VSU At A Glance

History and Character: Founded in 1882 by an act of the State Legislature, Virginia State University (VSU) is the nation’s first, fully state-supported, historically black college or university (HBCU). A comprehensive university encompassing both undergraduate and graduate divisions, VSU is one of two land-grant institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia. With a mission emphasizing the integration of academic instruction, research and public service, VSU welcomes students of any race, religion or ethnic heritage.

Campus and Facilities: The 236-acre campus is located in Virginia’s historic Chesterfield County, on a bluff overlooking the Appomattox River. On-campus facilities include a fully wired, 280,000-volume library, a new science and engineering center, a computer technology center and a campus radio station. VSU also owns and operates a 416-acre farm and agricultural research center.

Students: Virginia State University has an enrollment of approximately 4,000 undergraduates and 1,000 graduate students.

Faculty: Approximately 84 percent of Virginia State’s 220 faculty members have earned the highest degree in their fields.

Accreditations: VSU is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The School of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Many individual programs are accredited by the relevant accreditation association, such as the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Undergraduate Degree Programs: VSU offers 34 programs leading to a bachelor’s degree. The University is comprised of five Schools: The School of Agriculture; The School of Business; The School of Engineering, Science and Technology; The School of Liberal Arts and Education; and The School of Graduate Studies, Research and Outreach.

Student Activities: Virginia State University students participate in a wide range of extracurricular and enrichment activities, including student organizations, academic clubs and societies, fraternities, sororities and residence hall cabinets.

Athletics: VSU’s 15 intercollegiate athletic teams compete in the NCAA Division II and the University is a member of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Men’s teams include baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, golf, indoor and outdoor track and tennis; women’s teams include basketball, bowling, cross-country, golf, indoor and outdoor track, softball, tennis and volleyball.

The best way to learn about Virginia State University is to visit our beautiful campus. We can arrange both individual and group tours. We’re sure you’ll be favorably impressed with the many exciting things happening on our campus.

For more information, or to plan your visit today, contact the Admissions Office Phone: 800-871-7611, E-mail: admis@vsu.edu, Online: www.vsu.edu
Innovation is central to everything we do, and has been for more than 125 years.

VSU was established by an act of the Virginia legislature in 1882, making it the nation’s first fully state-supported historically black university. In our inaugural academic year, 1883-1884, the University had one building, 126 students and seven faculty members, all of whom were black.

Today VSU is a comprehensive public university with a growing national reputation for pioneering programs and innovative partnerships. Our 5,000 students and 400-plus faculty members come from a diverse range of national, racial and ethnic backgrounds.
Building a Better World  Virginia State University has been working to build a better world since our founding in the aftermath of the Civil War. And while the challenges we face today are different from those of the late 1800s, they’re no less urgent. Preparing students to build a better world has never been more important.

VSU will prepare you to be a 21st century innovator, a future leader with the knowledge and insight necessary to change our world for the better. We offer more than 40 majors leading to a bachelor’s degree—in agriculture, business, engineering, science, technology and the liberal arts—every one of which prepares you to build a better world.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

BARACK OBAMA

There’s never been a better time to prepare for a career as an innovator, and there’s never been a better time to study at VSU.
Preparation for What’s Next

No matter what your career goals, a wide-ranging and dynamic undergraduate education is your strongest possible foundation for success. It’s also the best way to prepare for building a better world.

Otteria Miller, Chemistry Major
Lancaster, South Carolina

Otteria chose Virginia State because of its “beautiful campus” and small classes. She was admitted to the Honors Program based on her strong academic performance in high school, which included several Advanced Placement courses. A lifelong interest in science and aspirations of pursuing a career in dentistry—oral surgery, in particular—prompted her to major in chemistry. Since she came from a small high school, she worried at first about being able to keep up with college-level science courses. But for Otteria, who came to Virginia State with well-established study habits, keeping up academically has posed no problem. What she enjoys most about college life so far is “feeling more independent and having to manage my own time.”

I’ve been pleasantly surprised by how easy it is to communicate with my professors and how accessible they are outside of class. They really encourage us to speak up and get involved.”

Regardless of the major you choose, VSU provides the most up-to-date professional education, in addition to introducing you to exciting new ideas, respected traditions and diverse points of view.

At VSU you’ll gain a better understanding of the challenges facing the world today and have ample opportunity to explore solutions. In the process, you’ll become a lifelong learner—an indispensable skill in the global economy.

Whether you plan to begin a career immediately after graduation, or you’re thinking about pursuing an advanced degree, VSU will prepare you for what’s next.
Big-school advantages include wide-ranging academic options, abundant research opportunities and easy access to faculty members who are leaders and innovators in their field of study. Cutting-edge technological resources are another big-school benefit.

On the small-school side, we offer personalized, student-focused teaching, academic advisement and mentoring. Your professors will know you by name, and take the time to discuss your academic and personal goals. The VSU community is another important small-school asset. Support, encouragement and friendship promote a sense of belonging and make academic success easier to achieve.
Programs of Study

School of Agriculture
Agriculture (B.S.)
Agriculture Business & Economics
Agriculture Education
Animal Science/Pre-Veterinary Medicine
Aquatic Science
Plant, Soil and Environmental Science

Family & Consumer Sciences (B.S.)
Dietetics
Family, Child, and Community Services
(Teacher Education Endorsement)
Tasties, Apparel and Merchandising Management

School of Business
Accounting (B.S.B.A.)
Accounting (Minor)
Finance (Minor)
Computer Information Systems (B.S.B.A.)
Computer Science (B.S.)
Electronics Engineering

Technology (B.S.)
Industrial & Logistics Technology (B.S.)
Computer Aided Drafting and Design
Management (B.S.B.A.)
Management (Minor)
Human Resources Management
Marketing (B.S.B.A.)
Marketing (Minor)
International Business (Minor)

School of Engineering, Science and Technology
Biology (B.S.)
Biology/Pre-Med
Secondary Education (Minor)
Chemistry (B.S.)
Biochemistry/Pre-Professional
Pre-Pharmacy 3+4
Pre-Med
Forensics Chemistry

Computer Engineering (B.S.)
Computer Science (B.S.)

Psychology (B.S.)
School of Liberal Arts and Education
Criminal Justice (B.S.)
Criminal Justice (Minor)
Economics (B.S.)
Liberal Arts Concentration
Economics (Minor)
Pre-Law (Minor)

English (B.A.)
English Education Endorsement
English (Minor)
Spanish (Minor)
French (Minor)
German (Minor)
Writing (Minor)

African Studies (Minor)
Literature Through Film (Minor)

Health & Physical Education (B.S.)
Health
Recreation

Sports Management
Health and Physical Education Endorsement
K-12
Driver Education (Add-on Endorsement)
Military Science (Minor)

History (B.A.)
History
History and Social Sciences Education (K-12)
Black History

Philosophy (Minor)
Pre-Law (Minor)

Interdisciplinary Studies (B.S.)
Special Education – General Curriculum (K-12)
Elementary Education (Pre-K-6)

Mass Communications (B.A.)
Mass Communications (Minor)
Print Media Option
Radio and Television Option
Public Relations Option

Music (B.M.)/B.A.
Music Education Endorsement –

Choral/Vocal
Instrumental Music Education Endorsement
Instrumental Performance
Keyboard Performance
Vocal Performance

Political Science (B.A.)
Legal Studies
Political Science (Minor)

Social Work (B.S.W)

Sociology (B.A.)
Sociology (Minor)

Visual Arts (B.F.A)
Studio Art
Animation
Graphic Design
Web Design

Bachelor of Individualized Studies (B.I.S.)

VSU is awarding record numbers of high-value merit scholarships to attract and retain talented students. In 2005-06, the University awarded 58 “Presidential” and 75 “Provost” scholarships, up from just 10 and 14, respectively, a decade before.

58/75
Remarkable Programs and Resources

Like other great universities, VSU gives you access to a variety of programs and student resources, designed to enrich your overall educational experience and set you up for success.

Honors Program

designed for academic high achievers to pursue challenging, in-depth course work, intensive student-faculty research projects, cultural enrichment activities and travel. Honors students have exclusive access to the Honors House, which provides space for meetings, seminars and private study.

Superior Academic Facilities including our new $20-million engineering and technology building

Johnston Memorial Library recently underwent a major expansion and renovation to become a true 21st-century academic information center, that will provide you with access to an extensive collection of books and periodicals, as well as unlimited online resources.

ROTC

for eligible VSU students to take advantage of scholarships and stipends in exchange for at least two years of full-time military service following graduation. The ROTC program consists of two parts: the basic course and the advanced course, and completion of the program qualifies you for appointment as a second lieutenant in the Regular Army, Army Reserve or Army National Guard.

Outstanding Research Opportunities

Over the past decade, we’ve backed our commitment to innovation by expanding undergraduate research opportunities—in engineering, science and technology, as well other areas of the curriculum—to help you learn by doing.

Research emphasizes active investigation—it’s the exact opposite of listening to a professor tell you how it’s done. At VSU you’ll get an insider’s perspective on how to do agriculture, chemistry, engineering, history, or whatever discipline interests you most.

Government departments at the federal and state levels are sponsoring VSU faculty and student researchers to expand the horizons of knowledge in fields ranging from laser radiation to the therapeutic potential of soybeans.

Current sponsors include:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH)
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Energy
Virginia Department of Transportation
We must get beyond textbooks, go out into the bypaths and untrodden depths of the wilderness and travel and explore and tell the world the glories of our journey.

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN
As a boy, Branden was always “taking things apart and putting them back together.” As an engineering student at Virginia State, he’s been able to enhance his technical and professional skills by completing three challenging summer internships: with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC; with General Electric in Pennsylvania; and with US Steel in Ohio. A peer tutor and a member of the VSB Honors Program, Branden is also president of the campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and vice president of his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc. After completing his bachelor’s degree, he plans to pursue an MBA, with an eye toward “helping businesses become leaner and more efficient.”

“The engineering program at Virginia State made me realize how much I enjoy work that involves problem-solving. Through internships, I’ve developed real-world problem-solving skills in professional settings, whether I’m writing a report or interpreting a technical diagram.”

Academic Clubs and Honor Societies

Participating in an academic club or honor society gives you a chance to discover new interests and explore existing ones in greater depth.

- American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences
- American Marketing Association
- Association of Political Scientists
- Biology Club
- Business Management Club
- Chemistry Club
- Economics and Finance Club
- Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Management Club
- Information Systems and Decision Sciences Association
- International Food Service Executives Association
- Languages and Literature Club
- Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences
- National Association of Black Accountants
- National Association of Black Engineers
- Philosophy Club
- Pre-Law Society
- Psychology Club
- Public Administration Club
- Kappa Delta Pi (education honor society)
- Phi Delta Kappa (association of professional educators)
- Sigma Tau Delta (international English honor society)
Your Home Away from Home

Living on campus is a vital part of college life, and one of the best ways to take advantage of everything that VSU has to offer. We strive to provide campus housing for all full-time unmarried students who request it. All freshmen, except commuters, are required to live on campus.

Our residence halls are more than places to study and sleep. They’re hubs of social activity and centers for collaborative learning.

Another bonus of living on campus: VSU students come from all over the United States and more than 29 nations around the world—so simply living in a residence hall can be a valuable cross-cultural learning experience.

Student Clubs & Organizations

- Act of God
- Army ROTC
- Batterman of Brothers and Sisters
- Institute for Leadership Development
- National Society of Pershing Rifles
- Rearview (VSU Yearbook)
- Sankofa Dance Theater
- Sister to Sister
- Student Ambassadors
- Trojan Explosion Marching Band
- Virginia Statesman (student newspaper)
- VSU Concert Choir/VSU Gospel Chorale
- VSU National Association of Parliamentarians
- Vobo Vocos (VSU cheerleaders)

National Pan-Hellenic Council

Fraternities

- Alpha Phi Alpha
- Kappa Alpha Psi
- Omega Psi Phi
- Phi Beta Sigma
- Iota Phi Theta

Sororities

- Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Sigma Gamma Rho
- Zeta Phi Beta

Comfort and Convenience

All residence hall rooms are fully furnished and provide access to cable TV and the Internet. Every hall has common areas for meetings, group study and recreation, as well as computer and laundry facilities. On-campus housing options include coed and single-sex residence halls, as well as the Student Village, apartment-style residences for upper-level students and women.
VSU Trojans: The Right Stuff

The Trojan and the Lady Trojans, our men's and women's varsity teams, compete in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) as members of the NCAA Division II. Our athletic traditions date back to the early years of the 20th century and remain alive and well today.

Men’s Intercollegiate Teams
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Football
- Golf (coed team)
- Tennis
- Track (indoor and outdoor seasons)

Women’s Intercollegiate Teams
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cross-Country
- Golf (coed team)
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track (indoor and outdoor seasons)
- Volleyball

Intramural and Recreational Sports

Students and faculty members alike take part in the VSU intramural programs. Teams include basketball, flag football, softball and volleyball. You can also take participate in individual sports, such as aerobica, or get involved in one of the regular tournaments for chess, checkers, horseshoes, cards or billiards.
Exceptional Graduates

VSU has been the starting point for thousands of individual success stories. With our focus on academic excellence, research, and innovation, we’ve created a campus culture conducive to generating success-oriented alumni—graduates who are eager to test their skills in challenging professional environments in the world of business, government, technology, education and other fields.

“The magazine *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* recently ranked VSU 22nd among all U.S. colleges in awarding bachelor’s degrees to African Americans. VSU ranked 11th in granting bachelor’s degrees in education and 14th in granting degrees in computer science.”

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Take the Next Step

If you’re interested in building a better world at VSU, we look forward to receiving your application for admission. While admission to VSU is competitive, we’re committed to enrolling students with a broad range of talents and abilities. When reviewing application, we’re interested in all of your accomplishments, inside the classroom and beyond.

What You’ll Need to Apply

- A completed application form
- A copy of your official high school transcript
- Your scores from the SAT or ACT
- Two letters of recommendation, one of which must come from a high school teacher or counselor
- A personal statement explaining why you want to attend VSU
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (transfer candidate only)

Transfer Students Welcome

VSU is an excellent choice for transfer students. Whether you’ve already or completed an associate degree or started a bachelor’s-degree program at another college or university, we make an effort to accept as many of your previous college credits as possible. Students who enter VSU with an associate degree can usually earn a bachelor’s degree in two years of full-time study.

Apply to VSU online by going to www.cometoVSU.edu
Most VSU students receive some form of financial assistance. Our Office of Student Financial Aid is committed to helping you find and obtain the financial assistance you need and deserve.

With a father in the military, Justin grew up all over the world. He completed his first three years of high school in Germany, but graduated from Motosca High School in nearby Chesterfield. A member of the Honors Program and a kicker for the varsity football team, Justin calls VSU a “great school” that’s making dramatic improvements in virtually every area. A serious student who could most likely succeed in any profession, Justin plans to pursue a career in teaching and coaching. Although he doesn’t know yet which grade level he’ll teach, he definitely wants a position that will allow him to “interact with young people and have a positive influence on their lives.”

I chose Virginia State because they offered me both an academic and an athletic scholarship. I was also very impressed by the way people acted toward me during visits—everyone I met seemed genuinely concerned with me as an individual.”

Your financial aid package might contain a combination of grants, scholarships, loans and work-study employment. We conduct regular workshops and offers individual counseling on financial aid matters to students and their parents.

If you have questions about applying for financial aid, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 804-524-5990 or toll-free at 800-823-7214. Or go to the VSU website at www.vsu.edu and click on “Financial Aid.”

Types of aid available to VSU students include:

- **Grants**, which are usually based on financial need and do not have to be repaid
- **Scholarships**, which are awarded on the basis of academic or extracurricular achievement and require no repayment
- **Loans**, which must be repaid with interest after you leave school
- **Work-study**, a program that offers part-time jobs for students with demonstrated financial need

If you have questions about applying for financial aid, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 804-524-5990 or toll-free at 800-823-7214. Or go to the VSU website at www.vsu.edu and click on “Financial Aid.”