GUIDEBOOK

SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
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.

A KEY TO THE TRUTH

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, ‘ㄱ’, ‘ㅅ’, ‘ㄷ’ from 국립 서울 대학교, it resembles the shape of a key. The main gate symbolizes a key to truth, the university’s motto.
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

Colleges
16 Colleges, 1 Graduate School, and 9 Professional Schools

Faculty
2,551 full-time faculty members

Students
27,230 students enrolled in degree programs

Research
Globally 12th in terms of SCI Paper Publications

Global Standing
35th in the world, 4th in Asia by QS World University Rankings

Number of Students

- Undergraduate: 15,930 (248)
- Master’s Programs: 6,981 (684)
- Doctoral Programs: 3,130 (257)

Domestic students
International students

As of Oct. 1, 2013

Research Ref. Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities 2013 by National Taiwan University

Number of Students: Those who completed course work yet enrolled in degree programs not included.
Seoul National University
Since 1895

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 The National Law Academy and the Hansung Teacher Training School were 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 was established with 9 colleges on October 15.

1950—WAR & RECOVERY
Continuing education during and after the Korean War
SNU moved its campus to Busan and continued classes during the War.
1950–1953 Korean War
1956–1961 Minnesota Project

1960—DEVELOPMENT
Pioneer of the nation’s development
SNU graduates played a central role in the economic development of Korea.
1968 SNU set out to become a research-focused comprehensive university.

1946—FOUNDATION
Founded as the first national university
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1975—RELOCATION
Centralizing the campus in Gwanak
SNU merged its multiple campuses into three main locations: Gwanak, Yongon 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.

1994—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, SNU enhanced its global competitiveness.
2012 Presented the vision to build the “World’s Leading Knowledge Community.”
DEGREE PROGRAMS

From Basic Studies to Convergence Science

As a truly comprehensive university, SNU is providing 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 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 Business Administration
http://cbs.snu.ac.kr
Business Administration

College of Law
http://law.snu.ac.kr
Law

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

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

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

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

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

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 International Studies
http://gis.snu.ac.kr
International Commerce, Cooperation, Area Studies, Korean Studies

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

School of Law
http://law.snu.ac.kr
Law

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

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

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

School of Medicine
http://medicine.snu.ac.kr
Medicine

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

Graduate School of Convergence Science and Technology
http://gscst.snu.ac.kr
Transdisciplinary Studies
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 10~20% of 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
A Broad Variety of Scholarships for Foreign Students

Currently about 90% of graduate students and 60% of undergraduate students at SNU are receiving financial support.

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 SNU wants to pass on the knowledge from its own experiences where needed.

A few examples of scholarships offered to foreign students.
SNU Global Scholarship for 160 undergraduate and graduate international students.
Public Sector Scholarship for public sector employees from developing countries.
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.
Korean War Memorial Scholarship for offspring of foreign Korean War veterans.
International Students Scholarship for international students with high GPAs.

• Find more scholarship programs on SNU website http://en.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 January: application period begins
  - Mid-May: end of registration period
  - Late June: SNU ISI program starts (5 weeks)
  - http://isi.snu.ac.kr
Urban Campus Surrounded by Nature

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]
• The architectural design is in perfect harmony with the slope of the hill

INNOVATIVE – Engineering Building
• Powerhouse of Korea’s digital industry [Bldg. 301]

INTERNATIONAL
International Vaccine Institute
• UN affiliated organization on campus [Bldg. 950]

NATURAL – Jahayon Pond
• The romantic center of SNU’s campus (next to Bldg. 1)