

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE CUSTOMIZED PROSPECTUS: HISTORY

I. DISTINCTIVE AUGUSTANA ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

The academic program at Augustana College is distinguished by a tradition of student-faculty research and other collaborative work, and a curriculum that provides every student access to hands-on, high-impact learning experiences on campus, in the field and abroad. At the end of senior year, many students present their best research projects at the annual Celebration of Learning symposium on campus.

The college's distinctive Augie Choice program gives each student up to \$2,000 in the junior or senior year, to support a qualifying "peak" learning experience. Depending on their goals, students choose Augie Choice for expenses related to international study, an internship in the United States or abroad, or research with a professor.

Students often use Augie Choice to help investigate their choice of topic for Senior Inquiry. Through Senior Inquiry, students select and research a topic in their major field, and complete a substantive capstone experience. Working with a favorite professor, students create a project that draws upon their four years of liberal arts education and major field focus, to pursue a topic of their own deep interest. A final reflection considers how their Senior Inquiry might benefit a community—whether local, regional, global or academic.

For history majors, Senior Inquiry is built into courses in the senior-year curriculum: a research methods and readings seminar that culminates in a working research prospectus on a topic of your choice; and a research and writing tutorial during which you will write a polished essay on the results of your research. Students who intend to teach history develop research topics from questions encountered during their student-teaching experience. This significant historical research project will showcase your analytical abilities in such a way to make you stand out among your peers when applying to graduate programs.

Augustana's location in the rich, diverse culture of the Quad Cities provides a fundamental benefit to the academic program. Augustana students have access to a great variety of clinical settings; internship and job sites, from Fortune 500 companies to innovative non-profit organizations; social research and volunteer settings that range from inner-city neighborhoods to bustling downtown areas, from affluent suburbs to life on the river; and a natural environment that encompasses the rich biodiversity and beautiful landscapes of the Mississippi River valley.

To underscore Augustana's high four-year graduation rate, the college is offering a Four-Year Graduation Agreement to full-time students arriving in the fall of 2012. Incoming students may sign a four-year graduation agreement that promises the college will pay tuition for courses required for graduation provided the student has worked hard, declared a major by the fifth week of spring term, made course plans with his/her advisor and followed those plans, and met all registration, advising and payment deadlines.

II. OUR YEARS OF SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

The Augustana history faculty includes leaders recognized for innovative teaching and research with students. One faculty member was Illinois Professor of the Year in 2011. As active historians who publish widely and are active internationally, they are well connected to help you with graduate school and career placements.

Four years of signature experiences on campus, in the community and in the world will lead to your success:

FIRST YEAR

You will engage in Augustana's rigorous, well-rounded first-year liberal studies general education sequence to begin developing a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences. In your first Augustana history course, you will learn that history is not just a series of facts and events; you will begin to actively understand what history is, and to interpret it. You may take advantage of the college's more than 150 student groups and organizations; among these are the history club, the Alpha Pi chapter of the national history honor society Phi Alpha Theta, and the international honor society Phi Beta Delta.

SECOND YEAR

As a sophomore, you will declare history, honors history or history teaching as a major and begin more advanced coursework in the field. If you plan to pursue graduate school, you might choose the history honors track: an additional 3-credit history course, proficiency in a second language, and the honors Senior Inquiry capstone. Many pre-law students also choose history as a major (*see note at bottom*). Through your major coursework and your liberal arts background, you will start to become what the faculty call "historically minded"—displaying the knowledge and critical thinking skills that will make you competitive.

THIRD YEAR

Augie Choice is available to you in the junior or senior year. You might take part in the international and hands-on learning opportunities related to the teaching or research of your history professors, such as the college's programs in Ghana, Senegal, Italy, Germany, China, Peru and Mexico, or research with American Indian communities. Nearly all students in the honors track study abroad. If you are in the history-teaching track, you also will begin student teaching in a variety of educational settings throughout the Quad Cities.

FINAL YEAR

Majors in all three tracks—history, honors history and teaching history—complete Senior Inquiry in their fourth year (*see details, previous page*). The Senior Inquiry course for the teaching track, History Teaching and Learning, is one of only a handful of such courses in the United States. Rather than learning from a broad-based social studies educator, students work with an actual historian who can train future teachers how to teach history with precision and understanding of historical thinking.

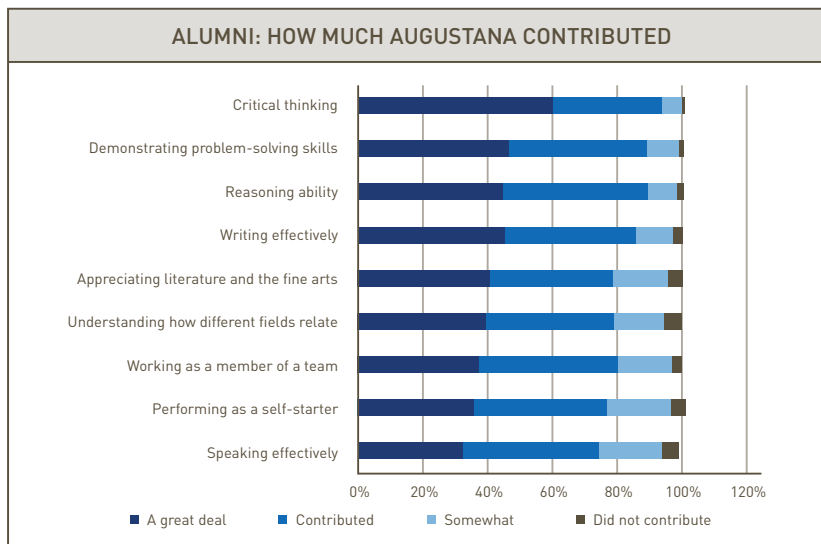
Augustana College and the Department of History guarantee that throughout your four years on campus, you will develop both broad and specialized historical knowledge; you will build skills in evidence-based reasoning; and you will learn to defend your claims—through writing and public speaking—using a courtroom model. These abilities prepare majors well for practicing law, teaching and pursuing advanced degrees in history.

III. THE QUALITIES AND SKILLS EMPLOYERS SEEK

According to the Job Outlook 2012 survey of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the top five personal qualities/skills sought by employers are:

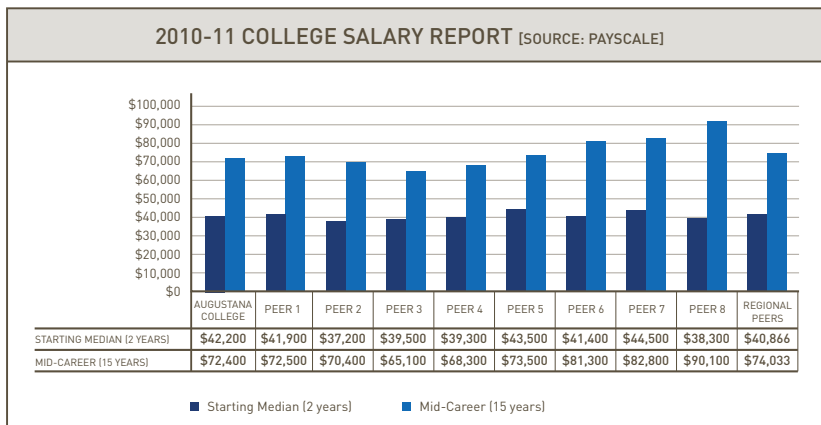
1. Ability to work in a team
2. Verbal communication skills
3. Ability to make decisions and solve problems
4. Ability to obtain and process information
5. Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work

In the chart below, based on a survey of recent Augustana graduates, it is clear that we prepare our students to stand out and align their education with the skills and abilities employers value the most. Employer surveys in addition to the NACE Job Outlook 2012 survey confirm the importance of these same skills (*see Appendix*).



IV. GREAT RESULTS AND EARNING POTENTIAL

As an Augustana graduate, you will be prepared to compete with students seeking positions with the best employers and entrance to the finest graduate schools. You also will be competitive and earn what you deserve. The chart below compares the earning potential of Augustana graduates with that of peer schools, from starting salary to mid-career.

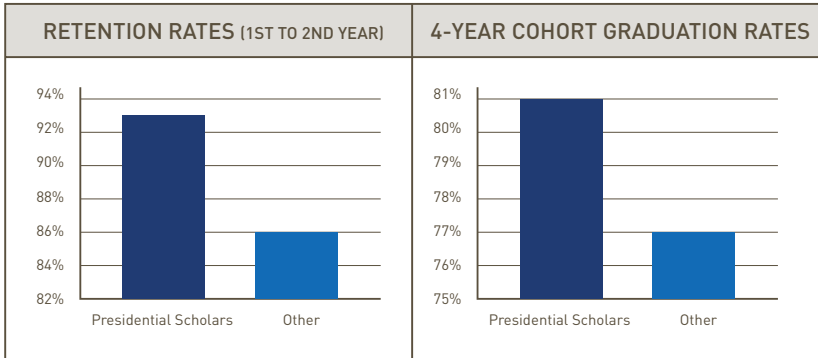


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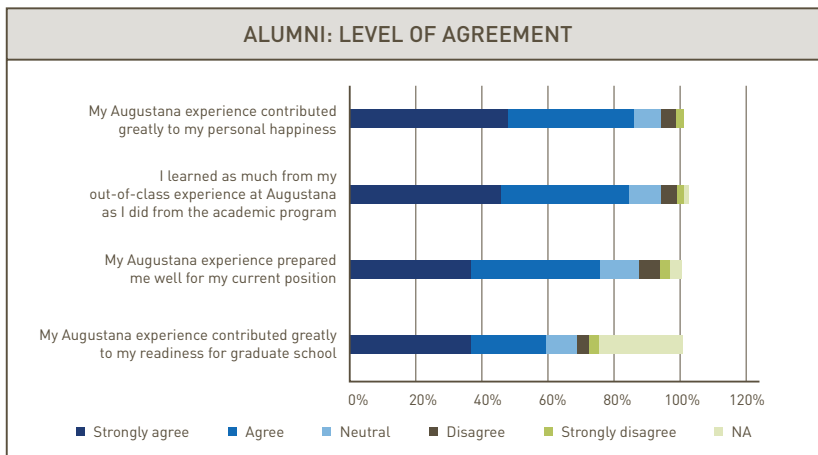
1. Peers are institutions identified by Augustana as having similar financial resources, enrollments and missions.
2. Peers include Gustavus Adolphus College, Luther College, Illinois Wesleyan University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Roanoke College, Susquehanna University, University of Puget Sound and Wittenberg University.
3. Regional peers include Gustavus Adolphus, Luther College and Illinois Wesleyan University.

V. CONCLUSION

Augustana College has presented you with this customized prospectus because you have what it takes to succeed as an Augustana student and graduate. We also know that, as a Presidential Scholarship recipient, you likely will outperform your peers, as you will note in the comparison charts on first-to-second year retention rates and graduation rates, below.



Our mission is to prepare our graduates for rewarding lives in a changing world, and we want you to be a part of what we do. The following chart highlights the college’s success in its mission, through the high degree of agreement (strongly and agree) demonstrated in a recent survey of our alumni.



We sincerely hope that you will see what we see in this prospectus. While it is unlikely Augustana will be the least expensive among your options, choosing Augustana is a decision you will value forever. A college education is the sum of all your learning experiences and learning results—as a college student and as a graduate. A great college education is worth the investment on both sides, and Augustana has chosen you.

APPENDIX

Recent information about the abilities employers value most, as well as the undergraduate educations that best foster those qualities:

- www.naceweb.org/Press/Frequently_Asked_Questions.aspx?referral=pressroom&menuID=276#qualities
- us.manpower.com/us/en/job-seekers/career-resources/find-the-job/top-skills-employers-want.jsp
- www.coursepark.com/blog/2011/01/top-10-skills-employers-are-looking-for/
- www.careerealism.com/job-skills-demand-2011/
- lutherancolleges.org/why/careers/employers
- humanitiesplus.byu.edu/2010/01/employers-want-broader-skill-sets-provided-by-the-liberal-arts.html