

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK—HUNTER COLLEGE

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RATINGS

Quality of Life: 66 Academic: 68 Admissions: 85 Financial Aid: 78

STUDENTS SAY “. . .”

Academics

New Yorkers seeking “a superb learning environment for the independent and self-motivated” should check out Hunter College, a school that offers “a great education at an affordable price.” A “serious academic environment” where “learning is taken very seriously” and “most people know exactly what they want and are going for it with full determination” create “an amazing energy” at Hunter, an energy that feeds off the diverse New York student body.

“Hunter is all about bringing people from all different parts of the world together in one place to learn from one another and to be exposed to almost every subject imaginable to help one find their true calling in life,” one student reports. The New York location also gives Hunter access to many top academics; many professors here “teach at other, more expensive, universities. Throughout my Hunter career, I have had professors who also teach at NYU, Hofstra, Cooper Union, and Yale! So it really is quite the bargain.” “Crowded” classes mean students need to “take matters in their own hands” if they “want to succeed and graduate in four years,” but those who seek connections tell us that “despite the heavy loads they take on, professors are always available for individual attention, and they help you through anything you ask.” Tight budget constraints leave students wishing they “had more resources in terms of books, facilities, and more technology in the classrooms, but that has less to do with the school than it does with state funding.” Accounting, education, media production, and psychology all earn high marks at Hunter.

Life

Hunter College “is mostly a commuter school,” and as a result “students interact mostly on campus in between classes.” “Making friends can be difficult, but definitely not impossible,” one student explains. The school “encourages student interaction through student government-run parties and other student-run activities,” and undergraduates “have our favorite spots on campus where we know we’ll always run into someone. Usually we will go out for coffee or food before, in between, or after classes.” The school facility is compact with no outdoor campus to speak of, but there are still “a lot of places for students to hang out: outside, on the bridges, in the cafeteria. We make the most of the space we have.” Undergraduates typically “do their own thing and don’t really judge or think about others,” which makes for a copacetic campus but also means “it is difficult to have a real college experience.” Most students don’t mind because “off campus is New York City, so there is always tons to be done,” including “going out to eat, walking around Manhattan, shopping,” and taking in “the best nightlife in the world.”

Student Body

Hunter College is “extremely diverse in almost every sense of the word.” Ethnic, religious, gender preference, and political diversity are all in evidence. “Our population is as diverse as New York,” one student aptly observes. Undergraduates are even diverse in age; as one undergraduate observes, “The average age for a Hunter student is, I believe, 25. That alone opens up the spectrum of atypical students.” What they share in common is that so many have “something to contribute, an experience that can be shared somewhere where others can learn from it. Everyone exchanges their experiences, allowing Hunter students to be some of the most open-minded, understanding people I believe New York City, and even the rest of the country, has to offer.” Students tend to be “very liberal and outspoken.” Women outnumber men by a two-to-one margin.

SURVEY SAYS . . .

*Diverse student types on campus
Different types of students interact
Students get along with local community
Students love New York, NY
Political activism is popular
Very little drug use*

THE PRINCETON REVIEW SAYS**Admissions**

Very important factors considered include: Application essay, academic GPA, rigor of secondary school record, standardized test scores. SAT or ACT required; TOEFL required of all international applicants. High school diploma is required, and GED is accepted. *Academic units required:* 2 English, 2 mathematics, 1 science, (1 science labs). *Academic units recommended:* 4 English, 3 mathematics, 2 science, 2 foreign language, 4 social studies, 1 visual/performing arts, 1 academic electives.

Financial Aid

Students should submit: FAFSA, state aid form. 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, state scholarships/grants, the school's own gift aid. *Loan aid offered:* Direct Subsidized Stafford, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford, Direct PLUS, Federal Perkins, state loans, college/university loans from institutional funds, CUNY Student Assistance Program(CUSTA), Aide for Part-Time-Study (APTS), SEEK. Applicants will be notified of awards on a rolling basis beginning 5/15. Federal Work-Study Program available. Institutional employment available. Off-campus job opportunities are fair.

The Inside Word

Hunter admissions officers are inundated with more than 30,000 applications each year. There's no way the admissions office can get through all those applications without applying some cutoffs and formulas; although these aren't made public, a look at the stats for the most recent incoming class will give you some idea of what grades and test scores you'll need to be admitted here. Rolling admissions mean early application is pretty much a must here; programs fill up fast as a result of Hunter's solid reputation and bargain-basement tuition. Applications to the Macaulay Honors College must be submitted by December 15.

THE SCHOOL SAYS "..."**From The Admissions Office**

"Located in the heart of Manhattan, Hunter offers students the stimulating learning environment and career-building opportunities you might expect from a college that's been a part of the world's most exciting city since 1870. The largest college in the City University of New York, Hunter pulses with energy. Hunter's vitality stems from a large, highly diverse faculty and student body. Its schools—Arts and Sciences, Education, the Health Professions, and Social Work—provide an affordable first-rate education. Undergraduates have extraordinary opportunities to conduct high-level research under renowned faculty, and many opt for credit-bearing internships in such exciting fields as media, the arts, and government. The college's high standards and special programs ensure a challenging education. The Block Program for first-year students keeps classmates together as they pursue courses in the liberal arts, pre-health science, pre-nursing, premed, or honors. A range of honors programs is available for students with strong academic records, including the highly competitive tuition-free Hunter CUNY Honors College for entering freshmen and the Thomas Hunter Honors Program, which emphasizes small classes with personalized mentoring by outstanding faculty. Qualified students also benefit from Hunter's participation in minority science research and training programs, the prestigious Andrew W. Mellon Minority Undergraduate Program, and many other passports to professional success.

"Applicants for the entering class are required to take either the SAT or the ACT."

For even more information on this school, turn to page 475 of the "Stats" section.