Experience

Where is Orono, Maine?

Maine is located in the northeastern part of the United States known as New England. Orono is in the center of the state, 12 miles north of Bangor, the state’s third largest city. Orono has a population of 10,000 and is a 20-minute walk from campus. Direct air service to Bangor International Airport (BIA) is available through several major airlines. Most students arrive in Bangor via flights from Boston or New York City. Boston is a 4-hour drive south and Quebec City is 5 hours north. Maine is known for its natural beauty. Acadia National Park is 50 miles away and is the second most-visited park in the country. People come to Maine to enjoy the outdoors and world-famous lobster. Hiking, white-water rafting and canoeing, cycling and skiing are all available. Maine is considered one of the safest states in America.

Students from Germany participated in the fall Black Bear Attack event through the Rec Center.

“I did a lot of activities on campus. It is much bigger than at my home university. I met a lot of people from different countries all over the world.”

Erhan Ocakcioglu, undergraduate student, Germany

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The University of Maine

Established in 1865, the University of Maine (UMaine) is the state of Maine’s center for teaching, research and outreach. The University attracts motivated students and offers challenging education in more than 90 undergraduate degree programs, 75 master’s and 30 doctoral programs, offered in arts and humanities, computer science, engineering, forestry, natural resources, business, marine and environmental sciences, education and the social sciences. UMaine is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. In addition, professional programs are accredited by national professional associations.

UMaine enrolls 11,168 students, including 430 international students and scholars from 75 countries. UMaine offers a classic American campus setting with ivy-covered brick buildings situated on the banks of the Stillwater River. The campus consists of 158 buildings on 660 acres. The university owns 3,000 additional acres, complete with wooded areas, gardens and recreational walking, biking and cross-country skiing trails. Many buildings house state-of-the-art research facilities.

The Campus

UMaine provides a safe and friendly environment. There are 17 residence halls, graduate housing and apartments on campus equipped with wireless Internet access, laundry facilities and cable TV. Students can purchase a meal plan or select a self-catered housing option. In addition, numerous athletic opportunities are available in intramural or club sports. The student recreation and fitness center has the most modern workout equipment, as well as a pool and indoor track, and offers dozens of classes, including yoga and tae kwon do.

“I had a fantastic time at UMaine. The university was beautiful and picturesque. I met many lifelong friends and got the opportunity to travel to LA, Vegas, New York, Boston and Chicago. There was always so much to do at the university. I learned different teaching methods and was able to increase my knowledge in my major. UMaine had such ‘team spirit’ and watching an ice hockey game was unbelievable. The university arranged various trips for hiking and canoeing. The only thing I regret is not staying longer. Anyone who has the chance to do an exchange program at UMaine will not be disappointed!”

Ceilidh Robertson of Australia (third from the left) in Acadia National Park with friends

English language training

For those students who wish to study or improve their English, UMaine has an Intensive English Institute (IEI). The primary emphasis of the institute is preparing students for university study. IEI also offers specialized language training programs and a TOEFL preparation course.

Exchange application process

UMaine’s Office of International Programs welcomes exchange students from partner universities for a semester or a full academic year. Applications must be received by April 1 for fall semester or academic year, and by November 1 for spring semester. For application information, go online (umaine.edu/international/incoming-exchange).

“As a student at UMaine, I had the chance to meet people from around the world, take part in a life-changing experience, and obtain a competitive edge on my résumé through the combination of academic and career training.”

Ana Leira-Jiménez of Spain