

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
Upper Montclair, New Jersey

MISSION STATEMENT

PREAMBLE

Montclair State University is proud of its long history of excellence. Since its start as a normal school in 1908, it has provided New Jersey with superior school teachers. Its development from teachers college to a high quality multiple purpose institution was nurtured by the quality of its prior work in the humanities, the natural and social sciences, and the fine arts. Professional programs in turn emulated the quality of other areas and contributed to the excellence of Montclair's curriculum and the high regard for its graduates. In the 1970s, the School of Fine and Performing Arts was designated a Center of Influence by the New Jersey Board of Higher Education. The institution was designated a university by the Board of Higher Education in 1994. The University continues to respect its role in the training of teachers while broadening its responsibilities to other professions.

STATEMENT OF MISSION

The mission of Montclair State University as a multipurpose public institution is to develop educated persons of inquiring, creative, and disciplined intelligence to be competent in careers that are fulfilling and to be socially responsible contributors to society. This University strives, therefore, to graduate people on the bachelor's and master's level who have had sound education in the arts and sciences and relevant specialized training built upon that base.

General Education

The University aims to provide all its baccalaureate graduates with a fine general education. Its graduates must be competent in the basic intellectual disciplines, be aware of human experience in the arts and in society, and understand the development of scientific theories through objective observation of the way nature works. Its aim is education, not merely training. Its graduates must have developed their affective and intellectual faculties through encounters with the great works of literature, philosophy, and history. Its graduates also must understand foreign cultures and languages in order to be educated beyond the provincialisms of time, place, religion, or race to become world citizens.

Professional Education

The University is equally dedicated to preparing students well in professional and career education through programs of high quality and practical relevance to the world of work.

Preparation for Graduate Work

Montclair State University is committed to excellence in undergraduate studies in order to prepare students to succeed in demanding graduate schools.

Graduate Work

Montclair State University is committed to providing a comprehensive range of post-baccalaureate programs of intellectual, cultural, social, and economic usefulness. Its aim is to provide graduate programs of intrinsic merit and social utility, open to part-time and full-time students and designed to qualify people to meet needs in commerce, industry, education, and public service while improving their understanding of themselves and the world about them.

Innovative Curricula

The University recognizes the need to develop innovative curricula, interdisciplinary concentrations, and educational delivery systems for practical experience through internships, cooperative education, and other meaningful experiences.

Access and Special Opportunities

Montclair State University is devoted to providing access to higher education for part-time students, disadvantaged students, fully employed persons, adults in mid-career, and persons interested in environmental education, bilingual/bicultural education, and adult education courses on a credit or non-credit basis. The University also provides early opportunities for superior high school students and admission to graduate courses for gifted undergraduates. Finally, the University aims to serve as a center for research, instruction, and conferences for industry, commerce, and the public.

Basic Skills

Montclair State University is committed to maintaining an academic environment in which students may succeed by providing developmental/remedial opportunities for traditional or non-traditional students who lack the verbal or mathematical literacy required to take full advantage of a university education.

Public Service

In serving a community larger than its immediate campus, the University provides enrichment to the public through its physical resources, the expertise of its faculty, and the vitality of its intellectual, cultural, and athletic life.

Student Development

The University aims to provide an appropriate mix of the curricular and non-curricular to contribute to individual growth and to the development of skills needed for group participation and leadership, healthful living, lifelong recreation, and career planning and employment.

The Montclair State University Community

The University will maintain an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and full opportunity for development of all segments of the community: students, alumni, staff, faculty, administrators, and trustees.

*Approved in Public Session by Montclair State University Board of Trustees on 5/13/81
Revised on 4/27/94 (change from College to University)*