William County, which houses the university's Life Science Initiative, and Arlington County, which is home to Mason's School of Law. A facility in Loudoun County helps Mason serve one of the fastest-growing counties in the country.

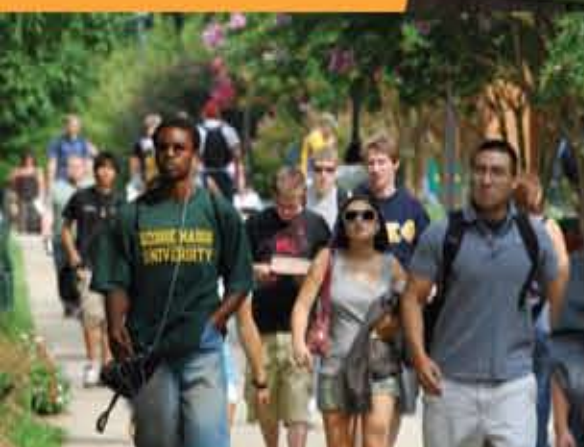
The university's ideal location also presents Mason students with unmatched opportunities for internships and work experience. Mason is just miles outside the nation's capital and in the heart of Northern Virginia's Technology Corridor. In addition, some of the finest museums, theater, and music in the world are just a short Metro ride away.



Prince William



Arlington



Mason students come from more than 135 different countries and all 50 states, which is one reason why the *Princeton Review* ranked Mason among the top three in the nation in diversity.



The university is home to the Center for the Arts, the professional presentation and production arm of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, and Theater of the First Amendment (TFA), the university's resident professional theater company. Students can obtain free tickets for most of these performances, which bring in artists from around the world. TFA has won 12 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in regional theater. Students have opportunities to work with the company on stage and backstage.



More than 4,500 students reside on our Fairfax Campus. Freshmen are housed together in two complexes called Presidents Park and University Commons. Upper-class students can choose to live in one of the other complexes, the student apartments, or the townhouses. The Liberty Square and Potomac Heights complexes feature single bedrooms in two- and four-bedroom apartments.



The campus also boasts more than 200 active student groups and organizations, as well as 22 Division I intercollegiate sports, including basketball, baseball, volleyball, track and field, and soccer.

Forget the horror stories you might have heard about cafeteria food. A multitude of dining options are available at Mason, including a convenience store and late-night dining, to meet the needs of our active students and busy faculty and staff. Two of the hottest spots on campus for students are Jazzman's Cafe, which features free live music on certain weeknights, and Ike's, a late-night eatery located within one of the housing complexes for convenient access for resident students.



The Right Place to Start

1 Start your tour at the **George Mason statue**, perhaps the best-known landmark on campus and favorite meeting spot for students. The seven-foot statue portrays the great statesman George Mason presenting his handwritten first draft of the Virginia Declaration of Rights in 1776. The statue serves as a constant reminder of the ideals most important to both the man and the university: freedom and learning.

2 Continue straight down the promenade to the next landmark, the **clock**. The clock is another popular meeting place on campus and serves to remind students when they are late for class. Turn left and head down the stairs and through the pass between the **Robinson Hall buildings**, where you'll find the Departments of Anthropology and Sociology, English, and Public and International Affairs, and the College of Health and Human Sciences. The Writing Center, located on the main level, provides students help with composing and editing papers. The buildings are named after Clarence J. Robinson, who donated \$5 million to the university to endow the Robinson Professor Program. Robinson Professors are outstanding scholars committed to undergraduate teaching and interdisciplinary scholarship.

3 Behind Robinson Hall, you'll find **Student Union Building I**, also known as SUB I, which opened in 1974 and was the first student union building on the Fairfax Campus. Enter SUB I through the lower level. The game room is on the right, and the Student Activities Office straight ahead. Take the steps on the right of the Student Activities Office to the second floor. Here you will find the office of Mason's student newspaper, *Broadside*; Student Health Services; the Office of Diversity Programs and Services; and other student services. Exit SUB I through the second-floor front doors onto the quad.

4 Walk across the quad in front of SUB I, past the **student organization benches**. Approximately 60 organizations applied for the opportunity to promote themselves on the 29 available benches. The quad also is the location of the annual Patriots Day celebration. Patriots Day is an opportunity for students to connect with clubs, organizations, and other students amid a carnival atmosphere. During warm weather, students often lounge in the quad with a textbook.

5 At the other end of the quad is **Fenwick Library**, one of two libraries located on the Fairfax Campus. Fenwick is the central research library in the university's library system, containing more than 1,000,000 volumes, thousands of microfilm and microfiche materials, and journals, maps, and government documents. Its Special Collections and Archives contains primary resource materials for research and more than 80 collections, including the Robert Breen Theater Collection, the C. Harrison Mann Map Collection, the Ollie Atkins Photographic Collection, the Alexander Haight Civil War and Prehistoric Collection, and the George Mason University Archives. Mason is a member of the Washington Area Consortium of Schools, which gives students borrowing privileges at eight other Washington-area academic libraries.

6 Behind Fenwick Library, you'll find the newest housing on campus, the **Chesapeake Residence Halls**. Not only does the Chesapeake residential community have all the best amenities, it is just a short walk from the center of campus, putting you within arm's reach of the library, SUB I, and the quad. And you won't need to leave the buildings to enjoy a new game room, take-out dining options, or even a student-run business on the ground floor.

15 Completing the tour is the **George W. Johnson Center**, the largest building on campus and one of the only facilities of its kind in the country. The Johnson Center combines academics with university life to encourage learning and community. In the Johnson Center, students can read library books over a cup of coffee or lunch, or study in one of the many comfy nooks on its four floors. The Johnson Center houses the University Bookstore, and the Cinema, where students can enjoy independent movies, Hollywood blockbusters, and popcorn for free. The Johnson Center is also home to the Admissions Office, University Scholars, the Global Education Center, and Student Government.



7 Turn right and follow the path past Robinson Hall toward **David King Hall**. King Hall is referred to as the "ology" building because it contains many of our natural and social science departments, such as Psychology, and Molecular and Microbiology. You can't miss King Hall because of the huge cable satellite transmitter on the roof that allows the university to broadcast its cable channel, GMU-TV, which produces award-winning shows, such as *Virginia Journeys* and *Tech Horizons*, and several telecourses.

8 Walk past David King Hall and **Science and Technology I and II** on your left. The Science and Technology buildings are home to the Departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mathematical Sciences, and Physics and Astronomy, and the Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering.

9 Pass Science and Technology I and continue on toward **Enterprise Hall**. Enterprise Hall houses the university's Economics Department, the School of Management, and New Century College.

10 Behind Enterprise Hall, you'll see **Research I**, the newest and most technologically innovative building on the Fairfax Campus. The building, which opened in 2006, features an array of advanced technological and scientific research tools, such as those used for work in autonomous robotics, climate dynamics, and the largest digital 9/11 archive in the world. The state-of-the-art observatory houses a telescope perfect for viewing the stars.

11 Take a right and continue on through the South Plaza of the Johnson Center toward **Innovation Hall**. Here, students take courses using teleconferencing or wireless Internet technology and can watch the GMU-TV production team working in the studio. The building also features a 140-seat academic computer lab and a 293-seat lecture hall with network capability at each seat. Each classroom and conference room is equipped with ceiling projectors and an instructor console with PC, VHS, and DVD capabilities. Stay to the right of the road and continue past College Hall and Mason Hall.

14 Behind the Center for the Arts is the **Performing Arts Building**, home to the Dance, Theater, and Music Departments. Also housed here are Theater of the First Amendment; TheaterSpace, the venue typically used by the Theater of the First Amendment; and the Black Box, the venue used for student-produced and -directed shows.

13 Pass Mason Hall, an administrative building that houses the President's Office, and walk along Mason Pond Drive. Before the Visitor Parking Deck, you will come to the magnificent **Center for the Arts**, a multi-use performance facility, completed in 1990. The Concert Hall can accommodate 2,000 people or be configured to form an intimate 800-seat theater. The Center for the Arts attracts world-renowned performers and artists, including the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, the St. Petersburg Ballet, the National Acrobats of Taiwan, and the Virginia Opera. The building features a Grand Atrium, where the box office is located, and a terrace gallery on the third floor that includes an outdoor patio.

12 Look ahead and to the left across Patriot Circle to see the **Patriot Center**, Mason's 10,000-seat arena. The Patriot Center hosts Mason basketball games, Commencement, and a wide variety of popular alternative, classic rock, hip-hop, and R&B performers. One of the annual highlights of the Patriot Center's calendar is when the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus comes to town. Right down Patriot Circle from the Patriot Center is the newly expanded **Aquatic and Fitness Center**, where students have at their disposal an Olympic-size pool; a recreational pool; a fitness gallery that features treadmills, bikes, Cybex-strength training equipment, and free weights; and much more.

