Xavier University of Louisiana

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STUDENTS SAY “. . .”

Academics

One of the top Historically Black Colleges/Universities (HBCU), Xavier University of Louisiana prides itself on educating students in a range of subjects, to provide a “thriving underlying foundation, upon which students can achieve the very best for themselves.” Though perhaps best known for its science departments, the New Orleans-based school has both a College of Arts and Sciences and a College of Pharmacy and requires “high academic standards” for all of majors across the board. Between its academic reputation and the emphasis placed on community leadership, no matter the reason that you go to XU, you leave “fully educated.” “I was challenged academically, but not broken. The workload was not overwhelming,” says a student. Small class sizes means great interaction with professors, and the ensuing “close-knit relationships” are cited by many as a major part of their satisfaction with the school. Also on that list? “The education you receive at XU, considering the extremely low tuition cost and financial aid opportunities for a private university, is unparalleled.”

Professors at XU are dedicated to ensuring that all students “are proficient, if not masters, in the materials taught,” and they provide “an excellent foundation for further academic and career success.” XU produces a tremendous number of graduates who go on to medical school and other professional schools in “the pursuit of success.” Most faculty members are “almost always available in some form or fashion to help you with any questions you may have,” and the school itself provides “multiple resources for any problems that need reinforcement.”

Life

Despite its location, XU “is by no means a party school.” Because the student body is mostly composed of science majors, people “are always studying,” and “study groups are a common thing.” Students “will take occasional breaks,” but for the most part, grades are the important thing at XU. “We are not a school that places as much emphasis on ‘fun’ as we do making sure we are productive and contributing citizens by the time we graduate,” says a student. Though the school offers “lots of opportunities to volunteer,” many students complain that there aren’t enough social activities to keep students occupied, and school spirit suffers as a result. “We have a strong academic standing, but our campus life is pretty limited,” says one student. The dry campus also enforces a curfew (“Sometimes it feels like a boarding school”), so the typical college experience and hair-letting-loose happens off-campus: “Campus is a place to work.” Not everyone is familiar with the city (there’s no off-campus housing associated with XU), so going out to movies, clubs, and shopping on weekends usually happens in groups. There’s also a fair amount of interaction with neighboring schools like Tulane, Loyola, and Dillard. “There are so many things to do right around the corner from Xavier; I can see musicals, watch the Saints, see the Hornets play, salsa dance, get amazing Southern cuisine, listen to ‘bounce’ music, and learn how to dance, see parades and second lines,” sums up a Big Easy lover.

Student Body

Studious, studious, studious. Most students are “very focused, driven, and destined for success,” and unsurprisingly, you run into a lot of “aspiring” doctors and pharmacists. The majority of students are African American or Asian, and the female-to-male ratio is quite high. The student body as a whole has a “conservative mentality.” It’s “very easy” to make friends here, particularly through study groups, and the small campus means that “everyone recognizes everyone” and “gets along with each other.”
THE PRINCETON REVIEW SAYS

Admissions

Very important factors considered include: GPA, rigor of secondary school record, standardized test scores, recommendation(s). Important factors considered include: class rank, essay. Other factors considered include: alumni/ae relations, character/personal qualities, extracurricular activities, interview, talent/ability, volunteer work, work experience. SAT or ACT required; SAT and SAT Subject Tests or ACT considered if submitted; ACT with Writing component recommended. TOEFL required of all international applicants. Academic units required: 4 English; 2 mathematics; 2 science; 1 social studies. Academic units recommended: 7 academic elective. 4 mathematics; 3 science; 1 history; 1 foreign language.

Financial Aid

Students should submit: FAFSA. Regular filing deadline is 1/1. The Princeton Review suggests that all financial aid forms be submitted as soon as possible after January 1. Need-based scholarships/grants offered: Federal Pell, SEOG, state scholarships/grants, private scholarships, the school’s own gift aid, United Negro College Fund Loan aid offered: Direct Subsidized Stafford, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford, Direct PLUS, Subsidized Stafford, Unsubsidized Stafford, PLUS, Federal Perkins. Applicants will be notified of awards beginning 4/1. Federal Work-Study Program available. Institutional employment available. Off-campus job opportunities are good.

Inside Word

This HBCU has a rolling admissions process, and applicants typically receive notification of the school’s decision within one month of completed application submission. Campus visits are encouraged. If you want to be considered for scholarships, you’ll need to include a strong personal statement that reflects evidence of leadership. Admission to the school’s College of Pharmacy is separate from that of the College of Arts and Sciences and is subject to a different set of requirements.

THE SCHOOL SAYS “...”

From the Admissions Office

“You have made a great decision in planning to go to college. You will never regret it. It will help you reach your greatest potential as an individual and as a contributing member of our society. You will make another important decision when you select Xavier for your college education. For more than 80 years, Xavier has been expanding horizons, opening new worlds, enriching lives, developing leaders and sending graduates out to conquer their selected corner of the world. Xavier graduates have heeded the call of urban America, providing enlightened leadership in city government. They have served as mayors, headed municipal agencies, donned judicial robes. They have also served in state legislatures. In the health professions, Xavier is a national leader in providing graduates for schools of medicine and dentistry, including the country’s top-ranked schools. College of Pharmacy graduates can be found in almost every state, serving in neighborhood pharmacies, in hospitals, and in the pharmaceutical industry. Xavier graduates are vital members of health care teams, while others conduct biomedical research.

“Xavier educators are found in classrooms of colleges and schools. They also serve as presidents, superintendents and principals. Business graduates rise quickly in the world of business and industry. Xavier alumni report the news on network television and in leading national publications. They perform on opera and concert stages in the music centers of the world. As lawyers and social scientists, they help right some of the wrongs of our society. They fulfill the Xavier tradition in leadership and service. Xavier seeks students to keep that tradition alive—students with great potential, who will not settle for less than high achievement, students who make a difference in the lives they touch. You can make your life count for something special by coming to Xavier.”