



Cornell University  
Graduate School

## Consider Cornell

### Why Cornell

- Our cross-disciplinary graduate field system
- Our engaged graduate faculty
- Our genuine sense of community
- Our culture of exploration and innovation

Whether it's applied economics, medieval studies, or nanotechnology, explore your passion at Cornell.

“Every semester I can try something outrageous. The faculty never say ‘no’. Instead, they always say: ‘What if we do this, what if we do that, let’s try this, or let’s try that.’ It’s not that the faculty let you experiment, it’s the fact that they are equally excited about where the idea might go.”

-Mia Kang, M.Arch

## What Sets Us Apart

### Our People

Cornell attracts researchers, thinkers, scholars, inventors, scientists, humanitarians, and idea leaders from around the world. A genuine sense of camaraderie—particularly between faculty and students—fosters collaborations and community, while supportive staff help guide students through their life at Cornell. Students develop cross-disciplinary friendships and partnerships that last a lifetime.

### Our Setting

The Ithaca campus is set on a hill overlooking Cayuga Lake with waterfalls, lakes, botanical gardens, and historic buildings. Ithaca is small enough that it's easy to find your way around and large enough that we have more restaurants per capita than New York City.

\$802 million in research funding, #3 in NSF university research funding, 60% of faculty serve in two or more fields.

“The one thing that Cornell University has over other schools is the people. While Cornell’s resources and prestige are great, the faculty members here are the real superstars. My faculty advisor is a mentor in every sense of the word not only academically, but also personally and professionally. Cornell University is a place that has the structure and resources not only to prepare you as an academic scholar, but also to help you become a contributor to global society.”

-Chavez Carter, Ph.D.

## **Our Facilities**

Cornell has outstanding research and teaching facilities, including new buildings for life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, and art, architecture, and planning. These facilities have numerous labs that foster research in nanotechnology, sustainability, energy, creativity, arts, social sciences, and human health.

## **Our Values**

Our philosophy of academic freedom with responsibility helps our students become flexible, collaborative, and innovative thinkers. Our field structure is cross-disciplinary by design, and truly unique.

## **Our Fields**

Many of our nearly 100 graduate fields of study rank in the top ten nationally. Our programs create innovative pathways to knowledge and understanding in a broad range of research areas. All of our programs hone students' intellectual and creative leadership skills.

## **Our Research**

Cornell is one of the top research institutions in the world with more than \$802 million devoted to research spending. In the most recent report, we ranked third in funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Graduate School is committed to supporting graduate education and provides significant funding for the majority of our Ph.D. students.

## **Who Are Our Faculty**

Our faculty are at the top of their fields

### **Jenny Sabin**

*Professor of Art, Architecture and Planning*

Jenny E. Sabin's work and research is at the forefront of a new direction for 21<sup>st</sup>-century architectural practice—one that investigates the intersections of architecture and science, and applies insights and theories from biology, physics, engineering, and mathematics to the design of material structures.

### **Jeff Hancock**

*Professor of Communication*

Prof. Hancock was featured on the national TED stage for his research on lying and how technology mediates deception. Through Cornell's field system, he is able to work with research

graduate students in fields of communication, information science, psychology, and cognitive science.

### **Avery August**

#### ***Professor of Microbiology and Immunology***

Conducting research on diseases common in humans and animals allows Avery August to make discoveries otherwise impossible. Mice, for example, no longer develop asthma when a particular enzyme is targeted. This novel research begs the question: can scientists create new medicines that are similarly effective in humans?

### **Tanzeem Choudhury**

#### ***Professor of Information Science***

As director of the People-Aware Computing group, Prof. Choudhury leads efforts on developing machine learning techniques for systems that can reason about human activities, interactions, and social networks in everyday environments. Prof. Choudhury works closely with graduate students in both the information science and computer science fields at Cornell.

### **Richard Robinson**

#### ***Professor of Materials Science and Engineering***

Robinson's research specifically targets applications for thermo-electrics, catalysts for fuel cells and batteries. His work leverages the unique morphologies and properties of nanomaterials to better energize production. His group strives to develop environmentally friendly materials and synthetic techniques through scalable nanomanufacturing.

Seven President's National Medal of Science recipients, 209 faculty memberships in the national academies 2010-2013, nine MacArthur "Genius Award" recipients, 45 Nobel Laureates have been associated with Cornell as faculty members or alumni.

## **Who Are Our Students**

45 percent international from 102 countries; USA, China, India, Korea, Canada five top countries represented; 17 percent underrepresented minorities; 44 percent female.

### **Pinshane Huang**

Graduate student Pinshane Huang and Professor David Muller hold a model of the atomic structure of glass. Their discovery of the world's thinnest sheet of glass landed Muller and Huang in the 2014 Guinness Book of World Records and could some day find an application in transistors, computers, and smartphones.

“I spent a summer doing research at Cornell when I was an undergraduate. It was the perfect introduction to research at a major university: as a visiting student I had access to great mentoring and resources.”

## **Chan Suh**

Sociology Ph.D. student Chan Suh investigates why and how nation-states use torture, and his research seeks to answer questions he developed while growing up in South Korea and the United States. For part of Suh’s childhood, South Korea was under a military dictatorship, which ended when a university student activist was tortured to death by the National Police Agency in June 1987, triggering a massive democratic movement.

At Cornell, Suh has strengthened his ability for comparative thought by embracing the university’s “liberal intellectual atmosphere.” He cites being able to choose his own academic path as a highlight of the sociology program.

“I chose Cornell sociology for the stable and favorable environment it provides for graduate students to devote themselves to research.”

## **What Cornell Offers**

97 percent of Ph.D. students are fully funded with generous stipends.

700+ students every year receive competitive external fellowships.

## **Funding**

Nearly all of our doctoral students receive funding to pursue their degrees. Competitive opportunities for support also exist through the Provost’s Diversity Fellowships, the SUNY Fellowships, McNair Fellowships, and Dean’s Excellence Fellowships.

## **Graduate School Research Degrees**

Ph.D. programs are designed for individuals who demonstrate the potential to perform original research, with a view to various careers, including those in research and teaching.

For students in research degree programs, most of the fields have no core course requirements; instead, a faculty committee guides your work. Your Special Committee can be composed of faculty from different fields, colleges, and campuses, allowing you to build your own educational program around your academic interests.

## **Graduate Research Degrees Offered**

- M.A. (Master of Arts)
- M.S. (Master of Science)
- M.A./Ph.D. or M.S./Ph.D.

## **Graduate School Professional Degrees**

Professional degrees prepare students to practice their profession at an advanced level, to teach the subject matter of their profession, or to pursue original investigations into its functions, administration, history, and progress.

For professional students, the focus is on coursework and a final project demonstrating what you've learned.

### **Graduate Professional Degrees Offered**

- D.M.A. (Doctor of Musical Arts)
- J.S.D. (Doctor of Science of Law)
- M.Arch. II (research-oriented Master of Architecture)
- M.F.A. (Master of Fine Arts)
- M.H.A. (Master of Health Administration)
- M.I.L.R. (Master of Industrial and Labor Relations)
- M.L.A. (Master of Landscape Architecture)
- M.P.A. (Master of Public Administration)
- M.P.S. (Master of Professional Studies)
- M.R.P. (Master of Regional Planning)

### **Other Professional Degrees Offered**

- College of Architecture, Art, and Planning—M.Arch I
- College of Engineering—M.Eng.
- College of Veterinary Medicine—D.V.M.
- Cornell Law School—J.D., L.L.M.
- Cornell Tech—M.Eng.
- Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management—M.B.A.
- School of Hotel Administration—M.M.H., M.P.S.
- Weill Cornell Medical College
- Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences

## **What You Can Study**

- 13 types of degrees
- 104 fields
- 3,150 Ph.D. students
- 1,680 professional master's students
- 350 research master's students
- 2,025 students in other graduate programs
- Opportunities for further exploration in 73 minor fields

## **Humanities**

- Architecture (M.S., M.Arch., and Ph.D.)
- Asian Literature, Religion and Culture (M.A., Ph.D.)
- Art (M.F.A.)
- Classics (Ph.D.)
- Comparative Literature (Ph.D.)
- Creative Writing (M.F.A.)
- English Language and Literature (Ph.D.)
- Germanic Studies (Ph.D.)
- History (Ph.D.)
- History of Art and Archaeology (Ph.D.)
- Medieval Studies (Ph.D.)
- Music (D.M.A., Ph.D.)
- Near Eastern Studies (Ph.D.)
- Philosophy (Ph.D., Ph.D./J.D. dual degree)
- Romance Studies (Ph.D.)
- Science and Technology Studies (Ph.D.)
- Theatre Arts (Ph.D.)

## **Physical Sciences and Engineering**

- Aerospace Engineering (Ph.D., M.Eng.)
- Applied Mathematics (Ph.D.)
- Applied Physics (M.S., Ph.D. and M.Eng. in Engineering Physics)
- Astronomy and Space Sciences (Ph.D.)
- Atmospheric Sciences (M.S., Ph.D.)
- Biological & Environmental Engineering (M.Eng., M.S., Ph.D. and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Biomedical Engineering (M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Chemical Engineering (M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Chemistry and Chemical Biology (Ph.D.)
- Civil and Environmental Engineering (M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Computer Science (M.Eng., Ph.D.)
- Electrical and Computer Engineering (M.Eng., Ph.D.)
- Engineering Management—CEE (M.Eng.)
- Fiber Science and Apparel Design (M.A., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Geological Sciences (M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Human Ecology (M.P.S.)
- Materials Science and Engineering (M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Mathematics (Ph.D.)
- Mechanical Engineering (M.Eng., Ph.D.)
- Operations Research and Information Engineering (M.Eng., Ph.D.)
- Physics (Ph.D.)
- Systems Engineering (M.Eng., Ph.D.)
- Systems Engineering—distance learning option (M.Eng.)

- Theoretical and Applied Mathematics (M.Eng., Ph.D.)

### **Life Sciences**

- Animal Science (M.S., Ph.D., and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Biochemistry, Molecular and Cell Biology (Ph.D.)
- Biophysics (Ph.D.)
- Comparative Biomedical Sciences—Veterinary Medicine (Ph.D.)
- Computational Biology (Ph.D.)
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (M.S., Ph.D.)
- Entomology (M.S., M.S./Ph.D., Ph.D.)
- Environmental Toxicology (M.S., Ph.D.)
- Genetics, Genomics and Development (Ph.D.)
- Horticulture (M.S., Ph.D., and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Immunology and Infectious Disease (Ph.D.)
- Microbiology (Ph.D.)
- Molecular and Integrative Physiology (Ph.D.)
- Natural Resources (M.S., M.S./Ph.D., Ph.D.)
- Neurobiology and Behavior (Ph.D.)
- Nutrition (Ph.D. and M.P.S. in Human Ecology)
- Pharmacology (Ph.D.)
- Plant Biology (Ph.D.)
- Plant Breeding (Ph.D.)
- Plant Pathology & Plant-Microbe Biology (M.S., M.S./Ph.D., Ph.D. and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Plant Protection (M.P.S.)
- Psychology (Ph.D.)
- Public Health (M.P.H.)
- Soil and Crop Sciences (M.S., Ph.D., and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Zoology and Wildlife Conservation (Ph.D.)

### **Social Sciences**

- Africana Studies (Ph.D.)
- Anthropology (M.A., Ph.D.)
- Applied Economics and Management (M.S., Ph.D., and M.P.S. in Agri & Life Sci.)
- Archaeology (M.A.)
- Asian Studies (M.A.)
- City and Regional Planning (M.R.P., M.R.P./M.L.A. dual degree and Ph.D.)
- Communication (Ph.D.)
- Design and Environmental Analysis (M.A., M.S., and Ph.D.)
- Developmental Sociology (M.S./Ph.D., and Ph.D.)
- Economics (Ph.D.)
- Global Development—International Agricultural and Rural Development (M.P.S.)
- Global Development—International Development (M.P.S.)
- Government (Ph.D.)

- Historic Preservation (M.A.)
- Hotel Administration (M.M.H., M.S., Ph.D.)
- Human Development (M.A., Ph.D., Ph.D./J.D. dual degree)
- Industrial and Labor Relations (M.I.L.R., M.P.S., M.S., M.S./Ph.D., and M.I.L.R./Ph.D. dual degree)
- Information Science (M.P.S., Ph.D.)
- Information Science—Information Systems (M.S.)
- Landscape Architecture (M.L.A., M.P.S., M.L.A./M.P.S. dual degree)
- Law (J.S.D.)
- Linguistics (Ph.D.)
- Management (Ph.D.)
- Policy Analysis and Management (Ph.D.)
- Policy Analysis and Management—Health Administration (M.H.A., M.H.A/M.B.A., M.H.A./M.P.A.)
- Public Affairs (M.P.A., M.P.A./M.H.A. dual degree)
- Real Estate (M.P.S./R.E., M.P.S./M.B.A. dual degree)
- Regional Science (M.A., M.S., Ph.D.)
- Sociology (M.A., Ph.D.)
- Statistics (M.P.S. in Applied Stats, and Ph.D.)

## **What We Look For**

### **Diversity and Inclusion**

From the time of Cornell University’s founding, the university has remained committed to the principles of equality and diversity. Cornell was founded by Ezra Cornell as a university “where any person could find instruction in any study.”

We seek highly motivated and capable students who have proven themselves in the classroom, regardless of their backgrounds. The Graduate School actively recruits, welcomes, and supports students from historically underrepresented groups and students who may be of the first generation in their families to attend college.

We believe that diverse perspectives enhance our community.

### **Our Commitment to the Student Experience: Resources**

The health and well-being of our students is a foundation for academic and life success.

Cornell is committed not only to our students’ success, but also to offering the resources that make success possible. Cornell provides personal and academic support for all stages of your student experience.

#### ***Academic Resources:***

- Big Red Barn Write-In

- English Language Support Office (ELSO)
- Fellowship Application Workshop
- Thesis/Dissertation Writing Boot Camp

### ***Health and Wellness Resources***

- Cornell Public Service Center (CPSC)
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Empathy, Assistance, and Referral Services (EARS)
- Gannett Health Services
- Office of Graduate Student Life

### ***Offices Supporting Diverse Communities***

- Africana Studies and Research Center
- American Indian Program (AIP)
- Asian & Asian American Center (A3C)
- Cornell United Religious Work (CURW)
- Cornell Women's Resource Center (CWRC)
- Feminist, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program (FGSS)
- International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO)
- Latino Studies Program
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center
- Office of Inclusion and Student Engagement (OISE)
- Student Disability Services

### ***Career and Professional Development Resources***

- Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST)
- The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE)
- The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CU-CIRTL)
- Career Services
- Entrepreneurship at Cornell

## **What It's Like Here**

Cornell is located in the scenic Finger Lakes region of New York State, birthplace of the women's rights movement and a center of activity for the Underground Railroad.

Ithaca is situated in a spot of natural beauty, surrounded by multiple state parks, arts, music, and a booming wine region.

40-mile long Cayuga Lake offers endless recreational opportunities, from walks along the shore to fishing, kayaking, and stand-up paddleboarding.

There are more than 100 waterfalls within 10 miles of Ithaca.

Don't take our word for it. Take a tour at [www.visitithaca.com](http://www.visitithaca.com).

Where are we? Ithaca is 4.5 hours from Toronto, 5 hours from Montreal, 5.5 hours from Boston, 4 hours from New York City, 4 hours from Philadelphia, 6 hours from Washington, D.C., and 3 hours from Niagara Falls.

The Ithaca Commons provides Ithaca with an open-air pedestrian mall as the center of the community's dining, shopping, and entertainment scene.

Ithaca has a thriving local culture in music, art, and food—including one of the country's top farmers markets.

Ithaca also has an airport with service from several major air carriers, easily linking Cornell with global partners.

## Where to Begin

Start here: [www.gradschool.cornell.edu](http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu).

1,800 new graduate and professional student enrollments.

## Explore

Start by visiting <https://gradschool.cornell.edu/degrees-fields/cugradfos/> to find your field of study.

- Get to know the work of the faculty in your field, and consider reaching out to them, and current or former students.

## Prepare

- Take required tests
- Request accommodations
- Write your statement of purpose and edit it for accuracy and effectiveness
- Prepare transcripts
- Check with your field to confirm supplemental application requirements
- *For International Applicants:*
  - English language proficiency
  - International transcripts and degree equivalencies

## Apply

- Give yourself plenty of time to complete the application
- Understand important deadlines and policies
- Upload all application materials with your online application
- Pay application fee (check website for fee waiver information)
- Questions should be directed to your graduate field.

For more information: [considergrad@cornell.edu](mailto:considergrad@cornell.edu)

## **Admissions Decisions**

Faculty admissions committees select students because they recognize a strong fit between the work the student wants to do and the work being done in the program. Prospective students should look closely at programs where this fit is evident.

At Cornell, graduate admissions decisions are made by faculty in your proposed field of study. Application deadlines and additional requirements vary by field of study and degree program.

We hope you will consider the Cornell University Graduate School for the next step in your education. While Cornell is a major research and teaching institution with an international reputation, it's not all work and no play.

Whether you love bioethics, tango, or underwater hockey, you'll find a community at Cornell. Get involved by joining an outreach program, an intramural sport, or one of the more than 1,000 student groups and organizations on campus. The Big Red Barn Graduate and Professional Student Center, the heart of graduate student life on campus, hosts more than 200 events over year.

Work with confidence, and best of success.

## **Cornell Graduate School**

Diversity and inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.