Welcome to Southwestern University, home of the Pirates! We’re excited that you decided to visit our campus. Before you set off on your tour, there are a few things you should know.

1. Each building number corresponds with the numbers on the campus map.
2. The entire tour can take anywhere from 40 minutes to an hour.
3. Watch out for wandering Pirate Bikes. They’re bright yellow. You can’t miss them!

Activity: Tell your friends how much fun you’re having on campus. During your tour, take a selfie at one of your favorite spots on campus, post it to Facebook or Twitter, and tag it with #BeSouthwestern.
Paideia is a Greek word referring to the education of an ideal citizen well versed in the arts, the humanities, and the social and natural sciences, thereby creating an enlightened outlook born of the ability to see things from multiple perspectives. Students learn to find connections across their major, between disciplines, and in relation to their experiences outside the classroom. Paideia helps create a powerful intellectual practice empowering students to think in broader, more collaborative, and original ways. Students graduate with a cultivated curiosity and desire to learn, explore, and create change in both their careers and in life.

Mosaic

At Southwestern, we encourage you to choose mindfully from the broad variety of opportunities to engage. There's an ideal balance, different for each student, between academics, team and organization membership, work, and down time. By engaging with intention and reflecting on the value of each component of your involvement, you can find your perfect balance. We call this coordinated approach to the co-curricular experience "Mosaic" to reflect the collection of meaningful moments, relationships, learning, and development that make up your experience in college — your personal mosaic.
At Southwestern, we believe in minimizing our impact on the environment and are extremely conscious about our carbon footprint. We are completely powered by wind energy and have several LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings on campus, one of which is our Admission Center. In addition, our students have taken the initiative to create electric car recharging stations, water bottle refill stations, and a community garden.

Wilhelmina Cullen Admission Center (2)

Along with being the oldest building on Southwestern’s campus, Cullen has served us faithfully over the years as a library, gym, residence hall, and dining hall. Anything else? Why yes, glad you asked. As a matter of fact, it’s a tradition, which dates back to the early 1900s, that graduating seniors trek up the narrow spiral staircase to literally make their mark on Southwestern by signing the Cullen tower.

Fun Fact: The two staircases in Cullen have different numbers of stairs. When this edifice was built, women weren’t allowed to show their ankles. Therefore, the steps on one of the staircases are shorter so that women could ascend without exposing their ankles.
STUDENT LIFE

Red and Charline McCombs Campus Center (31)

Always buzzing with activity, the McCombs Campus Center includes the Commons, our main dining hall, as well as the Cove, which serves burgers and Starbucks coffee, among other items. The Cove is also conducive for students to work, study, hang out, and attend Friday Night Live events. During lunch, student organizations advertise different events on campus through concourse banners or in person at tables situated near the main walkway. Above the general hubbub you can always hear Ms. Ella, one of our dining hall staff members, greeting people with enthusiasm and an elbow bump as they enter the Commons. Her smile is enough to brighten anyone’s day.

DINING · POST OFFICE · RESIDENCE LIFE · STUDENT ACTIVITIES · UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Any cool traditions? Yes, of course! Late Night Breakfast occurs every semester during finals week and is a fantastic time for students to take a short break from studying. Along with delicious pancakes and other breakfast items that faculty and staff serve, students get a chance to try their hand...um...voice at karaoke.

Lois Perkins Chapel (34)

Southwestern is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and was founded with the idea that religion and education go hand in hand. That being said, we welcome students of all backgrounds and faiths to our campus. In addition, students are not required to take a religion class in order to graduate. Constructed in 1950, our chapel serves as a space for reflection and prayer.

For over one hundred years, Southwestern has hosted Candlelight, our Service of Lessons and Carols, which is modeled after services at Kings College in Cambridge, England. A time for reflection and connection, faculty, staff, students, and Georgetown community members attend this special service.
Fun Fact: Be careful not to walk across the seal! Legend has it that those who dare to cross the seal before graduation will not cross the stage. Even when the sidewalk is crowded, students still make a point to give the seal a wide berth.

Activity: If the chapel is unlocked, go ahead and make your way inside. You might get to hear someone practicing the piano or organ. As you make your way towards the pulpit, look at the stained glass windows to your left and right. You’ll notice significant figures from Christian and Methodist history immortalized in the glass, and underneath each person is the seal for the academic institution with which they are affiliated.

Corbin J. Robertson Center (18)

From women’s soccer to men’s golf, Southwestern offers a variety of competitive NCAA Division III varsity sports as well as intramural opportunities for students. In addition, Southwestern has fitness classes ranging from yoga to martial arts in which many students partake.

Along with an indoor track, swimming pool, basketball courts, and weight room, Southwestern also has outdoor athletic facilities and fields on the far reaches of campus. Please consult campus map (numbers 18-24) if you’re interested in further exploring these locations.

If you’re not an athlete, chances are you’ll have friends who are. Go support them! Tickets are free for students.

BASEBALL (M) · BASKETBALL (M&W) · CROSS COUNTRY (M&W) · FOOTBALL (M) · GOLF (M&W) · LACROSSE (M&W) · SOCCER (M&W) · SOFTBALL (W) · SWIMMING & DIVING (M&W) · TENNIS (M&W) · TRACK & FIELD (M&W) · VOLLEYBALL (W)
We not only strive to help students succeed at Southwestern but also in their careers after graduation. The Center for Career and Professional Development, which is ranked number 7 in the nation and number 1 in Texas by The Princeton Review, works with students on an individual basis. Through practice interviews, resumé drives, personality tests, and alumni events, this office ensures that students are prepared for the next chapter in their lives. Additionally, two-thirds of our students will participate in internships during the year or over the summer.

Residence Halls (25, 27, 29, 35)

Because we recognize that learning doesn’t stop when students leave the classroom, Southwestern fosters a living community conducive to engaging students’ minds and encouraging personal growth. We have four first-year residence halls, two of which are co-ed and two of which are single gender. All halls have community laundry and kitchen facilities available for residents to utilize.
F.W. Olin Building

Because we believe students need flexibility to explore their interests, our curriculum is designed in thirds—easy to remember, right? One-third of the classes students take will be for a student’s major, one-third will be for general education, and the final third will be for elective credit. We value student choice and agency and give students opportunities to not only discover what interests they have but also what issues they really care about. Since F.W. Olin is home to a variety of departments, students are exposed to an eclectic assortment of disciplines.

CLASSICS · COMMUNICATION STUDIES · PSYCHOLOGY · MODERN LANGUAGES

Alma Thomas Fine Arts Center (13)

Our Sarofim School of Fine Arts, lovingly referred to as the FAB, has something for everyone, whether it’s a play, an art exhibit, or a concert. Students who aren’t majoring in the fine arts still take classes in this area as well as utilize all of its resources.

Inside the FAB, you’ll find the Jones and Alma Thomas Theaters where students perform throughout the year as well as studio spaces where students create various works of art. You’ll also see a variety of student artwork displayed in the hallways as well as in the rotating gallery exhibit. During the year, seniors, as part of their capstone experience, design the exhibit and display their work.

ARCHITECTURE · ART (STUDIO) · ART HISTORY · MUSIC · THEATRE
A. Frank Smith, Jr. Library Center (12)

In addition to providing students with tranquil study spaces, our library is a place for students to collaborate on projects, conduct research, and hold group meetings. Our growing collection includes print and non-print materials, periodicals, and electronic information sources.

Special Collections, located within our library, is home to Southwestern’s archives as well as a variety of artifacts and old texts. Our collection includes Herman Melville’s compass, SU alumnus Senator John Tower’s papers, as well as a Sumerian cuneiform clay tablet that dates to around 2000 BCE. Throughout the year, different exhibits showcase pieces of Southwestern’s history.

Monday-Thursday: 8:00AM-8:00PM · Friday: 8:00AM-6:00PM · Saturday: 1:00PM-6:00PM · Sunday: 1:00PM-8:00PM

Fondren-Jones Science Hall (5)

From the study of apple snails to photoinduced DNA damage to creating new compounds, FJS offers beautiful new laboratory and collaborative spaces for students to work closely with professors as well as with each other. Professors take an inquiry-based learning approach to their courses and encourage students to be active creators of knowledge rather than passive consumers.

Because we value hands-on and engaging experiences, Southwestern offers a multitude of research opportunities through the SCOPE program. Funded through a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, SCOPE allows
SU students to work one-on-one with a faculty member on innovative research projects for eight weeks during a summer. Because there is no "right" answer for a research project, students get to expand their horizons and think critically about how and why something worked or didn’t work.

As you’re walking around FJS, you’ll notice there’s some construction going on. We’re currently renovating a portion of the building to add more collaborative learning spaces and classrooms. It’s expected to be completed in Fall 2019.

Mood-Bridwell Hall (9)

At Southwestern, we support students with a variety of resources, such as the Debby Ellis Writing Center. Students can take their drafts whether it’s a lab report or an art history paper to the writing center and meet with a student consultant who can help with anything from content to grammar. The writing center is available to all students, and it’s one hundred percent free!

Much like our eclectic student body, Mood has served in several different capacities as men’s and women’s residence halls as well as housed naval trainees during World War II.
Thank you for taking the time to visit our campus. You can also follow us on Facebook (@SouthwesternUniversity) and Twitter (@SouthwesternU). If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us at 512-863-1200 or admission@southwestern.edu. If you’d like to schedule your Southwestern Experience, visit our website today!