

Clark University, Worcester, MA



Jonas Clark Hall, named for the founder

Clark University in Worcester, MA, is a private, non-sectarian, teaching and research institution founded in 1887 by Jonas Gilman Clark as the first all-graduate school in the United States. Today, Clark is a small liberal arts institution among eleven other colleges and universities that, together, make up the Higher Education Consortium of Central Massachusetts. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of 2,380 and is located in an urban setting with over 50 acres. Creativity, imagination and innovation are part of a “Clarkie’s” DNA.

Clark's definition of diversity goes beyond the color of your skin, the language you speak or the place you were born. It's a broad and comprehensive view that's woven into the curriculum, programs, events, student-run clubs, campus organizations and residence halls. Students feel free to share their experiences, learn from their differences and re-examine deeply held assumptions about one's place in the world. They come to the University with the passion to make a difference, and graduate with the skills employers demand and the world needs, prepared to live the University's motto: *"Challenge convention. Change our world."*

Clark looks for individuals, who can champion new ideas, accept differences and successfully become part of a growing community. It is a test-optional school; admission standards are selective and focused on identifying students who are most likely to thrive in the collaborative learning environment. Applicants should have a strong A/B average. Students showing a steady improvement in their grades from early in their high school career to their senior year, are also an ideal candidate. In addition to grades and exam scores, the Clark committee reviews recommendations, essays, extracurricular activities and high school course selection.

Clark offers 32 majors and 31 minors, and students can create their own course of study through the self-designed major program. The most popular majors at Clark University include: Psychology; Political Science and Government; General Biology; International Relations and National Security Studies; and Economics. In 2012 Clark launched Liberal Education and Effective Practice (LEEP), a pioneering model for higher education that combines a traditional liberal arts experience with authentic engagement in the world and workplace. With Clark's innovative LEEP program, Best Colleges Online ranks Clark in the top 5 among the nation's best in helping students onto clear career paths, ensuring a strong return on education.



Clark University's Goddard Library

This may be reason why so many Clark alumni are making their marks as successful entrepreneurs. Clark University ranks 13 on Forbes Magazine's list of most entrepreneurial universities, just after Yale and before Syracuse. Clark University's ranking in the 2015 edition

of Best Colleges is ranked #76 among National Universities. The Fiske Guide to Colleges, revised and updated for 2015, includes Clark University as one of only 41 colleges to receive the accolade of “Best Buy.” Nationally renowned as a college that changes lives, Clark is emerging as a transformative force in higher education today.

The student-faculty ratio at Clark University is 10:1, and the school has 57.5 percent of its classes with fewer than 20 students. Clark believes learning is more than just being in a traditional classroom, it also encompasses hands-on research, fieldwork and study abroad experiences. Professors are also encouraged to incorporate service learning into their courses and the Community Engagement and Volunteering Center helps students find the volunteer activities that meet their interests. The average freshman retention rate, an indicator of student satisfaction, is 89.5 percent, much higher than the national average.



All Clark students can get a pass that grants discounts to the many area attractions, including baseball games and the local ski slope, Wachusett Mountain. Clark students can also ride the free intercampus shuttle to Becker College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Assumption College, Worcester State University and College of the Holy Cross. Students can also hop aboard to get to Worcester Public Library, Worcester Art Museum and the local train and bus stations.

Research is a central to Clark’s mission

On campus, Clark students can choose from more than 100 clubs and organizations, but the school does not have a Greek system. Many events are held during the year, like the Fall Fest that is a venue for undergraduates to showcase work accomplished over the summer by displaying their research findings, present papers, participate in panel discussions, exhibit artwork in a variety of media, or perform musical compositions and theatrical sketches.

Today, Clark continues a legacy of innovation with a research program that bridges knowledge and practice. Clark is dedicated to being a dynamic community of learners able to thrive in today’s increasingly interrelated societies. The University maintains a national and international character, attracting high-caliber students and faculty from all quarters of the globe.

Notable Alumni: Robert H. Goddard, MA 1910, PhD 1911, rocket engineer, invented the modern day rocket; Paul Siple ‘39, Antarctic explorer and inventor of wind chill factor; John Heard ‘68, actor in the *Home Alone* movie franchise; Jeffrey Lurie ‘73, owner of Philadelphia Eagles; Ron Shaich ‘76, Panera Bread founder; Hugh Panero ‘78, CEO of XM Radio; Matt Goldman, ‘83, MBA ‘84, co-founder of Blue Man Group; Padma Lakshmi, ‘92, TV host *Top Chef*; Ali Fedotowsky ‘06, host of NBC television show *1st Look*, star of the sixth season of *The Bachelorette*.