



University of St. Thomas: A Brief History of a Leading University

Academic excellence attracts students from all over the world to the University of St. Thomas, located in the heart of Houston's Museum District. Students from 33 states and 54 foreign countries fill classrooms. And with a student-faculty ration of 13:1, St. Thomas offers students highly personalized instruction. Nearly 90 percent of full-time faculty have earned the top degrees in their fields and teach undergraduate and graduate classes.

St. Thomas offers 29 undergraduate majors and pre-professional programs in medicine, law and engineering, and eight master's degrees including accounting, business administration, international business, education, divinity, liberal arts, pastoral studies, theology and philosophy. As well, a doctorate in philosophy for the University's Center for Thomistic Studies is among the most highly respected in the world. The Cameron School of Business at St. Thomas confers more than 300 Master Business Administration degrees each May, while the School of Education continues to produce graduates who are quickly recognized for their teaching excellence.

Recent expansion to its 19-block campus includes the new James and Maureen Hackett Athletic Field, the new Guinan Residence Hall; the Louis Jarret and W.T. Moran Center; the Campus Life Mall with its University Seal Plaza and Gueymard Labyrinth and Prayer Garden; and renovation to the Academic Mall designed by renowned architect Philip Johnson. In 2007, the Edward P. White Memorial Plaza, featuring one of the last creative concepts of the late Philip Johnson, was completed. A successful \$65 million capital campaign made these additions possible.

In March 2007, the University made the largest property acquisition in its history – 1 1/2 blocks of prime property at Richmond and Montrose Blvd. that gives UST a dominant presence along Montrose Blvd. from West Alabama to Richmond.

Founded in 1947 by the Basilian Fathers, the University of St. Thomas remains Houston's first Catholic university. St. Thomas, dedicated to educating leaders of faith and character, is committed to the religious, ethical, and intellectual traditions of Catholic higher education and welcomes students of all faiths.

Since 1994, *U.S. News and World Report* has named the University of St. Thomas to the top tier of Western mid-size comprehensive universities. The University of St. Thomas remains a shining star in the heart of Houston.