

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at UMaine

The University of Maine is committed to creating and sustaining a welcoming environment for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. That environment, critical to the vigorous discovery/learning processes that define a university, also depends on diversity—diversity of ideas, cultures, experiences, and backgrounds. The challenge, for all of us, is to seek out diversity, which is the lifeblood of a healthy intellectual environment, and to recruit and retain people who are traditionally underrepresented on our campus. An inclusive environment is essential.

The University's Diversity Action Plan guides our efforts to achieve seven key goals: communicate clearly and affirmatively the University's commitment to diversity; make substantial progress on our Affirmative Action goals; retain employees of difference; value diversity as an essential component of the curriculum; increase the percentage of undergraduate and graduate students of color; retain those students through degree completion; and offer programming to sustain a community of respect for differences.

Some Important Dimensions of Diversity

1. Ability
2. Age
3. Ethnicity
4. Sex and Gender
5. Race
6. Religion
7. Sexual orientation
8. Socio-economic status

Diversity and Inclusion Partners

- President's Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Faculty Senate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- Rainbow Resource Center
- Veterans Education and Transition Services Center
- Intersectional Feminist Resource Center
- Office of Student Accessibility Services
- Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning
- UMaine Bias Response Team
- Office of Equal Opportunity
- UM Diversity Leadership Institute (UMDLI) and UM Diversity Leadership Advisory Council
- Wabanaki Center
- Native American Studies
- Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies
- Rising Tide Center
- Rising Tide Advocates & Allies
- Non-Traditional and Commuting Students Center
- Women in STEM and Medicine (WISTEMM)
- Center on Aging
- Conley Speech, Language, and Hearing Center
- Counseling Center, Psychological Services Center
- Franco-American Center
- Intensive English Institute

- Provost's Advisory Council on Equity (PACE)
- Office of International Programs
- Maine Educational Opportunity Center
- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- NSF: Aspire- National Alliance for Inclusive and Diverse STEM Faculty
- Diversity and Difference Committee, College of Education
- Decolonizing the University of Maine
- Graduate Student Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Inclusive Excellence at UMaine Working Group, Rising Tide Center
- Multicultural Committee, School of Forestry and Natural Resources
- Student Life Diversity Committee
- Athletics
- LGBTQ+ Allies Council
- Religious Life Team
- Canadian American Center
- Human Resources
- Enrollment Management
- Title IX Student Services
- TRIO Student Success Programs
- Twenty plus student groups including Student Heritage Alliance Council, the Black Student Union, Latin American Students Organization, Feminist Collective, Wilde – Stein Alliance for Sexual Diversity, Hillel, Muslim Student’s Association, Asian Student’s Association, Undergraduate and Graduate Student Governments, Campus Crusade for Christ, Black Bear Catholics and the International Students Association.

Advice we have sought

**Damon Williams, consultant and Libra Visiting Diversity Professor
September 2018**

<https://umaine.edu/news/blog/2018/09/10/libra-visiting-diversity-professor-to-lecture-on-inclusive-excellence-sept-26/>

Observations:

1. Frozen with no North Star: Campus looking for a forward direction and call to action.
2. Create a culture where community members can enhance their diversity and inclusion competencies regularly and over time.
3. Diversity and Inclusion work requires resources for champions to be able to evolve and transform their environment.
4. The campus needs more clear point leadership on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
5. Make diversity, inclusion and equity a central piece of what the university is doing.

Recommended Action Items:

- Make diversity and inclusion central to the Strategic Visioning Process.

- Update Diversity Action Plan for UMaine.
- Upgrade the director of diversity, equity and inclusion position and establish a reporting relationship to the Provost and other senior administrators.
- Complete a diversity, inclusion, and equity campus climate study.
- Continue to support the Provost's Council on Advancing Women Faculty.
- Consider the development of a Provost's Council on advancing underrepresented Faculty.
- Restore Diversity and Inclusion to the Equal Opportunity Office title and responsibility set.
- Evaluate the status of the Diversity Opportunity Hire Fund.
- Develop and launch a statewide higher education collaborative for diversity, equity, and inclusion for idea and resource sharing. Make this an issue for Maine.
- Establish and fund a diversity excellence fund.
- Utilize Affirmative Action Plan information to guide campus job searches.
- Develop a Diversity and Inclusivity Statement for university website in addition to general non - discrimination statement.
- Build a cohering web site for all relevant information and material.
- Adopt a diversity, inclusivity, and equity language set for campus communications.
- Continue utilization and further adoption as appropriate of the NCAA guidelines "Best Practices in Achieving Excellence Through Diversity and Inclusion", continued annual completion and promulgation of NCAA required demographic analysis, and annual completion and publication of the NCAA Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act gender equity study.
- Review admissions and enrollment goals to reflect institutional goals around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Current UMaine Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programs

Canadian-American Center

<https://umaine.edu/canam/>

The Center is one of the leading institutes for the study of Canada in the United States. Designated as a National Resource Center on Canada by the United States Department of Education in 1979, the Center coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate Canadian Studies education; helps support a major research library on Canada; promotes cross-border research in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and professions; and directs the outreach programs to state, regional, and national audiences. The Canadian-American Center is a founding member of the Northeast National Resource Center on Canada.

Center on Aging

<https://mainecenteronaging.umaine.edu/>

The mission of the Center on Aging is to promote and facilitate activities on aging in the areas of education, research and evaluation, and community service to maximize the quality of life of older citizens and their

families in Maine and beyond with a focus on promoting aging-related education and training programs for Maine's citizenry at the undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education levels.

Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies

<https://ccids.umaine.edu/>

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service, is a partnership of people that brings together the resources of the community and the University to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. They achieve their mission through interdisciplinary education, research, community service, and dissemination of information that reflect culturally competent attitudes and practices. As agents for social change, they believe in self-determination and advocacy for people with disabilities, and they are committed to community inclusion, interdependence, and the recognition of each person's ability to contribute to society.

Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning

<https://umaine.edu/citl/>

The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning brings issues of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging to the classroom. Staff at CITL use evidence-based practices when they work with instructors (from teaching assistants through tenured faculty) on their course design and teaching practices to ensure their courses are accessible and employ inclusive strategies that improve student sense of belonging, self-efficacy, success and retention. CITL provides university-wide workshops and retreats focused on DEIB-related topics and likewise supports departmental initiatives towards equity and inclusion in teaching.

Commuter and Non – Traditional Students Program

<https://umaine.edu/cntsp/>

Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Programs (CNTSP) provides a comprehensive set of programs and services for our commuting and non – traditional (over age 24) students that enhances their educational experience and supports their retention and success at the University of Maine. Their programs and services assist commuter and nontraditional students to connect with the UMaine community and successfully pursue their academic goals. The CNTSP office is committed to fostering a university climate that includes and integrates commuter and nontraditional students.

UM Diversity Leadership Institute

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1093&context=social_justice

The UMDLI offers opportunities for members to participate in diversity training that provides personal growth and prepares them to act as social change agents for the campus and their communities. Training examines the concepts of discrimination, racism, privilege, prejudice, and stereotyping; allows participants to assess their perceptions about themselves and others with regard to differences and explores the importance of diversity on campus and how diversity enhances the environment; provides participants with the skills to assist in developing and enhancing student, faculty, and staff awareness of racial, ethnic and cultural issues in higher education; and provides the structure to build and nurture ongoing relationships, dialogues, and influence on campus decision-making and goal setting.

Equal Opportunity

<https://umaine.edu/eo/>

The UMS Office of Equal Opportunity strives to ensure that all university community members uphold federal and state non-discrimination laws as well as UMS policies. To that end, they work toward a campus climate that is supportive of equity through advice, education, and intervention delivered on – line and in person. Essential notices include:

Non – Discrimination Notice

- The University of Maine System is required to include a nondiscrimination notice in a wide variety of its publications to comply with federal regulations. Any department that distributes bulletins, announcements, publications, catalogs, application forms, or other recruitment materials that are made available to students, employees, applicants, or program beneficiaries must include the following nondiscrimination notice in the publication: The University of Maine is an EEO/AA employer, and does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran’s status in employment, education, and other programs and activities.

Affirmative Action Notice

- The University of Maine strives to be a first-choice institution for highly qualified and diverse students, employees, and faculty. Part of that goal includes attracting and retaining highly qualified and diverse research and teaching faculty and highly qualified and diverse employees who provide student centered and effective learning experiences and services. The Office of Equal Opportunity (EO) strives to assist the university meet these goals both through commitment to the university’s nondiscrimination policy and implementation of the University’s Affirmative Action Plans available through the Equal Opportunity Office.

Franco American Programs

<https://umaine.edu/francoamerican/>

Franco American communities constitute a large percentage of the population of Maine and the Northeast region. It is the mission of the Franco American Program to serve these communities while recognizing that cultural patterns do not stop at national borders. The Franco American Program includes the Franco American Centre as well as Franco American Studies.

The primary goal of the *Franco-American Centre* is to support and enhance the Franco-American communities of Maine. The Centre disseminates the richness of Franco history, language, and culture, as well as bridges Franco Americans both to the University campus and to other peoples of the region.

The primary goal of *Franco-American Studies* is to broaden the canon of knowledge on Franco American peoples, culture, and literature. It encourages and facilitates interdisciplinary research, faculty engagement, and student exploration.

Office of International Programs

<https://umaine.edu/international/>

The Office of International Programs (OIP) provides the framework for the University of Maine to advance learning and discovery through academic programs designed to equip students with the global competencies vital for success in the 21st century. OIP leads the University’s internationalization efforts,

and provides the expertise, support, and services allowing all members of the University of Maine community to develop an international and cross-cultural perspective. These efforts cultivate an inclusive campus environment that promotes culturally and linguistically diverse experiences, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Services include:

- Campus-wide cross-cultural programming and training
- Facilitation of student and faculty global mobility
- Recruitment and admission of undergraduate students
- Immigration advising and processing for students and scholars

Interreligious Calendar (Religious Studies)

<https://umaine.edu/religious-studies/interreligious-calendar/>

Major holidays appear here through 2023. For planning purposes beyond that, see the Google-based (and frequently updated) [UMaine Interreligious Calendar](#).

Holidays with work restrictions are marked with an asterisk (*) and tagged. So a search for “work restricted” holidays will give a list of dates that should be avoided for scheduling purposes.

If your event, celebration, observance, or holy day is not listed here contact Derek A. Michaud (derek.a.michaud@maine.edu) to be added.

LGBTQ+ Services

<https://umaine.edu/lgbtq/>

Housed in the Rainbow Resource Center, LGBTQ+ Services empowers and increases the visibility of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) people by promoting equality and inclusiveness at the University of Maine. This service works to maintain an open, safe, and supportive environment for all students, staff, faculty, and alumni and provides educational opportunities, information, and advocacy services.

Multicultural Student Center

<https://umaine.edu/multicultural/>

The Multicultural Center serves a community of culturally diverse students. We are a resource and an advocate for traditionally underrepresented populations. The Center empowers all students and their organizations to create a vibrant and inclusive Maine community. Through various programs, the center explores critical issues on campus about race, class, ethnicity, nationality, culture, gender, and how to best support the success of students from marginalized communities and cultures.

Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI)

<https://umaine.edu/diversity-and-inclusion/>

The mission of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion is to actively promote an inclusive learning environment by enhancing institutional efforts in retaining and graduating students prepared for a diverse global society. The Center promotes the academic success and leadership development of students through intentional programs and services that holistically address cultural, educational and civic growth and is a resource and advocate for traditionally underrepresented student populations. The Center empowers multicultural students and their organizations to help foster a vibrant and inclusive campus community; and explores critical issues about race, class, ethnicity, nationality, culture, and gender. The ODI includes the Multicultural Student Center, the Rainbow Resource Center, and the Intersectional Feminist Resource Center, which provide:

- Safe and welcoming spaces for relaxation, meetings, and studying
- Referrals and connections to campus resources
- Educational, cultural and social programs
- Leadership development opportunities
- On-campus employment and volunteer experience referrals
- Peer mentorship program
- Peer tutoring program
- Consultation Services
- Class Presentations

Native American Programs

<https://umaine.edu/nativeamericanprograms/>

Native American Studies carries out the University of Maine's commitment to diversity through the comparative study of the cultures, history, and contemporary life of the aboriginal peoples and nations of North America, with a focus on the Wabanaki tribes. As an academic unit, they administer a minor in Native American Studies, open to all students at the University of Maine, consisting of courses offered by the program and by other appropriate departments.

Native American Programs works with other units to promote research on the Wabanaki and other Northeastern tribes. It seeks to acquire and disseminate resources in this area to scholars and educators at all levels, from elementary school to graduate school. The Native American Studies Program seeks to make knowledge of Wabanaki and other American Indian nations available to the citizens of Maine and beyond through teaching, research, and outreach.

Peace and Reconciliation Studies

<https://umaine.edu/edhd/peace-and-reconciliation-studies/>

Peace and Reconciliation Studies (housed in the College of Education and Human Development) is the interdisciplinary examination of the conditions that make for peace, with a special emphasis on reconciliation (forgiveness) as a vital factor in the realization of peace. It also investigates the obstacles to the realization of these conditions. Peace and Reconciliation Studies challenges those who engage in it to develop new ways of thinking and acting in the world. The Program focuses on education for peace, justice, human rights, nonviolence, tolerance, global understanding, interdependence and mutuality, and environmental responsibility.

Rising Tide Center for Gender Equity

The Rising Tide Center was established with \$3.3M in funding from the National Science Foundation **ADVANCE Institutional Transformation** program. With this support, the University of Maine succeeded in:

- Meeting or exceeding most targets for recruitment, retention and advancement of women faculty in STEM fields at UMaine
- Fostering changes in workplace policies and campus climates
- Increasing job satisfaction among women STEM faculty
- Serving more than 80% of UMaine faculty through voluntary participation in at least one Rising Tide Center event

The Center offered professional development opportunities for faculty, encouraged utilization of family-friendly policies, established a dual-career support system to attract and retain faculty talent, introduced a targeted mentoring program, and offered best-practices training for administrators and search and peer committee members. The grant period is now expired, and the Center is no longer operating. <https://umaine.edu/risingtide/>

Student Accessibility Services and EO Accommodations & Accessibility

<https://umaine.edu/studentaccessibility/>

The University must provide reasonable accommodations and support to individuals who request them. Accommodations may be appropriate to equal the playing field for individuals with disabilities, to recognize certain religious beliefs, or to recognize differences in gender identity or expression. (For faculty, staff, and campus visitors these accommodations are available through the Office of Equal Opportunity). Student Accessibility Services assures educational access for students with disabilities by providing or coordinating disability accommodations, giving information about the University and available resources to students and families and educating the campus community.

TRIO Student Support Services

<https://umaine.edu/edhd/research-outreach/trio-programs/>

The College of Education and Human Development administers the federally funded TRIO programs designed to assist low-income individuals, particularly those from first-generation college families, to prepare for, enter, and succeed in post-secondary education. These programs include:

- [Maine Educational Talent Search](#)
- [Maine Educational Opportunity Center](#)

Wabanaki Center

<https://umaine.edu/nativeamericanprograms/wabanaki-center/>

The Wabanaki Center exemplifies the University of Maine’s commitment to “a multicultural and pluralistic educational community that encourages the full participation of all of its members.” The Center’s mission is to build and sustain a mutually beneficial relationship between the University of Maine and Native American communities while striving to develop a better University community understanding of traditional and contemporary Native American cultures. The Center works closely with Native American Studies, which offers an academic course concentration that not only is interdisciplinary but also values Native approaches to learning, teaching and understanding and seeks to enhance awareness of Native Americans through its participation in campus-wide efforts to promote cultural diversity, and through its significant contributions to the development of University curricula and programs. The Center supports Native American student development, providing resources for the achievement of their academic career and personal objectives.

The Wilson Center for Spiritual Exploration and Multifaith Dialogue

<https://umaine.edu/wilsoncenter/>

The Wilson Center is an independent, progressive religious & spiritual voice on campus. Our most central value is the equality of all people – we welcome people of all genders, gender identities, sexual orientations, races, religions, ethnicities, abilities, and economic backgrounds. We believe that we as a community and as individuals are enriched by diversity. We welcome seekers, agnostics, questioners, atheists, and people of every faith tradition. We welcome interfaith and multicultural events of all kinds.

The mission of the Wilson Center is to create progressive, ecumenical, and multifaith dialogue for the University of Maine community and through worship, study, and service, to work for social justice, honor diversity, and offer opportunities for spiritual growth.

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies

<https://umaine.edu/womensgenderandsexualitystudies/>

Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies students gain a more complete understanding of how the social construction of gender has influenced the roles, contributions, and experiences of both women and men in many different cultures, now and in the past. Such awareness can help them better understand our contemporary world with its changing roles for all.

- Students learn to appreciate the complexity of how gender interacts with race, social class, sexual orientation, and other forms of diversity.
- Students develop an appreciation for how scholarship in our field informs activism and social change, historically and in the present.
- Students develop the critical intellectual capacity and communication skills to work with, to value and improve the lives of others in whatever public or private spheres they choose.

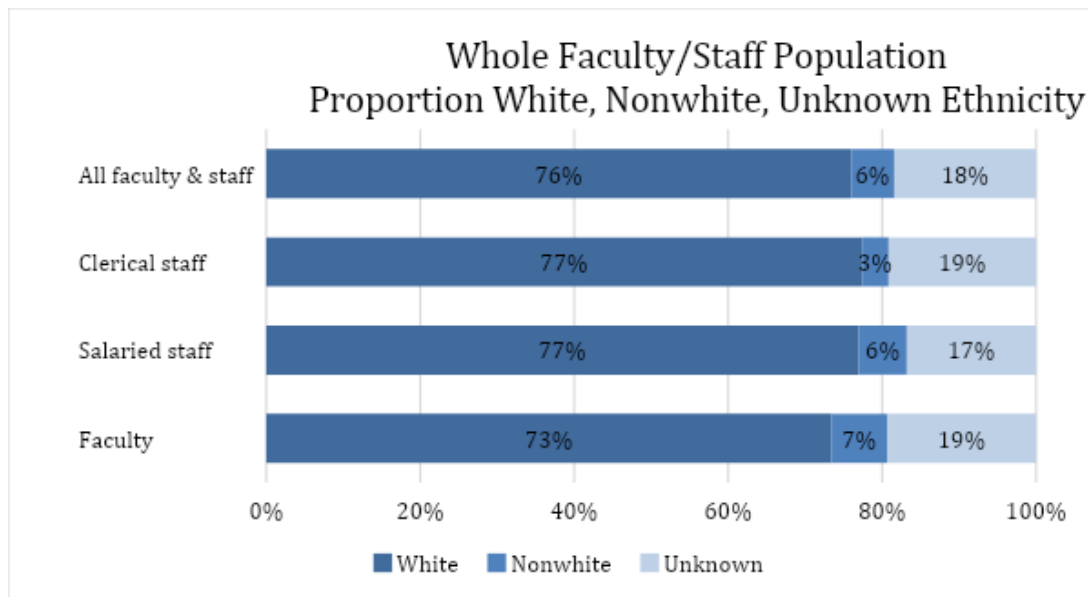
Sample Diversity Course Offerings

The University of Maine offers a number of classes that help educate students about diversity and the world around them. Examples include:

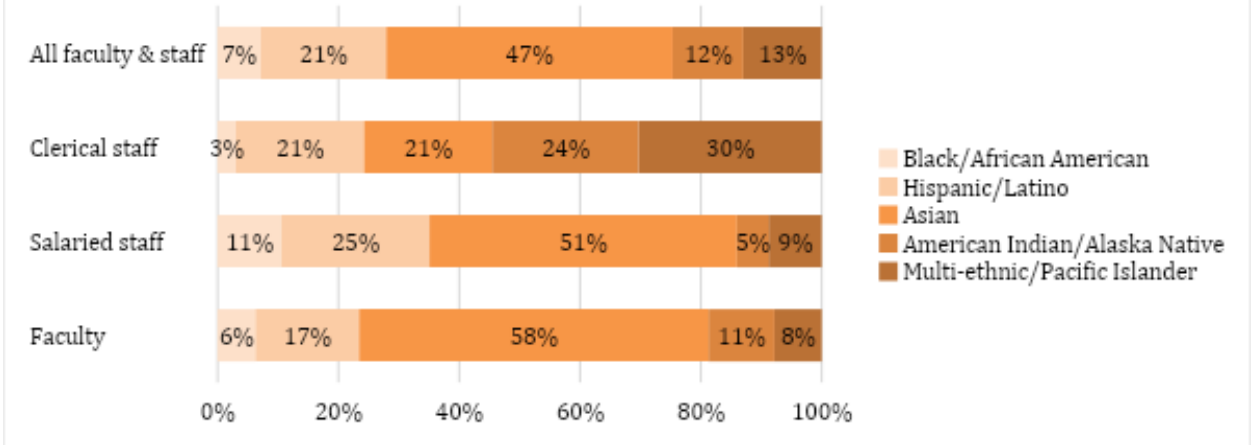
- ANT 102 – Introduction to Anthropology: Diversity of Culture
- ANT 120 – Religions of the World
- ANT 245 – Sex and Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- ANT 256 – Ethnic Conflict
- ANT 454 – Cultures and Societies of the Middle East
- CHF 404 – Family Studies: Cross Cultural Perspectives on Gender and Violence
- EDB 202 – Education in a Multicultural Society
- ENG 243 - Topics in Multicultural Literature
- ENG 342 - Native American Literatures
- HEB 101 and 102 – Hebrew Language
- HTY 332 – Womanhood in America
- HTY 415 - African-American History

- MLC 175 - Multiculturalism in America
- NAS 102 – Introduction to Wabanaki Culture/History/Issues
- NAS 270/WGS 270 – Gender in Native American Cultures
- PAX 400 – Martin Luther King Jr. and the Promise of Social Renewal
- PAX 401 – Women Social Activists: Warriors for Peace and Justice
- INA 201 – Topics in International Affairs
- POS 467 – African Politics
- SOC 329 – Sociology of Gender
- SOC 371 – Immigration, Women and Societies
- WGS 101 - Introduction to Women’s Studies
- WGS 103 – Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

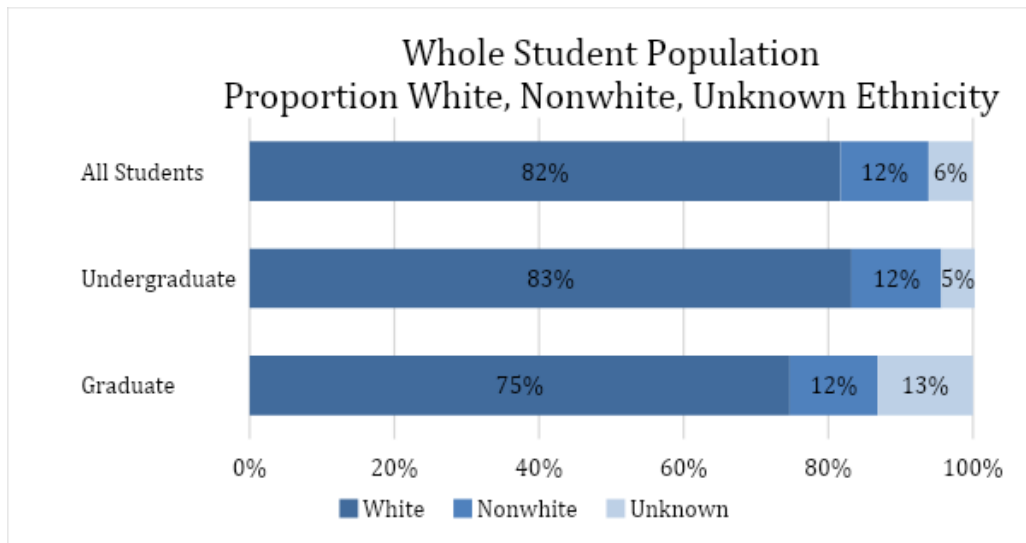
Some Relevant Data (Provided by Office of Institutional Research and the Office of Accessibility Services).



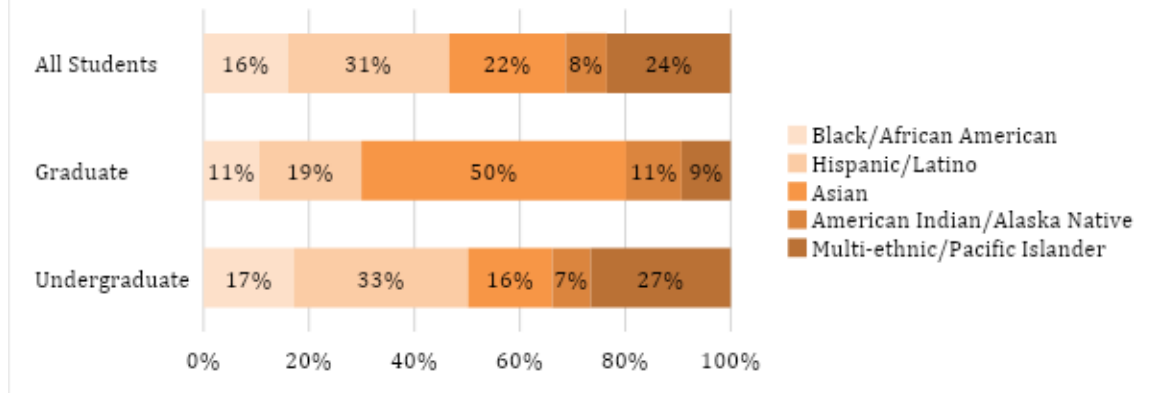
Nonwhite Faculty/Staff Population By Ethnicity Category



Whole Student Population Proportion White, Nonwhite, Unknown Ethnicity

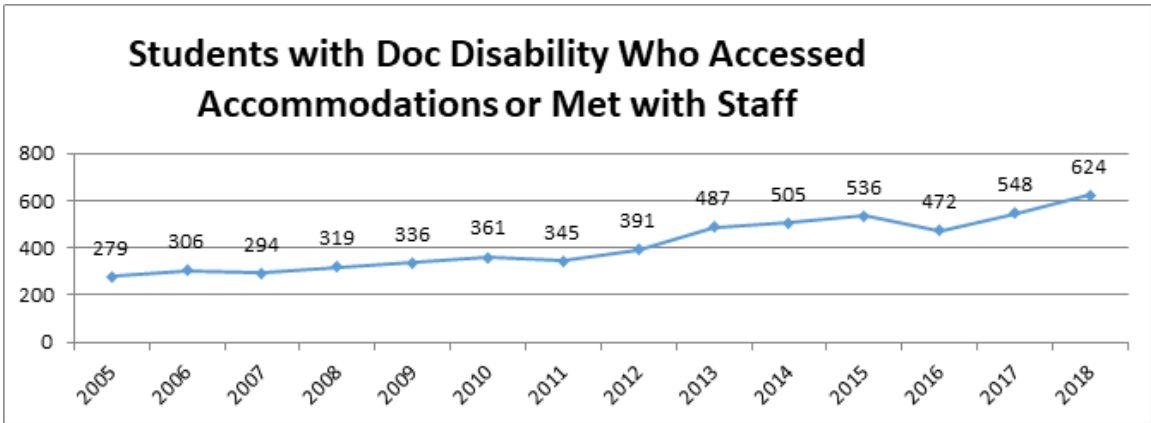


Nonwhite Student Population By Ethnicity Category

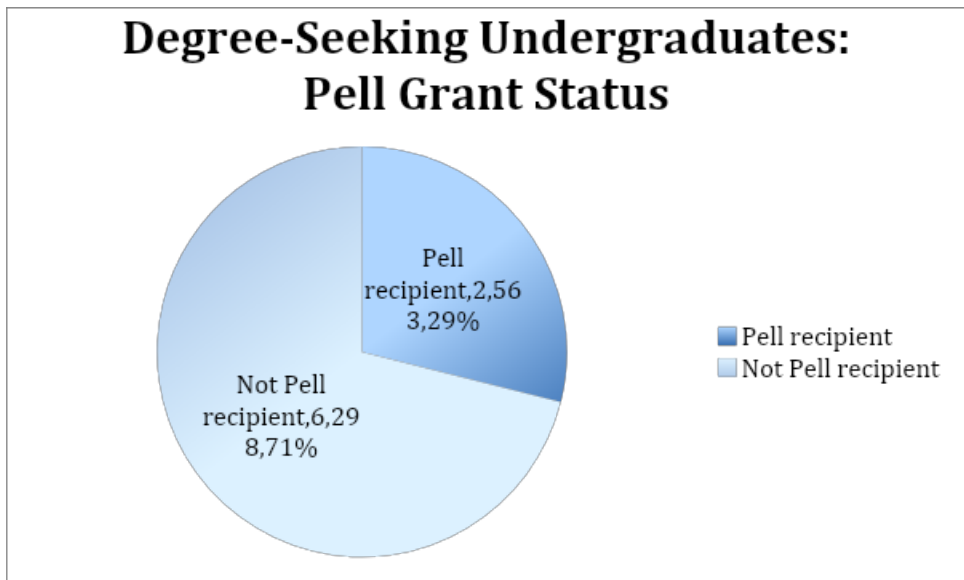


University of Maine Student Enrollment by Ethnicity Category and Gender

Ethnicity Category*	Fall 2018			Fall 2017			Fall 2016			Fall 2015			Fall 2014			
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	
UG	White	7,793	3,673	4,120	7,702	3,637	4,065	7,617	3,587	4,030	7,433	3,561	3,872	7,386	3,527	3,859
	Black	196	60	136	205	68	137	197	61	136	211	67	144	209	74	135
	Hispanic	376	186	190	331	161	170	282	145	137	256	135	121	226	120	106
	Asian	182	82	100	182	77	105	192	79	113	186	86	100	175	78	97
	Native American	83	51	32	95	60	35	86	56	30	90	62	28	101	65	36
	Not Specified	432	214	218	468	224	244	693	347	346	872	433	439	993	494	499
	Pacific Islander	2	2	0	1	1	0	256	126	130	1	1	0	1	1	0
	Multi-ethnic	301	146	155	295	151	144				248	111	137	248	125	123
Total	9,365	4,414	4,951	9,279	4,379	4,900	9,323	4,401	4,922	9,297	4,456	4,841	9,339	4,484	4,855	
GR	White	1,523	1,035	488	1,410	954	456	1,330	871	459	1,139	703	436	1,438	964	474
	Black	26	11	15	20	12	8	25	10	15	24	5	19	23	5	18
	Hispanic	48	30	18	46	29	17	42	29	13	32	21	11	29	21	8
	Asian	124	60	64	136	59	77	131	58	73	125	57	68	100	43	57
	Native American	26	14	12	29	20	9	39	25	14	30	16	14	33	20	13
	Not Specified	269	184	85	294	209	85	302	191	111	247	137	110	303	207	96
	Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
	Multi-ethnic	23	18	5	26	18	8	26	12	14	27	13	14	20	9	11
Total	2,039	1,352	687	1,961	1,301	660	1,896	1,197	699	1,625	953	672	1,947	1,270	677	
Total	White	9,316	4,708	4,608	9,112	4,591	4,521	8,947	4,458	4,489	8,572	4,264	4,308	8,824	4,491	4,333
	Black	222	71	151	225	80	145	222	71	151	235	72	163	232	79	153
	Hispanic	424	216	208	377	190	187	324	174	150	288	156	132	255	141	114
	Asian	306	142	164	318	136	182	323	137	186	311	143	168	275	121	154
	Native American	109	65	44	124	80	44	125	81	44	120	78	42	134	85	49
	Not Specified	701	398	303	762	433	329	995	538	457	1,119	570	549	1,296	701	595
	Pacific Islander	2	2	0	1	1	0	257	127	130	2	2	0	2	2	0
	Multi-ethnic	324	164	160	321	169	152	26	12	14	275	124	151	268	134	134
Total	11,404	5,766	5,638	11,240	5,680	5,560	11,219	5,598	5,621	10,922	5,409	5,513	11,286	5,754	5,532	



□ There are 788 students at UMaine with documented disabilities.



Prepared by R. Dana 1/19

Updated: 2/20

Updated: 11-21

Updated: 6-23