

A few of our...

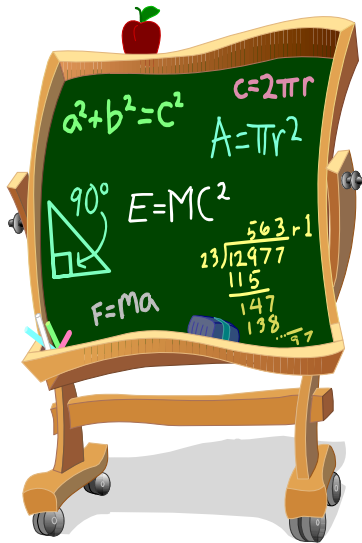
**Most Frequently Asked
Questions at Berea
College...**



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Frequently Asked Questions (continued)...

Academics



Q. How big are my classes going to be?

A. The student-to-faculty ratio is currently 10 to 1, and most classes have an average of 10 to 15 students per class. Professors usually learn students' names within the first few weeks of class.

Q. What are the classes like?

A. Classes are usually lecture/discussion courses or seminar courses. Several majors include classes that offer hands-on experience and provide students with facilities related to their major.

Q. Will I be able to talk to my professors outside of class?

A. Every professor at Berea College arranges office hours for open consultation with students. These hours are set up during times when faculty are not teaching a course so that students can come to them for guidance or assistance. If a student can not meet during a professor's set office hours, typically the professor will work with the student to set up a time that is a little more accommodating.

Q. Will a teacher's assistant teach any of my classes?

A. No. Members of the faculty teach all classes at Berea College.

Q. When do I have to declare my major? Can I design my own major?

A. Most students at Berea must declare a major when they have accumulated 15 course credits. Typically, this will be by the end of the sophomore year. Declaring a major is usually done with help from an academic adviser. Designing your own major is possible by working with an academic adviser and the Office of Academic Services, and would classify you as having an Independent Major.

Q. Is it possible to receive credit for courses taken at other colleges? Advanced Placement Exams? The College-Level Exam Program? Advanced Standing Exams?

A. Yes. Credit through all of these programs is possible. For transfer credit, you must provide us with a transcript from the colleges you attended. Keep in mind, though, that not all classes transferred will be accepted, but you can contact the Office of Academic Services to confirm whether or not the college you are transferring from is accredited and if your classes are transferable. If you have more than 44 credit hours from another college, than you will not be eligible to be a transfer student at Berea College.

Q. If I need help with coursework, where can I go?

A. We offer several ways you can get the help you need. The first people you can seek assistance from are your course instructor and/or Teaching Associate (TA). Faculty have office hours to assist you and TA's hold evening study groups. We also have a Learning Center to assist students. Whether you need help with a paper, a presentation, or homework, the Learning Center offers assistance to any student for any course. Math labs, language labs, and tutors provide support for students to meet academic challenges.



Q. I heard that you are required to go to convocations. What are those?

A. Convocations are an integral part of the general education program at Berea College. These events bring on campus notable speakers, scholars, performers, and programs on a variety of subjects to enhance the cultural, intellectual, aesthetic, and religious dimensions of campus life. Convocations frequently emphasize issues being discussed in classes across campus. Every student is required to go to seven convocations per semester. This is done by turning in a convo card (signed and dated) at the end of the convocation program. All Students are automatically enrolled in CNV 100, a one-quarter-credit course. If you obtain seven convocation credits, you will receive a CA grade for the CNV 100 class on your transcript.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)...



Q. Don't Berea College students have to work? What's that all about?

A. Yes, all Berea students are required to work. This is part of your four-year tuition scholarship that you receive. Every student is required to work a minimum of 10 hours per week in one of the 140 different labor departments across campus. Your labor position is chosen for you your first year, but after that you can interview with other departments if you want to work in a different position. First-year students earn about \$1200 per year to help pay for books, room, board, and personal expenses.

Q. After graduation what help is there for job placement? Graduate school study?

A. Berea College has an Office of Career Development. This office provides a variety of services to assist students with professional development. Some of these services include helping secure campus jobs, coordination of job interviews and career fairs, assistance with a resumé, and identification of internship opportunities. The College offers financial assistance for graduate application fees and research into schools and programs.

Campus Life

Q. How large is your student body?

A. Berea College's student body has around 1500 undergraduate students.

Q. What is your retention rate?

A. Our freshman to sophomore retention, the percentage of students that return for a second year, rate is 88 percent.

Q. What is the diversity like here?

A. Berea College strives to create a community of people from various backgrounds and cultures. One in four students you meet at Berea is from an ethnic minority. By working, learning, and living with people with differences, students develop skills and attitudes necessary to function effectively in our diverse society.



Q. What is the ratio of men to women?

A. Our male to female ratio is around 45 percent male and 55 percent female.

Q. Where do students study?

A. There are many study areas around campus. Most residence halls have a large study lounge or lobby for students. Hutchins Library offers quiet individual and group study rooms. There are other lounges in various buildings across campus, but keep in mind that they do close at certain times in the evening. For those night owls who study late at night, the Woods-Penniman Building is open 24 hours a day.



Q. Where do students eat? Does Berea offer meal plans for students?

A. There are two main areas on campus that provide food for students. First, there's Berea Dining Services, which is located on the first floor of the Alumni Building. It provides breakfast, lunch and dinner for all Berea students. The other option for students is the Crossroads Café, located in the Woods-Penniman Building, which makes food available outside of the normal Dining Services hours. The Café offers sandwiches, milkshakes, Starbucks coffee, and other snacks that are not normally offered at Dining Services. The meal plans at Berea are as follows: a 21-meal plan (three meals a day, seven days a week) with 50 Berea Bucks, a 14-meal plan (two meals a day, seven days a week) with 100 Berea Bucks (which can be used in the place of cash at the Café), or a 10-meal plan with 150 Berea Bucks.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)...



Q. Where do students hang out on campus? Off Campus?

A. There are several places on and off campus that students hang out. The Woods-Penniman Commons provides a friendly atmosphere with couches and chairs. With Internet access offered 24 hours a day by the College, the Computer Center is also a popular hangout for quite a few of our students. Recreational lounges in each of the residence halls (also know as “loud” lounges) provide large screen TVs with cable access, game tables, and snack machines. The Corner Pocket, the College’s student game room, also provides pool tables, ping-pong, foosball, air hockey, etc., and will sometimes host tournaments for students. The Campus Activities Office also sponsors many campus events. These include movies, trips off campus, dances, comedy acts, and novelty shows. Off campus, Berea Coffee and Tea is a popular hangout for those who love a great “cup of joe,” and to get the true Berea experience, you might want to check out PapaLeno’s, a local Italian restaurant. Another option is the recently opened Ground Effects, which boasts an open-mike night every Friday so students can enjoy some great music.

Q. How do students get around on campus? Off campus?

A. You can walk anywhere on campus within ten minutes. Also, the College has bike racks all over campus set up for students who bring bicycles from home. Students also travel by skate board, scooter, or rollerblades. When you need to make a trip off campus, Berea offers plenty of opportunities through the College shuttle vans. Mondays through Thursdays, there are shuttle vans that go throughout the Berea area (Wal-Mart, Rite Aid, etc.), and on Fridays, the shuttle runs up to Richmond, the next closest city, where there is a small mall, a movie theatre, and plenty of other things to do. On Saturday, a shuttle runs to Lexington, a fairly large city that offers various cultural and recreational activities.



Q. Do students have access to e-mail and the Internet?

A. Yes, there is access to e-mail and the Internet. When you become a student at Berea, you will be given your own e-mail account on our Microsoft Outlook system. Internet access is available throughout the campus in computer centers and labs. All residence halls have access to the College’s network server. In fact, all students are given a laptop computer to use in the classrooms and residence halls. Students are given a new one their junior to keep when they graduate!

Q. Do you have any sports teams? What other athletic opportunities do you offer?

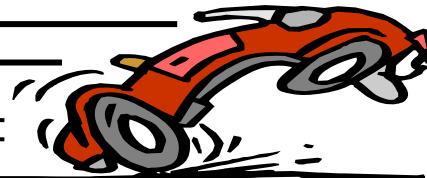
A. Yes. Berea College currently has 16 intercollegiate sports teams for both men and women. We are a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). For men, we have baseball, basketball, cross-country, golf, tennis, swimming and diving, soccer, and track and field. For women, we offer basketball, cross-country, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, and volleyball. We also provide cheerleading, martial arts, dance, gymnastics, aquatic arts, and intramurals. Intramurals offer co-ed and single gender competition to all students. These sports include basketball, flag football, racquetball, soccer, softball, tennis, and volleyball.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)...

Q. Can I bring my car to Berea?

Freshmen are not permitted to have vehicles. Some special exceptions are made for the following circumstances only: the student's home residence is an eight or more hour drive from campus, the student has "independent" student status (based on FAFSA definition), or in some situations that require personal medical appointments outside of the area as verified by the College Health Service. Parking spaces are limited, so Seniors are permitted to have vehicles as long as they are in good standing with the College (not on probation), then Juniors and Sophomores in good standing may apply for parking permits on a first-come, first-served basis once the Senior quota has been reached, based on the remaining number of spaces. The Office of Public Safety monitors and administers the Motor Vehicle Policy.



Q. What community service opportunities are available?

- A. At Berea College, community service activities are as popular as sports. If you like to apply your knowledge and skills to help solve real-world challenges, then our CELTS (Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service) department will help you find exciting service opportunities. These opportunities include Students for Appalachia (SFA), People Who Care (PWC), and Habitat for Humanity. We also have groups like the Bonner's Scholars Program, GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness for Readiness of Undergraduate Programs), PIE (Partners in Education), and TRIO programs: Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Carter G. Woodson Math and Science Institute. These groups provide tutoring and mentoring programs and activities for children, teenagers, and other local residents during the school year and summer months. CELTS is located in the Bruce-Trades Building on campus. Check out CELTS on the web at: <http://www.berea.edu/celts/>.

RESIDENCE HALL LIFE

Q. What can I bring to the residence hall?

- A. As a resident of Berea College's residence halls (or dorms), you can bring anything you think you would need to make your room more comfortable, such as pillows, blankets, posters, books, clothing, etc. There is no need to bring an extra mattress, extra dressers or shelves since these are provided. You might want to bring extra storage materials such as foot lockers or bookshelves, so you can put things away when you're not using them. Just remember you have a limited amount of space. Students are also allowed to bring a dorm refrigerator for their rooms, although there are fully equipped kitchen areas in every dorm. There are also a few things you should **not** bring. Electrical appliances such as toasters, hotplates and microwaves, as well as items like candles and incense, are considered fire hazards in the residence halls, so these items are not allowed in the rooms.

Q. What do I do about washing/drying my clothes?

- A. There are laundry facilities in all of the residence halls. Best of all, they are free of charge to residence hall students. You provide the soap, and we provide the machines!



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)...

Q. Are residence halls safe?

- A. All of the residence halls have added measures for safety and security. Every residence hall currently has sliding key locks that work only for students who live in the residence hall and/or in the suite. Beyond this, every room has a lock. At night, Public Safety officers, our campus security staff, walk around campus and check all doors to make sure they are closed and locked, and the officers are on call 24 hours a day for emergencies.



Q. What about roommates?

- A. Understandably, one of the largest transitions students have to make upon entering college is having a roommate. Berea understands this fact and stresses certain values in the residence halls to help roommates form a bond that may last through college and beyond. During our Orientation Week for first-year students, there are many activities that help students get to know their roommates. Additionally, the residence hall staff develops fun social activities to help students adjust to life in the residence halls as well as get to know other students in the hall. During this time, you and your roommate should get together and form an agreement about your living arrangements so there is less frustration between the two of you. Once the two of you have reached this agreement, it is signed by both roommates and given to the Resident Assistant (R.A.) in charge of that floor. This way, if problems occur, you can confer with the R. A. and use the agreement as your guide.

Q. Is there any supervision in the residence halls?

- A. Many parents have concerns about this. Although students are free from parents' rules, they still have some guidance and some supervision within the residence hall. Resident Assistants (R.A.) work in the halls and help students with the transition of living in a college residence hall. R.A.'s are upper-class students (sophomores, juniors, and seniors). They provide entertainment and information through programs for the entire hall, or just their floor or suite. R.A.'s also assist students having problems with classes, roommates or other residents, and personal matters. The College also employs full-time staff members, known as Collegium members, who have typically obtained a Master's degree and have been hired to assist in the supervision of the residence halls.



Q. What are the bathrooms like in the residence halls?

- A. At Berea College, our students must share communal bathroom facilities. There is usually one bathroom per floor or suite of the residence hall. Within these facilities are three or four private showers, a row of sinks, and toilet/urinal facilities. Since every resident on the floor or suite shares these facilities, residents are encouraged to wear shower shoes around the bathrooms. Since our halls are relatively small, students hardly ever find that they have to wait in line for the use of these facilities.



Well, there you have it. A few answers to some of our most frequently asked questions at Berea College. We hope you've learned a little bit, and that a few of your own questions have been answered.

If there are any further questions, feel free to contact us at the Admissions Office, and we'll be happy to answer anything and everything we can!