



GRINNELL COLLEGE, GRINNELL, IA

Located on a campus in central Iowa, an hour from Des Moines and five hours from Chicago, Minneapolis-St. Paul and St. Louis, Interstate Route 80 makes Grinnell an easy drive to any major Midwestern city. The main campus is comprised of 120-acres with 64 buildings, but in addition, the college boasts a nearby 365-acre environmental research area. This land is maintained for class use in the study of ecology as well as student and faculty research.

When applying to Grinnell, the admission officers look for SAT scores in the 620-740 range on each of the Critical Reading and Math tests and an ACT range of 29-32. Ninety percent of its freshman class was in the top quarter of their high school graduating class. The admission office claims that, “Grinnell College is a place where independence of thought and social conscience are instilled.” They look for “students who show strong potential, have the courage to try new things, demonstrate a willingness to speak out and share their opinions, and bring different perspectives” to their campus. Other colleges that prospective students apply to include Carleton, Macalaster, Oberlin, Washington University in St. Louis, Kenyon and the University of Chicago.

Some of Grinnell’s strongest programs include Biology, Chemistry, History, English, Foreign Languages, Political Science, and Economics. According to the college’s website:

- More than half of students study off campus during their academic career
- 52 percent of students complete at least one independent study course
- More than 70 study abroad programs around the world
- 3,000 internship opportunities in the United States and abroad
- 18 men's and women's varsity sports; NCAA Division III competition
- In the top 1 percent of colleges and universities for PhDs per graduate

Grinnell has a diverse student population of approximately 1,500 students, 13% of whom are international and 26% U.S. students of color. It was the first college west of the Mississippi to admit African-Americans and women, and the first in the country to establish an undergraduate Political Science department. The Student: Faculty Ratio is an impressive 8:1. A junior from Houston was quoted as saying, “I was looking for a place where my professors would be interested in me as an individual and not as a number.” Grinnell College is one of a group of eight highly selective, nationally recognized liberal arts colleges known as *Eight of the Best* that include Claremont McKenna College, Colorado College, Connecticut College, Grinnell College, Haverford College, Kenyon College, Macalester College and Sarah Lawrence College. As a group, they “place great value on student-faculty interaction, small classes, and challenging curricula.” Every spring and fall this consortium visits cities around the country, inviting interested high school

students to learn more. As of the time of this publication, the nearest one will be in Westchester, NY on Sunday, May 23, 2010. Updates and registration instructions will be posted on their website at <http://www.grinnell.edu/admission/meetus/eightofthebest>.

Grinnell's 2010-11 comprehensive cost is \$46,362 (tuition & fees, \$37,482; room and board, \$8,880). The college practices need-blind admission, meeting 100 percent of demonstrated institutional need for all admitted domestic students.

The school's statistics show that immediately after graduation, 30% of Grinnellians in recent classes have gone directly to graduate or professional school, 50% entered the workplace, and 20% engaged in public service pursuits, volunteer work, or travel. Many of those who do not go immediately to graduate or professional school do so later: ten years after graduation, over 50% of a class typically holds at least one advanced degree. For its size, Grinnell produces a very large number of Ph.D.s, ranking 19th among all U.S. college and university undergraduate programs.

Notable alumni include James Norman Hall, 1910, author, best known for Mutiny on the Bounty; Harry Hopkins, '12, WPA administrator and architect of the New Deal; Gary Cooper, (attended until 1924, after which he moved to Los Angeles, and the rest is history) actor best known for High Noon, received five Oscar nominations for Best Actor; Joseph Rosenfield, '25, successful businessman who made initial contribution to Intel and donated it to Grinnell College, called the, "Patriarch of Iowa Business" by the *Des Moines Register*; Robert Noyce, '49, co-founder of Intel, co-inventor of integrated circuit, recipient of National Medal of Science; Nordahl Brue, '67, Founder of Bruegger's Bagels; Christine Thorburn, '92, cyclist and two-time Olympian for the U.S.



East Campus Dorm