Diversity & Inclusion at Wofford

“Education includes encounters with people and experiences that push us beyond our levels of comfort and knowledge, and we must commit ourselves to embracing those differences, learning to respect all people and finding common ground.”

Dr. Nayef Samhat, president of Wofford College
Wofford College celebrates diversity of all kinds and is following a strategic enrollment plan that focuses on improving academic quality, diversity and retention.

We seek to recruit individuals underrepresented in higher education, and we offer programs and resources to help STUDENTS MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.
1,773 students from 37 STATES and 18 COUNTRIES representing 24 FAITH PERSPECTIVES.

54% FEMALE
46% MALE
58% IN-STATE
42% OUT-OF-STATE

15% FIRST GENERATION
17% PELL ELIGIBLE

21% MULTICULTURAL
8% BLACK
5% HISPANIC
2% ASIAN
6% INTERNATIONAL/OTHER

Data as of fall 2020.
Career Outcome Rates

Career outcome rates reflect the percentage of graduates who are working, in graduate school or are pursuing other career paths. For students of color at Wofford, this rate averaged more than 97% over the past two years.

There are more than 4,000 institutions of higher education in the United States, including about 500 liberal arts colleges. Wofford is nationally ranked in several categories and is No. 99 in U.S. News & World Report’s social mobility ranking, which is based on how well institutions graduate students receiving Pell Grants. The grants are typically given to students from households with annual incomes of less than $50,000.
Student ORGANIZATIONS

Wofford has more than 100 student organizations that focus on a wide range of academic, social, cultural, religious, honorary, professional and recreational interests. All students have access to these organizations as well as the ability to create their own if they feel they are not being represented. Here is a sample of student organizations at Wofford that focus on inclusion.

“For students to really thrive, they have to feel accepted, they have to feel secure, THEY HAVE TO FEEL SOCIALLY CONNECTED TO WOFFORD, and I think having different supportive programs is a great thing for Wofford in helping all students feel connected.”

Matthew Hammett, assistant dean of students for student involvement

Association of Multicultural Students
Baptist Collegiate Ministry
Black Student Alliance
Buddhist Student Association
College Democrats
College Republicans
Hillel Jewish Student Organization
Interfaith Young Adults
Kappa Alpha Psi
Minorities in Action
Muslim Student Association
Newman Club (Catholic)
Omega Psi Phi
Organization of Latin American Students
Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)
LGBTerriers (LGBTQ and ally organization)
UKirk (Presbyterian)
Wofford Anti-Racism Coalition
Wofford Asian and Pacific Islanders
Wofford Men of Color
Wofford Wesley (Methodists)
Wofford Women of Color

wofford.edu/studentorganizations
wofford.edu/campuslife
WOFFORD OFFERS MANY MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS. A FEW EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

GOLD

GOLD (Growing Our Leadership through Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Scholarship is valued at $5,000 a year and stackable with additional aid.

FIRST-GENERATION SCHOLARS

Nearly 15% of Wofford students are the first in their family to attend college. Each incoming class is guaranteed 20 first-generation scholarships valued at $25,000 each year of attendance.

BONNER SCHOLARS

Wofford Bonner Scholars take a strong leadership role in the Spartanburg and college communities: tutoring children, teaching those with physical disabilities to swim, running after-school programs and much more. The scholars participate in community service in exchange for their scholarships. More about Bonner Scholars.

STUDY ABROAD

Wofford and many of its study abroad partners offer merit-based, need-based and diversity-related scholarships.

For more information: www.wofford.edu/academics/international-programs/scholarship-opportunities
Wofford is #9 in the nation for the percentage of students who study abroad for academic credit. Students have studied abroad in more than 70 countries on all seven continents. Wofford’s generous financial aid transfer policy permits merit and need-based aid to transfer from the college to a Wofford-approved study abroad program for one semester. A number of scholarship and grant programs are available for study abroad opportunities.

wofford.edu/internationalprograms
blogs.wofford.edu/international-programs
DIVERSITY TRAINING
Through diversity training, participants engage in self-exploration and reflection of personal attitudes, beliefs and assumptions regarding diversity and equality. Students are led to recognize their identities and to explore what it means to be racially proficient as well as to understand the importance of cultural competencies and racial proficiency as a leader and member of the Wofford community. Training sessions are offered to students periodically and may be requested for student organizations.

MEADORS MULTICULTURAL HOUSE
The Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village is home to a variety of fraternities and sororities as well as Wofford’s multicultural house. Twenty percent of Wofford students identify as multicultural, and this house serves as a home base for students and graduates of color. The house includes offices for the National Pan-Hellenic Council sororities and fraternities.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION
During September and October, Wofford celebrates the contributions and presence of Hispanic and Latino/a Americans in the United States as well as Hispanic heritage and culture.

HOMECOMING COOKOUT TAILGATE
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, along with the Association of Multicultural Students and the Black Alumni Association, sponsors a tailgate to celebrate Wofford’s Homecoming and to promote unity among the student body. This is an opportunity for students to network with alumni and make new friends. Attendees enjoy great food and music.

CELEBRATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
Each January we commemorate the great civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The college sponsors a number of events that include service learning, social justice education and gatherings with the goal of creating unity within the Wofford and greater Spartanburg communities.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
During February we celebrate Black History Month with a series of events planned by students, faculty and staff. Past events have included a film series, literary salon and Black History trivia night.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
March is dedicated to educating the campus community about the contributions of women throughout history. A planning committee composed of students, faculty and staff leads the planning of events and programming surrounding Women’s history Month.
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH
Through a collaborative partnership of students, faculty and the Office of Campus Life and Student Development, the college sponsors programming throughout April to raise awareness of the issue of sexual assault.

MULTICULTURAL SENIOR BANQUET
Multicultural seniors are recognized for their academic achievements, community service and leadership during their time at Wofford.

ASIAN, ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH
Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is observed at the college in April, a month before the federally recognized national Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The Wofford and greater Spartanburg communities celebrate culture while investigating issues that have and continue to impact the Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

LGBT HISTORY MONTH
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion celebrates and observes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history and the history of the gay rights and civil rights movements in October. The college’s celebration also includes National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11 to celebrate people who have “come out” as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or an ally.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HERITAGE MONTH
Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month is observed each November by recognizing the rich, diverse cultures, traditions and histories of indigenous peoples while also examining contemporary issues impacting the community. Students, faculty and staff who identify as first peoples, indigenous, native and/or first citizens are invited to lead and coordinate events of interest during the month.

ANTIRACISM CHALLENGE
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion launched its ODI Antiracism 101 Challenge during the 2020-2021 academic year to support student organizations and athletics teams’ in their commitment to becoming more equity-minded and antiracist. Participants followed a year-long curriculum that included a mentoring component.
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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