Seoul National University
A Community of Knowledge and Creativity

The mission of Seoul National University in the twenty-first century is to create a vibrant intellectual community where students and scholars join together in building the future.
The SNU main gate has been the most widely known monument to represent Seoul National University since it moved to its current location in Gwanak in 1975. Designed with the first consonants of the Korean name of Seoul National University, it resembles the shape of a key. The main gate symbolizes a key to truth, the university’s motto.

The SNU emblem has a laurel entwined with a crossed pen and torch standing behind an open book and a shield. On the opened pages of the book, the motto reads ‘Veritas Lux Mea’, Latin for ‘Truth is my light’. The pen and torch illustrate the university’s determination to enlighten the nation through education and research. The shield in front of them stands for the university’s will to retain its commitment, while the laurel symbolizes the honor of it.

Truth is My Light

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A Tradition of Excellence
Honoring Public Service
Pioneering Knowledge

History
Founded in 1946 as the first national university of Korea

Campus
The largest campus in Seoul, green-bio campus in PyeongChang

Colleges
16 Colleges, 1 Graduate School, and 11 Professional Schools

Faculty
2,603 full-time faculty members

Students
27,499 students enrolled in degree programs

Research
Globally 19th in terms of SCI Paper publications

Global Standing
36th in the world, 11th in Asia by QS World University Rankings

Number of Students

- Total: 28,630
- Undergraduate: 16,511
- Graduate: 12,119
- Domestic students: 22,424
- International students: 6,206

- As of April 1, 2016

Research reference: 2017 NTU Ranking - Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities
Seoul National University
70 Years

1895 - ORIGIN
Inheriting the academic spirit of the Great Han Empire
Emperor Gojong established the modern higher education system to promote the nation’s independence and modernization.
1895 Judicial Training Institute and Hanseong Normal School established

1946 - FOUNDATION
Founded as the first national university
The government established SNU to educate leaders of the newly independent nation.
1946 Seoul National University opened with 9 Colleges and 1 Graduate School

1950 - WAR & RECONSTRUCTION
Continuing education during and after the Korean War
SNU moved its campus to Busan and continued classes during the War.
1950-1953 Korean War
1954-1961 Minnesota Project

1960 - DEVELOPMENT
University system expanded and organized
The number of faculty and students was vastly increased.
1968-1975 Number of graduate students increased from 379 to 918 (325%)

1968 - RELOCATION
Centralizing the campus in Gwanak
SNU merged its multiple campuses into three main locations: Gwanak, Yeongeon and Suwon.
1975 The Gwanak main campus opened.

1987 - DEMOCRATIZATION
Moving towards democracy
The SNU community contributed to the democratization of the nation and educational system.
1991 1st election for the university presidency.

1995 - INTERNATIONALIZATION
Conducting global research
SNU became renowned internationally as a top research university.
2002 Listed among the world’s top 30 research institutions in terms of SCI paper publications.

2011 - AUTONOMY
Incorporated as an independently-run national university
Changing its legal status from a governmental organization to an independent institution in 2011, SNU has enhanced its global competitiveness.
DEGREE PROGRAMS

From Basic Studies to Convergence Science

As a truly comprehensive university, SNU provides more learning opportunities than ever for both domestic and international students.

COLLEGES

College of Humanities
http://humanities.snu.ac.kr
Languages & Literatures (Korean, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian, Hispanic, Asian, Linguistics), History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Aesthetics, Archaeology

College of Social Sciences
http://social.snu.ac.kr
Political Science & International Relations, Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Geography, Social Welfare, Communication

College of Natural Sciences
http://cns.snu.ac.kr
Mathematical Sciences, Statistics, Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Earth and Environmental Sciences

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
http://cals.snu.ac.kr
Plant, Forest, Food and Animal Biotechnology, Applied Biology and Chemistry, Biosystems and Biomaterials, Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Rural System Engineering, Rural Development, Agricultural Economics

College of Business Administration
http://cbs.snu.ac.kr
Business Administration

College of Education
http://edu.snu.ac.kr
Education (Korean, English, German, French, Social Studies, History, Geography, Ethics, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth Science, Physical)

College of Engineering
http://eng.snu.ac.kr
Engineering (Civil, Environmental, Mechanical, Aerospace, Materials, Electrical, Computer, Chemical, Biological, Architecture, Industrial, Energy Resources, Nuclear, Naval Architecture, Ocean)

College of Fine Arts
http://art.snu.ac.kr
Oriental Painting, Painting, Sculpture, Crafts, Design

College of Human Ecology
http://che.snu.ac.kr
Child Development, Family Studies, Consumer Science, Food, Nutrition, Clothing, Textiles

College of Medicine
http://medicine.snu.ac.kr
Pre-Medicine (2 yr), Medicine (4 yr)

College of Music
http://music.snu.ac.kr
Vocal Music, Composition, Instrumental Music, Korean Music

College of Nursing
http://nursing.snu.ac.kr
Nursing

College of Pharmacy
http://www.snpak.ac.kr
Pharmacy, Manufacturing Pharmacy

College of Veterinary Medicine
http://vet.snu.ac.kr
Pre-Vet (2 yr), Veterinary Medicine (4 yr)

College of Liberal Studies
http://cls.snu.ac.kr
Students in Liberal Studies may choose any majors among other Colleges, or create their own majors.

PROFESSIONAL GRADUATE SCHOOLS

Graduate School of Business
http://gsb.snu.ac.kr
Global MBA, SNU MBA, Executive MBA

Graduate School of Convergence Science and Technology
http://gscst.snu.ac.kr
Transdisciplinary Studies, Molecular Medicine and Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Digital Forensics Studies

Graduate School of Environmental Studies
http://gpes.snu.ac.kr
Environmental Planning, Landscape Architecture

Graduate School of Engineering Practice
http://gsep.snu.ac.kr
Engineering Practice

Graduate School of International Agricultural Technology
http://greenbio.snu.ac.kr
International Agriculture (Livestock, Industry Biotechnology, Agri-Food R&D and Processing, Seed Biotechnology, Green Eco Engineering, International Agricultural Development and Cooperation)

Graduate School of International Studies
http://gisis.snu.ac.kr
International Commerce, Cooperation, Area Studies, Korean Studies

Graduate School of Public Administration
http://gspsa.snu.ac.kr
Public Administration

Graduate School of Public Health
http://health.snu.ac.kr
Public Health, Environmental Health

School of Dentistry
http://dentistry.snu.ac.kr
Dentistry

School of Law
http://law.snu.ac.kr
Law
SNU Welcomes International Students

About one in ten students on SNU campus come from overseas to pursue degree or study for short period. Welcoming diversity on campus, SNU is teaching various courses in English, as well as running exceptionally organized Korean language training programs.

SNU APPRECIATES DIVERSITY
SNU recognizes that international students provide diverse perspectives and contribute to a dynamic learning atmosphere.

SNU APPRECIATES EXCELLENCE
The candidate’s application is reviewed in the context of the level of studies completed, quality of achievements, and characteristics of institutions attended.

SNU APPRECIATES POTENTIAL
SNU’s admissions decisions are based on the candidate’s academic achievements and potential, as well as his or her personal accomplishments.

WHEN TO APPLY
International applicants may choose to apply for Spring semester that starts in March, or Fall semester that starts in September.
http://en.snu.ac.kr

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS
SNU Welcomes International Students

About one in ten students on SNU campus come from overseas to pursue degree or study for short period. Welcoming diversity on campus, SNU is teaching various courses in English, as well as running exceptionally organized Korean language training programs.

SNU Appreciates Diversity
SNU recognizes that international students provide diverse perspectives and contribute to a dynamic learning atmosphere.

SNU Appreciates Excellence
The candidate’s application is reviewed in the context of the level of studies completed, quality of achievements, and characteristics of institutions attended.

SNU Appreciates Potential
SNU’s admissions decisions are based on the candidate’s academic achievements and potential, as well as his or her personal accomplishments.

When to Apply
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International Admissions
SCHOLARSHIPS

A Broad Variety of Scholarships for Foreign Students

SNU SUPPORTS FUTURE LEADERS OF THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY
Seoul National University welcomes and supports students from all over the world. In particular, SNU extends special invitations to students from developing countries who want to find inspiration in Korea’s phenomenal development. The SNU community played a huge role in Korea’s economic development and democratization, which turned the once poverty-stricken country into one of the world’s largest economies. Now it is time for SNU to share its experience and knowledge with those who need them the most.

A few examples of scholarships offered to foreign students.
- SNU President Fellowship for faculty from developing countries who want to pursue doctoral degrees.
- SNU Global Scholarship for 160 undergraduate and graduate international students.
- GSFS for excellent foreign graduate students from East, Southeast and Central Asia.
- Glo-Harmony Scholarship for students from countries on the DAC list of ODA recipients.
- Silk-Road Scholarship for graduate students majoring in the humanities and social sciences.
- Overseas Koreans Scholarship for overseas Koreans who want to pursue degree programs.

Find more scholarship programs on SNU website http://oia.snu.ac.kr
Get Ahead with a Summer at Korea’s Best University

The International Summer Institute at Seoul National University (SNU ISI) is a unique summer program for international students to get ahead in their academics while experiencing Korea for five weeks.

GET KNOWLEDGE
ISI courses are taught by SNU professors and distinguished international scholars on a wide range of topics from East Asian and Korean studies to the natural science.

GET EXPERIENCE
ISI offers courses on Korean language and culture, and arranges field trips to give students a broader experience of Korea’s past, present, and future.

GET CONNECTED
More than 500 students from all over the world join the ISI program each year, most of whom stay together in accommodations arranged by SNU ISI.

GET CREDITS
The program covers a semester’s worth of class hours per course, and credits earned from the program can be transferred to your home institution upon pre-approval.

• IMPORTANT DATES
  • Early March: application period begins
  • Early June: end of registration period
  • Late June: SNU ISI program starts (5 weeks)
TRADITIONAL - Kyujanggak Archives
• Royal library holding UNESCO World Documentary Heritages (Bldg. 103)

MODERN - Museum of Art
• An open space for contemporary art exhibitions (Bldg. 151)

INNOVATIVE - University Library
• The largest university library in Korea

Urban Campus Surrounded by Nature

NATURAL - Jahayon Pond
• The romantic center of SNJ's campus (next to Bldg. 1)