

CENTENARY COLLEGE OF LOUISIANA

2911 CENTENARY BOULEVARD, SHREVEPORT, LA 71104 • ADMISSIONS: 318-869-5131 • FAX: 318-869-5005

CAMPUS LIFE

Quality of Life Rating	77
Fire Safety Rating	88
Type of school	private
Affiliation	Methodist
Environment	metropolis

STUDENTS

Total undergrad enrollment	891
% male/female	40/60
% from out of state	43
% from public high school	80
% live on campus	66
# of fraternities	5
# of sororities	2
% African American	8
% Asian	2
% Caucasian	82
% Hispanic	4
% international	2
# of countries represented	12

SURVEY SAYS . . .

Small classes
Athletic facilities are great
Musical organizations are popular

ACADEMICS

Academic Rating	84
Calendar	semester
Student/faculty ratio	10:1
Profs interesting rating	87
Profs accessible rating	86
% profs teaching	
UG courses	100
% classes taught by TAs	0
Most common	
reg class size	10–19 students

MOST POPULAR MAJORS

biology/biological sciences
 business administration/
 management
 communication

STUDENTS SAY

Academics

The old saying that dynamite comes in small packages holds true when it comes to Centenary College, at least according to its students. With an enrollment of 900 undergraduates, the academic experience here is nothing if not personal. "Just the other night, I had dinner with the president and provost," writes one typical senior. "They both know me by my first name. They, as well as the professors, are always available by appointment to meet with students." One fast-moving freshman brags that already "I have the cell phone numbers of my professors and have visited several of their homes." A small enrollment means small class sizes, which allow for learning to assume the form of a dialogue between teacher and student, rather than the former spitting out facts in a lecture hall and the latter parroting it back on tests. Students agree that professors "don't expect us to merely regurgitate onto paper later" what they say in classes. "In our First-Year Experience classes, we are taught to question everything," and this questioning, which should lead students to learn how to come to their own conclusions, is an integral part of the undergraduate experience and is continually developed through the subsequent 3 years. But the small size also has its drawbacks. For instance, students wish "there were more class options available." Major offerings are heavy on the liberal arts, though the few preprofessional programs draw a fair number of students.

Life

First thing's first: This is not Mardi Gras country. In fact, the drive from Centenary to New Orleans takes about twice as long as it takes to drive to Dallas, which itself is almost 200 miles away. But distance doesn't deter students from thinking about the attractions of these other big cities; despite the fact that hometown area Shreveport has a population of 400,000, students gripe that it's not the best college town. This sentiment seems tied to the strict door policies at most of the bars off-campus. "Shreveport is a great town for fun if you are 21. But most college students are not 21," and as a result many students turn to the Greeks to create opportunities to socialize. They visit "fraternity houses every weekend. There is some drinking going on, but no one pressures anyone." However, "once you are 21," you most likely spend quality time with friends in the local watering holes, and if you are feeling particularly adventurous, "The casinos are very fun (but expensive)." During the week, "Most people are involved in an activity on campus, whether it's the newspaper, choir, sorority, fraternity," intramural sports, or "working out in our wonderful fitness center." The school also plays host to many "plays, concerts, [and] sports" events. The food on campus is universally despised. One thing that students would absolutely hate to see change, however, is the choir, which is the pride of the campus.

Student Body

Despite the influence of the Greeks, "The students on campus are not your typical party-all-night, football-playing frat boys and girls." Instead, Centenary students form a community based primarily on strong ethics and sharp intellects. As one student puts it, this is a "friendly and academically driven" environment. While Centenary is not the most culturally or geographically diverse campus on earth, "There are students here with different belief systems and alternative lifestyles," and "They are accepted with open arms." That said, there are a few students who "thought there would be a good number of genuine Christians here—big mistake on that one." In general, there's a liberal breeze in the air in this little corner of Shreveport. "Although we are in a conservative, Southern area," writes a freshman, "campus (known as the "Centenary Bubble" in the community) is surprisingly liberal, both with students and faculty." Since the school is so small, "Everybody knows everybody, [so] rumors get around very quickly."

CENTENARY COLLEGE OF LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL AID: 318-869-5137 • E-MAIL: ADMISSIONS@CENTENARY.EDU • WEBSITE: WWW.CENTENARY.EDU

ADMISSIONS

Very important factors considered include: Academic GPA, rigor of secondary school record. *Important factors considered include:* Application essay, character/personal qualities, extracurricular activities, interview, level of applicant's interest, standardized test scores, talent/ability. *Other factors considered include:* Alumni/ae relation, class rank, geographical residence, racial/ethnic status, recommendation(s), religious affiliation/commitment, work experience. SAT or ACT required; TOEFL required of all international applicants. High school diploma is required, and GED is accepted. *Academic units recommended:* 4 English, 3 math, 3 science (2 science labs), 2 foreign language, 3 social studies.

The Inside Word

Centenary has historically had a small applicant pool, and thus has had to admit the majority to meet its freshman enrollment goals. Currently, the school has attracted a larger applicant pool and become noticeably more strict in its admission rate. Its reputation, though regional, is quite solid, and the college does a good job of enrolling its admits. A very friendly and efficient Admissions Office no doubt contributes to such success.

FINANCIAL AID

Students should submit: FAFSA. The Princeton Review suggests that all financial aid forms be submitted as soon as possible after January 1. *Need-based scholarships/grants offered:* Pell Grant, SEOG, state scholarships/grants, private scholarships, the school's own gift aid. *Loan aid offered:* FFEL Subsidized Stafford, FFEL Unsubsidized Stafford, FFEL PLUS, Federal Perkins Loan. Applicants will be notified of awards on or about March 15. Federal Work-Study Program available. Institutional employment available. Off-campus job opportunities are good.

FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

"Just as a student's 4-year experience at Centenary will be very personalized, so too is the application process. We pride ourselves on treating each applicant as an individual. We encourage all interested students to visit us—not only so they can see our campus and get a sense of the atmosphere, but also to provide us the opportunity to meet and get to know them.

"Consider Centenary for a life-changing experience. Our professors value your ideas and contributions and are passionate about teaching. We consider the Centenary Experience to be more than just a degree. You will live in a comprehensive learning environment that features connections to your academic, social, personal, and residential lives.

"Our students work and live within a strong community to create personalized, distinctive experiences. Our students enjoy a vibrant college life and graduate from Centenary prepared for their professional and personal lives.

"First-year applicants for Fall 2007 must submit either ACT or SAT examination scores. If either exam was taken before the recently revised version (February 2005 for ACT and March 2005 for the SAT), those scores can be submitted. We recommend, but do not require, the ACT Writing exam."

SELECTIVITY

Admissions Rating	84
# of applicants	1,069
% of applicants accepted	65
% of acceptees attending	34

FRESHMAN PROFILE

Range SAT Critical Reading	500–620
Range SAT Math	510–620
Range SAT Writing	500–620
Range ACT Composite	22–28
Minimum Paper TOEFL	550
Minimum Computer Based TOEFL	213
% graduated top 10% of class	37
% graduated top 25% of class	67
% graduated top 50% of class	91

DEADLINES

Early decision application deadline	12/1
Early decision notification	12/15
Regular application deadline	8/1
Regular notification	1/15
Nonfall registration?	yes

FINANCIAL FACTS

Financial Aid Rating	84
Annual tuition	\$19,850
Room & Board	\$7,280
% frosh rec. need-based scholarship or grant aid	60
% UG rec. need-based scholarship or grant aid	56
% frosh rec. need-based self-help aid	30
% UG rec. need-based self-help aid	34
% frosh rec. any financial aid	96
% UG rec. any financial aid	95.5