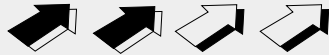


# OBERLIN COLLEGE

101 NORTH PROFESSOR STREET, OBERLIN, OH 44074 • ADMISSIONS: 440-775-8411 • FAX: 440-775-6905

## CAMPUS LIFE



<b>Quality of Life Rating</b>	72
Type of school	private
Affiliation	none
Environment	rural

### STUDENTS

Total undergrad enrollment	2,951
% male/female	41/59
% from out of state	89
% from public high school	66
% live on campus	70
% African American	8
% Asian	8
% Caucasian	80
% Hispanic	3
% international	6

### SURVEY SAYS . . .

*Political activism is hot*  
*Great library*  
*Students don't get along with local community*  
*Students aren't religious*  
*Musical organizations are hot*  
*Intercollegiate sports unpopular or nonexistent*  
*Theater is popular*

## ACADEMICS



<b>Academic Rating</b>	89
Calendar	4-1-4
Student/faculty ratio	12:1
Profs interesting rating	93
Profs accessible rating	95
% profs teaching UG courses	100
Avg lab size	20
Avg regular class size	20

### MOST POPULAR MAJORS

English  
 history  
 biology

## STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

### Academics

Oberlin students rate their college highly in nearly every academic category. An outstanding liberal arts school connected to a world-renowned music conservatory, Oberlin has something to offer almost everyone, with unusually strong science departments bolstering its superlative humanities and fine arts offerings. At Oberlin, “the focus is on the students. Those we surveyed appreciate the small classes, an administration that “does its best not to get in the way,” professors who “are here to teach,” and the large degree of autonomy with which the school entrusts them. Explains one student, “This college is run day-to-day by students and profs. When students have a problem, however we always take it to the administration. Loudly.” A pioneer in minority studies, Oberlin requires three cultural diversity courses in its distribution requirements. Another innovative aspect of the Oberlin curriculum is the Experimental College (ExCo), a student-run program offering one-credit courses in “serious” “alternative academic” subjects. Anyone can apply to teach an ExCo course; many are taught by community members not otherwise affiliated with Oberlin. Explains one student, “ExCo classes are the coolest because they bring together all kinds of people with strange common interests.” Most students come to Oberlin because they share the school’s priorities although a few odd stragglers complain that “this campus is dedicated to being so liberal and ‘in touch’ that it loses its reality.”

### Life

Oberlin has no Greek system; students here have absolutely no desire for one, preferring a scene that centers around “artsy movies, parties where everyone knows each other, a radio station where your requests are always played, great people who aren’t afraid to be nerdy—these are a few of my favorite things at Oberlin.” Students are enthusiastic about lectures, concerts, debates, and campus theater. Although “academic rigor keeps things pretty tame on weekdays,” on weekends “theme parties are on the rise: Blue Hawaiian, Drag Ball, and Safer Sex Night.” The town of Oberlin “is two blocks long. Second-run movie theater, diner, two pizzerias.” Adds another, “Everybody thinks we tip cows in Ohio but there aren’t many cows, otherwise we’d be doing it all the time. Seriously, there is absolutely nothing to do here.” Luckily, Cleveland is only 35 miles away.

### Student Body

Oberlin students come from nearly every state and from more than 50 foreign countries. Writes one, “Almost everyone is a part of some group: religious, political, minority, etc.” Among the most left-leaning and politically active students in our survey, Oberlin students “get agitated about everything.” Oberlin undergraduates value iconoclasm and eccentricity, claiming that “to be odd here is to be normal. Some of these people are truly freaks. Wait, I’m a freak.” Sums up one student, “Oberlin is where all the nerds, geeks, and dweebs can go and not have to worry about whether they are popular, but also where everyone who made an effort to break from the status quo in high school finds themselves becoming the new status quo.”

## ADMISSIONS

*Very important* academic and nonacademic factors considered by the admissions committee include recommendations, secondary school record, and standardized test scores. *Important* factors considered include character/personal qualities, essays, extracurricular activities, minority status, and talent/ability. *Other* factors considered include alumni/ae relation, class rank, interview, volunteer work, and work experience. Factors *not* considered include geography, religious affiliation/commitment, and state residency. SAT I or ACT required; SAT II recommended. TOEFL required of all international applicants. High school diploma is required and GED is accepted. *High school units required/recommended:* 16 total required; 22 total recommended; 4 English required, 2 math required, 4 math recommended, 2 science required, 3 science recommended, 2 science lab required, 2 foreign language recommended, 2 social studies required, 3 social studies recommended, 2 history required, 4 elective required.

### The Inside Word

The admissions process at Oberlin is especially demanding for candidates to the Conservatory of Music, which seeks only the best-prepared musicians for its excellent program. All applicants to the college face a thorough and rigorous review of their credentials by the admissions committee regardless of their choice of major. Take our advice—visit the campus to interview, and put extra effort into admissions essays.

## FINANCIAL AID

*Students should submit:* FAFSA, CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, and noncustodial (divorced/separated) parent's statement. Regular filing deadline is February 15. The Princeton Review suggests that all financial aid forms be submitted as soon as possible after January 1. *Need-based scholarships/grants offered:* Pell, state scholarships/grants, and the school's own gift aid. *Loan aid offered:* Direct Subsidized Stafford, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford, Direct PLUS, Federal Perkins, and college/university loans from institutional funds. Institutional employment available. Federal Work-Study Program available. Applicants will be notified of awards on or about April 1. Off-campus job opportunities are good.

## FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

"Oberlin College is an independent, coeducational, liberal arts college. It comprises two divisions, the College of Arts and Sciences, with roughly 2,300 students enrolled, and the Conservatory of Music, with about 500 students. Students in both divisions share one campus; they also share residence and dining halls as part of one academic community. Many students take courses in both divisions. Oberlin awards the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Music degrees; a five-year program leads to both degrees. Selected master's degrees are offered in the Conservatory. Oberlin is located 35 miles southwest of Cleveland. Founded in 1833, Oberlin College is highly selective and dedicated to recruiting students from diverse backgrounds. Oberlin was the first coeducational college in the United States, as well as a historic leader in educating black students. Oberlin's 440-acre campus provides outstanding facilities, modern scientific laboratories, a large computing center, a library unexcelled by other college libraries for the depth and range of its resources, and the Allen Memorial Art Museum."

## ADMISSIONS



<b>Admissions Rating</b>	<b>90</b>
# of applicants	4,855
% of applicants accepted	50
% of acceptees attending	30
# accepting a place on wait list	410
% admitted from wait list	7
# of early decision applicants	145
% accepted early decision	84

### FRESHMAN PROFILE

Range SAT Verbal	630-730
Average SAT Verbal	685
Range SAT Math	590-700
Average SAT Math	644
Range ACT Composite	26-30
Average ACT Composite	28
Minimum TOEFL	600
Average HS GPA	3.57
% graduated top 10% of class	59
% graduated top 25% of class	87
% graduated top 50% of class	99

### DEADLINES

Early decision	November 15
Early decision notification	Dec. 15
Regular admission	January 15
Regular notification	April 1
Nonfall registration?	yes

### APPLICANTS ALSO LOOK AT AND OFTEN PREFER

Yale  
Swarthmore  
Wesleyan U.  
Stanford  
Brown

### AND SOMETIMES PREFER

Carleton  
Haverford  
Tufts  
Grinnell  
Williams

### AND RARELY PREFER

Connecticut Coll.

## FINANCIAL FACTS



<b>Financial Aid Rating</b>	<b>74</b>
Tuition	\$24,096
Room & board	\$6,178
Books and supplies	\$575
Avg frosh grant	\$16,715
Avg frosh loan	\$4,000