

## Welcome to the Graduate College!

The Graduate College House Committee (GCHC) welcomes you to the Graduate College (GC) community. We hope this packet of information will make your adjustment to graduate life at Princeton a bit smoother. Graduate school may prove to be an academic challenge, but since we cannot make classes any easier, we work at making life outside of the classroom more enjoyable. The House Committee is a volunteer board of fourteen graduate students that makes use of your student dues to provide activities and services to the members of the Graduate College House (i.e. you)!

The House Committee's work ranges from planning social events to providing firewood in the common areas. We can generally be reached at [gchouse@princeton.edu](mailto:gchouse@princeton.edu); if you would like to report a specific problem with Graduate College facilities, the fastest way is to email [gcfix@princeton.edu](mailto:gcfix@princeton.edu). The Committee also maintains a [website \(http://gchc.princeton.edu/\)](http://gchc.princeton.edu/) with useful information about life at the Graduate College, including an online copy of this Guide with hyperlinks included. House Committee elections are held in the Fall. If you like what we do, we hope that you will consider joining us down the road.

You will find that the GC holds many pleasant surprises. Where else can you have an unlimited buffet for dinner most of the week and Sunday brunch; conveniently hang out in the bar in the basement playing pool with your friends; live with about 400 interesting and intelligent scholars; play soccer, tennis, basketball, and volleyball; and enjoy an entire social program every week? You can even experiment with ant colonies on your windowsill, as the physicist Richard Feynman did when he was here. The facilities of the Old GC and New GC are available to any resident of the GC or Annexes, including non-resident members of the Graduate College with only a few exceptions as noted in the Guide. Enjoy all that the GC has to offer, and fall in love with the cozy atmosphere and beautiful Collegiate Gothic architecture.

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*The 2023-2024 Graduate Student's Guide to the Universe is published by the Graduate College House Committee, which over the years has compiled the information included herein. If you have discovered an error or would like to make a suggestion, drop us a line at [gchouse@princeton.edu](mailto:gchouse@princeton.edu).*

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# Survival Essentials

## Porter's Lodge and Mailroom

In your first few days at the Graduate College, one of the places of primary importance will be the **Porter's Lodge** (609-258-3443, x8-3443). The Porter's Lodge is located in Entry 15, on the ground floor next to Cleveland Tower. The most updated information about how you can receive your mail and packages can be found here: <https://gradschool.princeton.edu/student-experience/residential-life/graduate-college/porters-lodge>

In addition, the Porter's Lodge manages the circulation of a variety of items. For instance, you can check out vacuum cleaners, bicycle pumps, and more. Please contact the staff of the Porter's Lodge for additional information on the items that are in circulation. Service hours are as follows (effective 03/19/2024):

Mondays 8:30am-4:15pm  
Tuesdays 11:15am-7pm  
Wednesdays 8:30am-4:15pm  
Thursdays 8:30am-4:15pm  
Fridays 8:30am-4:15pm  
Saturdays 10am-2pm

If you are not on campus you will need to connect to the Princeton network via VPN to have full viewing access to the Porter's Lodge site. Please be respectful of Lodge hours. During hours when the Lodge is officially closed, do not disturb the staff inside the Lodge who may be trying to catch up with work, or may be taking a much-needed break.

The Porter's Lodge is staffed during the day by the Graduate College Office Coordinator and during the evening and on weekends by students or casual staff. The Coordinator manages the student porters and casual staff in the evening hours. The Coordinator can be contacted at [lmclist@princeton.edu](mailto:lmclist@princeton.edu).

## Sending and receiving mail

Mail is to be picked up at the Porter's Lodge, where you will have an assigned box. Regardless of your room or mailbox number, your mailing address should follow the following format:

**First name Last name**  
**88 College Road West**  
**(Your Room Assignment)**  
**Princeton, NJ 08544**

Use of the 08540 zip code can misdirect your mail to another address. Be sure to tell your friends and family to address everything with your first name (given name), followed by your last name (family name), **written clearly in English**. For purposes of sorting mail correctly, you **must** notify the GC Office Coordinator if you use a nickname/English name instead of your official name. **Please include your mailbox number in your address** and ensure you update your address if your mailbox changes. Any mail/packages that does not include your mailbox number will be sent back. Also note that mail addressed to "The Graduate School" may end up at Clio Hall!

Once your package has been received and processed, you will receive an email to pick it up. Note that while the Lodge staff will sign for your incoming deliveries if they are present when the delivery is attempted, there are many times when the Lodge will be closed for various reasons. **If you have an urgent package arriving, it is your responsibility to arrange to meet the delivery agent to sign for your package.** It is also suggested that you contact the Lodge staff well in advance to alert the staff that you have an urgent package, so that they can do their best to receive it.

In the alcove outside the Porter's Lodge, there are slots for outgoing U.S. (including international) and Campus Mail. **Put the mail in the correct slot or risk it being lost to history!** Questions about mail delivery at the GC should be addressed to [lmclist@princeton.edu](mailto:lmclist@princeton.edu)

The nearest USPS **Post Office** (<http://www.usps.com/>) is located at 259 Nassau St. (Open 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Closed on Sundays.) Note that the USPS automated mailing machine may still be available a few hours after window service closes. If the line is too busy at the Post Office, you

can try the **UPS Store** (<http://www.theupsstore.com/>) at 174 Nassau Street. Check **Fedex** (<http://www.fedex.com/>) website to see the dropoff points.

## Graduate School Staff

**Amber Serrano, Assistant Director of Student Affairs and Residential Life** resides at the GC on behalf of the Graduate School and serves as our official liaison to other University offices (Housing, Graduate School, Dining Services, etc.). You can contact Amber by email at [as2250@princeton.edu](mailto:as2250@princeton.edu), or in the office located in Clio Hall. Amber is the person to see if you have a seemingly insoluble conflict with your roommate or a neighbor, or if you are just feeling a bit lost, or overwhelmed by graduate school. Additionally, Amber works with the Community Associates and the Assistant Dean for Student Life to provide a wide variety of social programs and events for graduate students. Contact Amber if you have suggestions, concerns, or need to know something that wasn't covered by this guide.

**Assistant Deans for Student Affairs Kevin Fleming and Nicole Barkley-Jones** can also be contacted for assistance if you have suggestions, concerns, or questions about graduate life. They can be found in Clio Hall or contacted at [kevinaf@princeton.edu](mailto:kevinaf@princeton.edu) and [nbarkley@princeton.edu](mailto:nbarkley@princeton.edu), respectively. Kevin and Nicole work on general graduate student life issues and provide support to individual students, plan events, and serve as advisors to graduate student organizations.

**Lynne McClister, The GC Office Coordinator**, in addition to managing the Porter's Lodge, also coordinates some of the interaction between the Graduate School, Building Services and Housing. Feel free to contact the GC Office Coordinator if you have any general questions so that they can point you in the right direction.

Graduate student **Community Associates** (CA's) are overseen by Kevin Fleming. They plan and run social and community-building activities, such as trips, study breaks, movies, dances, orientations, information seminars, etc. They are a good resource and can be contacted regarding information on programs/activities at the University.

Please see the Graduate School website for more information on the staff/people to contact for help: <https://gradschool.princeton.edu/about/our-staff>.

## University Facilities and Building Services

Janitorial services are provided by Building Services. They collect garbage before 7:30 a.m. on **MONDAYS and THURSDAYS**. **Leave full waste and recycling bins just outside your door** and they will empty them for you. Do not simply leave your waste and recycling bins outside of your door all the time, or they may be confiscated and you will be without bins. Cans, paper, glass bottles, and plastic bottles should be rinsed out and then placed in the large grey recycling containers minus any caps or lids. **Recycling is mandated by state law**. Recycling is important and required. Residents who do not recycle will not get their trash picked up.

Also note that you should take any really large items to the dumpsters yourself: the dumpsters are located in the parking lot behind OGC Entry 10. If you leave large quantities of trash outside your door when you move out at the end of the year, you can get fined.

Building Services are also the people to call (**x8-3490**) if you need more **toilet paper, dirty shower curtain replacement or light bulbs** for your room; if you call in the morning, they'll usually arrive by the afternoon. In the meantime, if you are desperately in need of toilet paper or regular light bulbs, the Porter's Lodge may have a small supply on hand. Building Services will clean bathrooms accessible without entering student rooms—typically in the NGC and some OGC suites.

If you have a maintenance issue with your room, such as **bugs, broken windows, clogged drains, or insufficient heat in the winter**, call **x8-8000** to place a **University Facilities** work order. You can also place your work request **online** (<https://facilities.princeton.edu/services/request-service>). However, if you spot a **major and urgent problem**, such as large-scale flooding or incessantly flushing toilets, call Public Safety (**x8-1000**) instead to report the issue.

A tip for dealing with OGC cockroaches: many come up through dry in-suite bathroom drains (i.e. drains other than your shower drain). Use clear packing tape to seal drains off.

## Moving and storage

At the end of the year, the undergraduates also operate a [Moving and Storage Agency](#). Please inquire about their handling of fragile furniture if you have any.

You can store boxed items (no furniture or appliances) in the basement of the GC for the academic year or for the summer, on a space-available basis. Call Building Services at x8-3490 to schedule an appointment to have the storage room opened for you. There are many companies that also allow you to rent storage units on a monthly basis, such as [Access Self Storage](#)—share a large unit with friends to save money.

## Laundry

There are laundry rooms in both the New and Old Graduate Colleges. The OGC Laundry Room is located in the basement underneath the Porter's Lodge (go down the stairs directly across from the mail boxes, turn left at the bottom, and the washers and dryers are in the first room on the left). The NGC Laundry Room is in the basement of Entry 34. The OGC laundry room contains 6 high-efficiency washers and 8 dryers and a big sink. The NGC laundry room contains 5 high-efficiency washers and 8 dryers.

All the washers and dryers are app-operated. See the PDF below for instructions on using the app, or see the following tutorial video: [Caleco Laundry App Tutorial](#). If you have problems using the app, please contact [princeton@caleco.net](mailto:princeton@caleco.net) for assistance.

If you do not own a bluetooth-enabled device and cannot use the app, please email [gchouse@princeton.edu](mailto:gchouse@princeton.edu) for help accessing laundry services.

Please be careful not to overload the washers, as small items of apparel may get sucked into the water pump. Overloading also leads to broken machines, which just make life more complicated for everybody. Also, **please clean out the dryer lint trap** before you run a load. If you experience a problem, please **report the broken machine through the Caleco app**. Do not try to repair the machines by yourself. Tampering with the machines can be dangerous – you could be electrocuted!

For additional information regarding laundry/Caleco, please see the Facilities page of the GCHC website (<https://gchc.princeton.edu/facilities/>).

Please be considerate of your fellow students and promptly remove your laundry from the machines after use. It is the law of the jungle, and laundry can be removed from the machines by anyone, as soon as the cycle is done!

There is one dry cleaning place downtown called **Craft Cleaners** (225 Nassau St; 924-3242). In the Princeton Shopping Center there's **Signature Cleaners** (301 N Harrison St; 921-8222). If you have a car, there are many more options, such as [Mayflower Cleaners](#) (55 State Rd; 924-5144).

## OGC Air-Conditioning Units

Facilities will be installing floor-standing air conditioning units in designated sleeping spaces in the Old Graduate College (OGC) beginning May 22, 2024. Please **follow the rules below** to appropriately use the air-conditioning units:

1. Floor-standing units will be installed in every designated sleeping space, and include a ventilation mechanism attached to the window with a Plexiglass plate.
2. There should not be any water pooling around the unit. If you notice pooling water, shut off the unit immediately and call Facilities Customer Service at 609.258.8000.
3. The air conditioning units are not intended to run uninterrupted, and must be shut off when the room is unoccupied. It should be run only when you are sleeping or working in the room. If you are leaving campus, make sure it is turned off.
4. Due to the electrical load that this AC unit requires, it cannot run at the same time as heavy-load electrical appliances, including curling irons, flatirons, clothing irons, or refrigerators. Refrigerators should be placed in common spaces as opposed to the designated sleeping areas to avoid tripping a breaker.
5. Residents **may not** remove the Plexiglass sheet from the window. If you want to open the window for airflow, please use the other half of the window, if your room has a double window. If the window is open, the AC unit **must be off**.

If you have any questions about the AC installation, please contact The Service Point at [thepoint@princeton.edu](mailto:thepoint@princeton.edu) or 609.258.8300. For questions about the AC unit operation, please contact the Facilities Customer Service Center at [service@princeton.edu](mailto:service@princeton.edu) or 609.258.8000.

## Fire Regulations and Health Regulations

Carefully read the information you receive about fire regulations at the start of the term. The University has very stringent regulations regarding fire safety. There are several inspections per year and you'll be fined a lot of money for violations. **Candles and incense are not permitted** (and that includes birthday candles—however, you can apply to the Fire Marshal for a pricey one-time event permit if you so desire).

We are also generally **not allowed heat-producing appliances** in our rooms (including space heaters, mug warmers, halogen standing lamps, halogen desk lamps, etc.). Appliances we do use must be pre-approved by the Fire Marshal. Due to health regulations governing dormitories, we are also **not allowed cooking appliances** in our rooms (such as rice cookers, microwaves, etc.). Certain models of coffee makers and kettles are allowed by the University. Approved kettles, for example, must satisfy both fire and health regulations. We are also allowed several models of food-related appliances that are not deemed “cookware”: coffeemakers, popcorn makers, etc. The precise list of authorized heat-producing appliances can be found on the Housing Department [website](#).

**Rooms in the Graduate College are subject to periodic unannounced checks to make sure that residents are in compliance.** Inspectors will knock, announce themselves, and then enter. They will walk around and do a visual inspection, but will not physically invade your privacy by digging through your desk drawers. They will leave you a note stating that they have performed an inspection, and explaining when you will receive a report of results. Violations will result in confiscation of the offending item, as well as a hefty fine. Note that you can also be cited for blocking the path to your emergency exits (main door or “e-door,” i.e. the alternative exit door some OGC rooms have); putting any kind of sign on your doors (including a sign that says “EXIT”—don't try it); using an “outlet splitter” instead of a proper power strip; or for having a room so messy it's a danger to your health.

**Carbon monoxide detectors** are installed in all OGC rooms. Do not move or unplug these without permission from the Fire Marshal. Housing is responsible for keeping these detectors and your smoke detectors in good working condition (i.e. testing them and regularly changing the batteries). You will be charged if your carbon monoxide detector is not in your room when you move out.

## Refrigerators/Freezers, Microwaves, MicroFridges

Each resident is allowed one small refrigerating appliance: i.e. you can have a stand-alone refrigerator or a stand-alone freezer, but not both. The capacity may not exceed **5.2 cubic feet**. Kegeators are not permitted.

**Regular microwaves are not allowed** in the Graduate College (due to the above). However, **MicroFridges** (which are a specific type of appliance that combines a refrigerator and microwave, and do not use too much electricity) are allowed according to the regulations of the [Housing Department](#).

## Fireplaces

Many OGC rooms have fireplaces. These fireplaces were sealed in 2004, as they were deemed **not safe** for use. The University has since chosen not to invest money in repairing and maintaining the private fireplaces in working order. However, the fireplaces in the OGC Common Room and the NGC Common Room are regularly maintained, and you will often find students toasting marshmallows by the fire on a cold winter's night. Firewood and starter are available for students to use in the Common Room. **Remember to turn the ventilation fan on** if you make a fire.

## Mobile phones

Mobile phone expenditure can be considerably reduced if you get a “Family Plan” (5 users) or “Mobile Share” (10 users) with friends you trust to pay their share of the bill. If you do not want a contract, prepaid plans are also available and for international students may be the only option until obtaining a social security number.

## Email

**E-mail** accounts are provided to all graduate students. Check [the knowledge base page for setting up email clients \(http://helpdesk.princeton.edu/kb/display.plx?ID=5088\)](#) for more assistance.

## Internet and Other

Three networks provide wireless service on campus: eduroam, ServiceNet, and puvisitor. Each service is intended for different users and devices. For general tech questions and issues, the Office of Information Technology (<https://oit.princeton.edu/>) is very helpful and responsive. Note that **violations of copyright via illegal file sharing are actively prosecuted**. The University considers copyright violation a serious offense. If you get an email from Rita Saltz, you're probably in hot water.

Eduroam is the primary means for faculty, students, and staff to wirelessly connect their computing and mobile devices to the network at Princeton. Eduroam is a secure roaming access service that provides encrypted wireless services across the campus, participating peer institutions, and 90 territories worldwide. For more information about configuring devices, see [https://princeton.service-now.com/service?id=kb\\_article&sys\\_id=KB0013151](https://princeton.service-now.com/service?id=kb_article&sys_id=KB0013151).

ServiceNet provides network access for devices that cannot log into the eduroam wireless network due to limited login options. Examples of devices include smart TVs, video streaming systems, and multi-user printers. Access to the ServiceNet wireless network requires a one-time registration. For more information, see here: [https://princeton.service-now.com/service?id=sc\\_category&sys\\_id=0c0591f14f9d270c18ddd48e5210c79c](https://princeton.service-now.com/service?id=sc_category&sys_id=0c0591f14f9d270c18ddd48e5210c79c).

PUVisitor is suitable for campus visitors who can choose short-term or longer-term access; the latter requires registration. To register, visitors need to provide a name, email address, and optional mobile phone number.

GC residents can print to laser printers in the computer clusters, one in each of the NGC and OGC, from their rooms; OIT's [website](#) explains how. Don't print more than you really need to, and try to print double-sided when you do. You have an annual printing limit and your usage is displayed when you print.

## Purchasing Computers, Software & Accessories

Princeton offers computers through the Student Computer Initiative (SCI) [website \(https://princeton.service-now.com/service?id=kb\\_article&sys\\_id=KB0010233\)](#). SCI offers students a select group of Dell and Apple laptops at competitive prices. If you buy an SCI computer, your computer will arrive configured for the campus network. This means that when you set up your new computer in your room, you can just plug in to the network and go. Note that the SCI program may not always be the cheapest or most customizable way to get a computer, but the easy start-up, substantial insurance plan that is included, and the option of purchasing directly from your stipend make it a good choice for many students.

You can buy software at an academic discount through the [online PSR web store](#). The [OIT Tech Depot](#) in Frist sells a variety of computer accessories, and will lend you an Ethernet cable for free, for the duration of your stay here at Princeton.

It may be possible to get access to several resources at no charge to be used for academic purposes at the University, such as Office 365 Pro Plus (<https://csguide.cs.princeton.edu/software/office365>) and Dropbox Business account (<https://csguide.cs.princeton.edu/software/dropbox>),

## Computer Crises

If your computer becomes suddenly ill, you have many [support](#) options, e.g.:

- call the Help Desk at 8-HELP (8-4357), 24 hours a day, seven days a week, email [helpdesk@princeton.edu](mailto:helpdesk@princeton.edu), or use online chat from the [OIT home page](#);
- take it to the [OIT Tech Clinic](#) in Frist. If it's a hardware problem, the Tech Clinic is your best bet. But you must stay with your computer while it's at the Clinic (generally around two hours), so bring something to read...

To help **avoid** computer-related crises:

- make sure you have the University's site-licensed (i.e. free while you're a student here) **antivirus** software installed and up to date, which you can [download](#);

- **back up your important files regularly**, such as on OneDrive provided by the university.

## Cable TV & Online Music

The OGC Projector Room and D-bar use the Comcast provider at the request of residents. The OGC Projector Room also has a Netflix subscription.

The [Princeton Public Library](#) may offer music streaming services if you register in person at the Library with your library membership card. You can also stream music from the University's [Mendel Music Library](#), which is definitely a hidden gem on campus.

## Parking

Parking at the GC and on campus is an important issue for car owners. Because campus security (known as the **Public Safety**) does collect revenues from errant students and their friends (at \$25 a ticket, it can add up rapidly), it is best to adhere to parking rules. To park at the GC, you will need a **parking permit**. For further information, call the **Parking and Transportation Office** (<http://www.princeton.edu/parking>) (x8-3157), or visit them in the New South Building. The easiest way to get a parking permit is at Fall Registration: bring your license plate number, make, and model. You can also obtain short-term passes for your visitors at New South.

Once you obtain the virtual permit, you will be able to park in the main parking lot behind the Old Graduate College, Lot 19, accessible via Springdale Road. Because the lot is large and somewhat isolated, locking doors is a good idea. For **short-term parking**, there are two lots at the GC. The first is by the Tower, and the second is behind the NGC (accessible via Springdale; turn left onto the drive marked for Wyman House and keep left); these are two-hour lots and are patrolled regularly by Public Safety. There is one space in the Tower lot marked Special Permit Only for the CPC and another for the Wecar, both of which are reserved 24/7. Unauthorized parking in the Special Permit Only is forbidden.

On-campus parking is prohibited, unless you are a holder of a special pass. You will be issued several one-use passes at the beginning of the year. In addition, your professor can grant you special passes when work requires that you park on-campus. You may direct **questions** about parking regulations to the **Parking and Transportation Office**. Please note that many of the trees in the lot off Springdale Road produce a large quantity of sap that can descend onto your hood and windshield, especially in the spring and summer. In the event of a storm or other natural disasters, fallen branches may damage your car.

## Public Safety

Aside from issuing parking tickets, **Public Safety** (x8-1000) can be called at any time for safety issues.

You can call Public Safety to transport a sick student to the University **infirmary** (**McCosh Health Center**) if needed. Public Safety will also open your room if you have locked yourself out, but they will swipe your TigerCard and charge your account \$30 every time you avail yourself of their service. Another option during business hours is to visit the Graduate Housing office at the New South building to borrow the key and return it the same day.

Registering your bicycle and laptop with Public Safety on arrival is also recommended.

## TigerCards (known as ID Cards, Prox Cards)

The Graduate College is equipped with a card security system. If you lose your ID card, replacements are available at the **TigerCard office** (<http://www.princeton.edu/tigercard/>) in New South for a fee.

## Smoking



The state of New Jersey has banned smoking in dormitories. This means that **you may not smoke in any part of the GC**, which is a dormitory. The smoking ban includes the D-bar. Furthermore, University policy prohibits smoking 20 feet from any area within a dorm; in particular, you may not smoke on balconies or under archways.

## Painting

Painting of the rooms is not allowed. The Housing Office policy regarding painting can be found here: <http://facilities.princeton.edu/services/painting-services>

## University Dining Services

Everybody in the Graduate College has to buy into the **meal plan**, and one of the best ways to meet your colleagues is over dinner in **Procter Hall**. Almost all graduate students choose the 105-meals-per-semester plan. Make sure that you stay on pace to use all of your meals by the end of the semester because you will not be refunded for unused meals. You can check the week's menus online at the **Dining Services website** (<http://www.princeton.edu/us/dining/>). Hours of operation at all University locations vary based on the academic calendar as well as events on campus. Please go to the Hours of Operation page for up-to-date information: <https://dining.princeton.edu/where-eat/graduate-college>

Our meal contract is also good in any of the undergraduate halls, including for lunch. The undergraduate dining hall closest to the GC is in **Forbes College** on Alexander Road.

There is also a **late meal option** on weekdays. If you have missed the regular meal time at the GC, you have a *small* cash credit at the Frist Campus Center. The late meal times (and credit available for each) are: 2pm-3:45pm (\$8) and 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (\$8). If you have extra meals, note that you can elect to use up to two meals at once (and get two credits' worth) during a late meal period if you have not eaten a meal during the immediately preceding meal period. If you have eaten a meal in the immediately preceding meal period, you can still use one meal in the next late meal period. Finally, **you may use up to 10 of your meals per semester for guests** so that you can share the Procter Hall experience with your friends and family.

The **Center for Jewish Life** (<http://www.princeton.edu/hillel/>) has its own dining hall on campus and you may use your meal plan there. While their primary purpose is to nourish the Jewish community with kosher food, they do sometimes offer dinners to which any graduate student can get in free; get on their **mailing list** (<http://www.princeton.edu/hillel/student-life/join-mailing-list/>) for details.

**Procter Hall is often closed over holidays and breaks.** Meals are, however, offered at one of the undergraduate dining halls for the weeklong breaks (fall recess, intersession, spring recess)—but you need to purchase a separate meal plan through Housing the week before the break; your regular plan will not be accepted. You can also charge meals during regular and break sessions to your student account.

Outside of the meal plan, you can **buy meals by charging** to your student account at **Frist Campus Center**, the **Woodrow Wilson Café**, the **Chancellor Green Café**, the **E-Quad Café**, or the **Genomics Café** (Icahn building); you will be billed monthly for these charges. The E-Quad and Genomics Cafés are run by Restaurant Associates, not Dining Services, so the food options are often different—and some say, better.

Also, very close to the GC is the **Princeton Theological Seminary** (PTS) cafeteria, in **Templeton Hall**. The food there isn't all-you-can-eat, but it is often of decent quality at a moderate price, and usually open even when Princeton's food service shuts down. To get there from the GC, walk along College Road, pass the parking garage, and turn left into the PTS driveway. Templeton Hall is on your left at the top of the driveway.

**Cooking** is not allowed in student rooms, but there are three “snack” kitchens in the GC for student use (OGC Entry 4 basement, OGC Entry 9 Basement, and one in the NGC Common Area). Each kitchen has at least one refrigerator, stove, and microwave. The OGC Entry 4 kitchen has an ice machine as well. The NGC kitchen is equipped with personal lockers (request a locker in person at Graduate Housing in The New South Building). There is also a small **vending café** in the OGC Entry 14 basement, which includes a vending machine, a microwave and a sink.

## Banking

Princeton is home to a number of wealthy people, and there is no shortage of banks. With a little shopping around, you will probably be able to find an account that meets your particular needs. Most banks are located on Nassau St. Look for student-oriented promotions in August and September. You should always check to see what fees might apply.

Most banks have free checking and no extra ATM charge on their machines if you keep a minimum balance, and some will waive charges if you have your stipend checks deposited directly into your account.

PUFCU has the lowest minimum balance in town, and the nicest people, some say. It even offers interest on the money in your checking and savings account. However, it does not do cash banking at its Frist kiosk location. You can access all available banking options at their on-campus location on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the New South Building.

Bank of America offers a great network of ATMs nationwide and a robust online banking website. It also offers a “**secured credit card**” which can help non-resident international students build up enough of a credit history to get a real credit card later on (since using a debit card will not help at all).

There are several ATMs from various banks at Frist. The ATM machine in the Wawa is a “free” one in that it will not add its own charges to your transaction, though your home bank might charge you for using an external ATM.

Princeton-issued checks can also be cashed depending on the bank. Inspect the check and take it to the appropriate bank; they usually ask to see your university ID. Money orders can also be purchased at the Post Office for a small fee, at CVS and perhaps at a few other places. Note that the **U-Store** (36 University Place) cashes checks for its members free of charge (you have to go to the office downstairs during business hours, 9am-5pm).

If you would like to make a start on some investments for the future, Princeton is home to the offices of a number of discount brokers, such as **Charles** and **Prudential Securities**. Finally, you might also want to look into the prospect of internet banking for other investment products.

## Working On and Off campus

Despite the fact that Princeton stipends are among the most generous in the country, graduate students can always use a little extra. Many students have found summer internships, tutoring positions in town, or employment on-campus during the school year at the Porter’s Lodge, as Community Associates, as [https://princeton.studentemployment.ngwebsolutions.com/Cmx\\_Content.aspx?cpId=6](https://princeton.studentemployment.ngwebsolutions.com/Cmx_Content.aspx?cpId=6), and more. Make sure you know the rules of the Graduate School, any scholarship or fellowship you hold, and especially your visa rules if you’re an international student, before taking a part-time job! The Graduate School has a [website \(http://gradschool.princeton.edu/policies/employment\)](http://gradschool.princeton.edu/policies/employment) of information regarding employment policies. Contact [lsecora@princeton.edu](mailto:lsecora@princeton.edu) with questions.

## McCosh Health Center

**McCosh Health Center**, located near Frist, offers both by-appointment and urgent care health services on the ground floor. Annual women’s and men’s health exams are also available. You can find out more about what is covered under the student health plan (and the optional dental and vision plans) from a representative on-site, or browse for health information in the Janet C. Morgan Wellness Health Library. Counseling and Psychological Services, offering consultations as well as individual and group therapy, is located on the third floor of McCosh. During the school year, if you are having issues and for some reason do not want to go back to the GC, you are allowed to stay the night at the infirmary (“boarding”). Call McCosh for more information (x8-3129). Summer hours and services may be limited, but the summer may also be an easier time to schedule an appointment while the undergraduates are away. Most appointments can be made online through MyUHS. When McCosh is closed, if you are having an emergency, don’t hesitate to seek treatment at a hospital. The closest is the **University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro** on Route 1.

## Shopping

Princeton is an island of wealth in a sea of affluence. As such, rents are higher and prices are quite higher around the shops on Nassau Street. There are very few student-oriented shops within walking distance of the GC. The stores along Nassau Street and Palmer Square tend to be geared towards wealthy townspeople, tourists, and finicky pets. Chains like J. Crew sometimes have good sales though, and the commission store is worth visiting from time to time. Mostly, the big, inexpensive chain stores are all out on Route 1. TigerTransit's Weekend Shopper shuttles students to the Nassau Park malls on Saturdays and Sundays. Please check their [website](https://transportation.princeton.edu/getting-around/tigertransit/routes-schedules) (<https://transportation.princeton.edu/getting-around/tigertransit/routes-schedules>) for current schedules. NJ Transit **Bus 605** runs from **Palmer Square** to **Market Fair** (a generally up-scale mall), **Nassau Park** (where you will find Target and Wal-Mart), **Mercer Mall**, and finally **Quaker Bridge Mall**, the largest shopping center in the area. Bus fee and schedule information can be found in the news kiosk at Palmer Square. The small **Princeton Shopping Center**, which hosts McCaffrey's Market, is on Harrison Street, north of Nassau; NJ Transit **Bus 606** will get you there. About 50 miles away in Pennsylvania is the **King of Prussia Mall**, the largest mall on the East coast.

If you have access to a car (see below for short-term rental programs), several outlet malls are reachable within a couple of hours. Better variety is found at Liberty Village, in Flemington, N.J. Franklin Mills Mall, outside of Philadelphia, is huge, but has only a few high-end stores (I-95 Exit 24, Woodhaven Rd.). The classiest outlets are the **Woodbury Common Premium Outlets** (NY State Thruway I-87 to Harriman, Exit 16), located just north of New Jersey.

If you like to browse small independent shops rather than shopping in malls, the cities of **New Hope, PA** and **Lambertville, NJ** make a great day trip. They are full of antique shops and sell a great variety of quirky, interesting, and artsy goods.

## Groceries

The closest place to buy food is the **Wawa**, a 24-hour convenience store located at 152 Alexander Street, right next to the Princeton train station. The Wawa has a small selection of fresh fruit and vegetables in addition to standard convenience store fare. It sells the cheapest milk and bread in the neighborhood. You can also find an ever-expanding selection of prepared foods from local restaurants (Olives, D'Angelo's Italian Market, and more) or at the **U-Store** (36 University Place), open 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m. when classes are in session. **Princeton's Farmer Market** now takes place every Thursday morning in Hinds Plaza on Witherspoon St.

A car, bus, or shuttle is recommended for getting to the area's large grocery stores. With the exception of the towpath, area roads are not well-designed for cyclists. **McCaffrey's** (301 Harrison Street) is located at the Princeton Shopping Center. In the opposite direction from the GC, there is **Wegmans** (240 Nassau Park Blvd), which offers a tremendous grocery shopping experience. Also on Route 1 there is a **Whole Foods Market** (3495 US Route 1 South), a chain supermarket which specializes in environmentally friendly products. The local **Trader Joe's** (3258 US Route 1 South) is perpetually popular.

For Asian groceries, the **Asian Food Markets** in Plainsboro is probably closest (660 Plainsboro Rd). Another option can be found a half-hour's drive away in Edison, **Kam Man Foods** (511 Old Post Road). These supermarkets offer meat, produce, seafood, and baked goods. Woo-Ri Mart (64 Princeton Hightstown Rd) at West Windsor is a good Korean option.

There are a few specialty food shops in town. **D'Angelo's Italian Market** offers genuine Italian food, as verified by Italian Princeton grad students; you can buy hot food at the counter and they have a grocery section as well. **Nassau Street Seafood** (256 Nassau St) has reasonably priced lunch combos and the best fish in the region, though at the highest prices. They also carry a small selection of quality produce. The best place to buy bulk spices is the local organic grocery store, **Whole Earth Center** (360 Nassau St). There is also **La Mexicana Grocery**, where you can find Mexican foods and goods (150 Witherspoon St).

## Liquor Stores

Several liquor stores are located within walking distance on Nassau and Witherspoon streets. They offer good selection (though not necessarily good value). **Public Wine Beer and Spirits** (23 Witherspoon Street) and **Princeton Wine and Liquor** (174 Nassau Street; 924-0279) have the best local selection of mid-range to expensive wines. **Varsity Liquors** (234 Nassau Street; 924-0836) carries less expensive stuff. They do not advertise this discount, but Princeton Wine and Liquor gives students 10% off when paying with cash (5% with credit). **Nassau Liquors** (264 Nassau Street; 924-0031) is also a popular choice. Many wine lovers recommend the **Princeton Corkscrew Wine Shop** for its selection and recommendations (49 Hulfish St; Palmer Square West; 430-1200).

Hard liquor and champagne can be horribly overpriced in town. A short drive can save you up to \$15/bottle. A lot of students go to **Joe Canal's** (Mercer Mall shopping center; 520-0008) for good prices and selection. Both **Shop-Rite Liquors** and **Kendall Park Liquors** have large selections and good prices. Shop-Rite is located on Quaker Bridge Road about 10 minutes south of Quaker Bridge Mall. Kendall Park Liquors is in a strip mall 6 miles east of Princeton on Highway 27 (Nassau Street). **Trader Joe's** and **Wegman's** both have a good beer and wine selection.

The **House Committee recommends that you drink responsibly**. Don't get into any bad habits! Grad school isn't *that* bad.

## Dorm Furnishings

The closest place to buy basic dorm furnishings is the **U-Store** (36 University Place). You can also check out the **TigerTrade** (<http://ttrade.tigerapps.org/>) online or the GSG slack channel to buy used items from other students. Many students go to **Target** in the Nassau Park area off Route 1. **Ikea** also offers inexpensive furniture that is easy to assemble and take apart (1000 Ikea Drive, Elizabeth). They also offer delivery for a fee; it's cheapest if several students pool together their orders or use the rental truck from U-Haul.

Before you buy **appliances**, make sure you have reviewed the refrigerator rules and the fire safety rules in the preceding sections, so you do not buy anything prohibited (e.g., halogen lamps, heaters, or microwaves). List of approved items can be found [here](#).

## Books

**Course books** are sold at **Labyrinth Books** (122 Nassau Street). The **Theological Book Agency** (609-497-7735) of Princeton Theological Seminary, located right off of College Road, specializes in religion and philosophy. There is also a large community book sale each spring at PTS—a humanities bibliophile's dream. Of course many people also purchase books online at **Amazon**, **AbeBooks**, or **Alibris**. **Bigwords** is a useful site that compares prices from a number of online stores.

For **nonacademic books**, **Princeton Public Library** is housed in a beautiful building on Witherspoon Street. You can get a library card for free with proof of enrollment as a Princeton University student. There are used books for sale on the ground floor. **Barnes & Noble** (Market Fair, 3535 US Route 1) offers a large-chain bookstore experience with cafe seating just off Route 1.

## Electronics

As mentioned earlier under "Purchasing Computers", the **OIT Tech Depot** (<http://helpdesk.princeton.edu/kb/display.plx?ID=9454>) in Frist sells some computer accessories, and the **OIT PSR website** (<http://www.princeton.edu/software/software-store/>) sells software at an academic discount. You can also find some electronics for sale at the **U-Store** (36 University Place). Farther afield, the largest electronics retailer along Rt. 1 is. Many graduate students utilize the online electronics retailers **Newegg** and **TigerDirect**. And, as always, **Amazon** is probably the most popular choice.

## Bicycles

A bicycle will certainly speed your trip from the GC to campus and back. In the Downtown area, you will find **Jay's Cycles** near the E-Quad (249 Nassau St) and **Kopp's Cycle Shop** near Firestone (38 Spring St). **Target** and **Wal-Mart** also sell bicycles off Route 1. Buy a lock for your bike, and front and rear lights if you plan on riding at night. A helmet is always recommended—graduate students do get into accidents. And finally, do not forget to **register** your new bike with **Transportation and Parking** (<https://publicsafety.princeton.edu/services/registering-bikes>)! If you are planning to get an electric bike, consider purchasing from [Princeton eBikes](#) as all profits go to the [Boys & Girls Club of Mercer County/Trenton](#). The Boys & Girls club is a volunteer-led enterprise that repairs donated bikes and sells them at modest prices to raise funds for the Boys & Girls Clubs.

There are several bike racks scattered around the GC for your use. Please do not leave your bikes in other areas, such as archways or covered walkways around the GC.

As for those not wanting to buy a bike, Princeton University has a rental program available for the academic semester or year at a friendly fee. Further details can be found here: <https://transportation.princeton.edu/getting-around/bikes-scooters/bike-rentals-bikeshare>. Zagster is no longer in operation on campus, and the University is seeking new solutions for bikeshare

## Pharmacies

In town, there's **CVS Pharmacy** (172 Nassau St.), and **Sante Integrative Pharmacy** (200 Nassau St.). At the Princeton Shopping Center, you will find **Walgreens** (301 N Harrison St; 924-6125).

## Salons and Barbershops

In town, your barber shop options include **Mike's Barber Shop** (16 ½ Witherspoon St), **Princeton Barber Shop** (8 S Tulane St.), **Continental Barber Shop** (38 Witherspoon St), and **Nassau Barbers** (20 Nassau St.). Salons include **La Jolie** (163 Bayard Ln.), **Cosmo Bleu** (170 Nassau St), **Studio Copacabana** (18 S Tulane St.), **Godfrey Fitzgerald Salon** (15 Witherspoon St.), **Casa Aziz** (4 Hulfish St.), **Copper River** (51 N Tulane St.), Maria's Hair Salon (42 Leigh Ave.), **Theo's of Princeton Salon** (236 Nassau St.), and **one60** (160 Witherspoon St.). Although there are a lot of options for hair care in downtown Princeton, hair cuts are generally pretty expensive. Ask if they offer discounts for Princeton students. You can easily knock \$10-\$20 off the price of your haircut by going to **Great Clips**. If you are shopping for Asian groceries in Plainsboro, you can try **Silk Cut II** next door (600 Plainsboro Rd).

## Miscellaneous

The real stationer downtown is **Hinkson's** (28 Spring Street; 924-0112). You can also find a decent selection of school supplies at the **U-Store** (36 University Place). The **Paper Source** (82 Nassau Street; 921-0932) has a wide variety of gift cards and trinkets.

**Princeton Record Exchange** has an excellent selection of records and CDs. It is a real gem; people will come from far and wide to paw through the bins (20 Tulane St)

If you are in the market for a camera or a passport, the staff at **New York Camera** gives good advice, and their prices are comparable to prices on line—plus they can often get your camera for you by the next day after you order (173 Nassau St).

## GC Facilities

The Graduate College (GC) has 362 rooms and houses approximately 430 students. The GC has wireless internet. The GC also has a wide array of common spaces. Please refer to GCHC website regarding GC facilities: <https://gchc.princeton.edu/>

In general, all the spaces described below are open at all times of day to all residents, with the exception of the D-bar, which is restricted to members and the guests of members (all of whom must be over the age of 21). Please remember that residents may be trying to sleep or study in the building near you, however, so keep noise levels down from 10:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

If you are interested in holding an event in the NGC common room or holding an event in the Coffee House, please contact Amber Serrano at [as2250@princeton.edu](mailto:as2250@princeton.edu). Graduate students can apply for funding in support of events at the Graduate College. These events should take place in one of the public spaces of the GC: Dbar, screening rooms, common rooms, coffee house, outdoors. Events must be open to all graduate students, and we require that a promotion email be sent via the GC and Annex listservs. The maximum amount granted is \$500 per event. We encourage submission of applications two weeks in advance of the proposed date. An application consists of a description of the event and an itemized budget including other sources of funding. Please note that we are unable to support purchases of alcohol. For more information, please contact [gchouse@princeton.edu](mailto:gchouse@princeton.edu).

### Old GC: above ground

#### Common Room and Reading Room

Located between Procter Hall and the Porter's Lodge are the Reading Room and OGC Common Room. The small section closest to the Porter's Lodge is the **Reading Room**. The House subscribes to several newspapers.

The **OGC Common Room** is used for study groups, board games, and the popular weekly Social Hour on Fridays after dinner. The Coats of Arms decorating the windows were designed by Charles J. Connick and represent the coats of arms of Lord John Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, the royal proprietors of the Colony of New Jersey; Sir Edmund Andros, who served in the colonial period as governor of New Jersey, as well as New York, New England, and Virginia; William Livingstone, first governor of the state; the royal colonies of East Jersey and West Jersey; and, finally, the arms of the State of New Jersey.

#### Coffee House

The GC Coffee House is an ideal place to study in a casual atmosphere. The Coffee House is located on the first floor of the 11th and 12th entryways of the OGC, typically open Mon-Thurs (7-10pm) and Sun (2-5pm and 7-10pm) during the academic year. It's subsidized by GC House dues, so the food and drinks are free! Available are a wide variety of freshly-brewed coffees (including espresso drinks and cappuccino), hot chocolate, and teas (including loose teas). This is a popular spot for group study and quiet conversation, as well as weekend game nights.

#### Van Dyke Library

The Van Dyke Library is located on the first floor, to the right of Entry 5 (note that there is a restroom immediately adjacent to the library entrance). Newly redecorated, it provides a warm, comfortable environment and is designated for silent study. Please note that Van Dyke Library is occasionally used by the University, so it may not always be available. Squirrels love to join you in the library, snacking on the furniture while they're at it, so please close the windows if you're the last one out.

### Old GC: the depths below

Beneath the main courtyard of the Old Graduate College is a basement. The basement is accessible from Entryways 1 through 15 (what would have been Entry 13 is known as Pyne Tower). **Basement rooms are numbered for the entryways beneath which they are located.**

## Laundry Room

The OGC Laundry Room is located beneath the Porter's Lodge, next to the Projector Room.

## Projector Room

The Projector Room is equipped with a large projector screen, cable, a Blu-ray player, and a surround sound audio system. The Projector Room is subscribed to a deluxe cable TV package that includes more channels than the standard TigerTV assortment. If you would like to watch a movie or a particular program, you may sign up in advance on the reservations board. **Please do not touch the cables**; it makes it difficult for the next person to use the system. Email [gcfix@princeton.edu](mailto:gcfix@princeton.edu) if there are any problems.

## The Debasement Bar

The Debasement Bar (D-bar) is a private club managed by the House Committee. It serves resident and non-resident members of the Graduate College House who are over 21 years of age. Its facilities are divided into two parts: the D-bar proper (where the bar is), and the Social Lounge, the large room with couches, booths, a pool table, a dartboard, foosball tables, and a high-definition TV. The D-bar features music, dim lighting and a wide variety of cheap beer and cocktails—it's a good place to meet neighbors and colleagues. The 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month is Karaoke Night, and Pub Quiz is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Most weekends the D-bar features student DJs or bands, and hosts 1-2 large parties per semester. The D-bar is usually open nightly from 10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m., with limited summer hours, and the D-bar is closed for Reunions. Beer and liquor prices are the lowest you'll find anywhere, since the bar is run by students and operates as a non-profit private club.

State of New Jersey regulations cause us to **restrict access** to the D-bar to members of the House of the Graduate College (identified by a current GC membership sticker) and their guests. If you live in the GC or dues-paying Annexes and are at least 21 years of age, then you are automatically a member. Graduate students who live elsewhere may join by paying a small membership fee, being approved by the Graduate School, passing through a legally-mandated 72-hour waiting period, and finally claiming their membership stickers during daytime business hours at the Porter's Lodge, or at the D-bar. Note that when a member leaves, all guests must leave with the member; and no person may be signed in as a guest more than once per night. For issues concerning membership stickers, email [gchouse@princeton.edu](mailto:gchouse@princeton.edu).

Smoking is not allowed in the D-bar. The bar staff collect any items left in the D-bar and leave it in a secure area overnight. If you leave something behind at the bar, you can retrieve it the following day during bar hours. For more information about the D-bar, see its [website \(http://gchc.princeton.edu/dbar\)](http://gchc.princeton.edu/dbar).

## Pool, Ping-Pong, and Vending Cafe area

Between the D-bar and the Projector Room are a vestibule, with tables for pool and foosball, and a vending café, where you can find a sink, microwave, and ping-pong table. Note that pool (billiards) and ping-pong equipment can be checked out of the Porter's Lodge or D-bar with your University ID.

Additional vending machines are located under OGC Entry 1.

## OGC Computer Cluster

The computer room near entry 9 is home to **PCs, Macs, a photocopier, a scanner, and a laser printer**. This room is air-conditioned for the sake of the hardware. Problems with the computers and printer should be directed to [clusters@princeton.edu](mailto:clusters@princeton.edu). Note that the photocopier costs 5 cents a copy, and accepts **dimes and nickels only**. Complaints about the photocopier should be directed to the Regular Facilities Officers at [gcfix@princeton.edu](mailto:gcfix@princeton.edu). The **code** to enter the Computer Room is 1-3-5-2.

## OGC Kitchens

The smaller OGC kitchen is under Entry 9, immediately next to the computer room. The larger OGC kitchen is under Entry 4. Both kitchens contain a refrigerator-freezer, cupboard space, a microwave oven, and a conventional range. An **ice machine** is housed in the large kitchen. The kitchens are maintained by Building Services and the Housing Department. Kitchen rules and regulations are posted in both rooms.

Please be considerate: **clean up after yourself**. If the kitchens get too unsanitary, they will be shut down by Housing. Pots and pans left out for more than a day may be thrown out. Leave the counters clear and clean, and empty the drain-catcher if you have left stuff in it—yes, even if “some of the stuff was already there when you got there”! All food left in the fridges must be labeled with your name and the date. The fridges will be cleaned periodically and old food will be thrown out. Also cook carefully, so as not to set the kitchen on fire! **Do not leave the stove unattended when cooking**.

If there is a problem with the kitchens, call x8-8000 to report it (except for problems with the GC House ice machine, for which you should email [gcfix@princeton.edu](mailto:gcfix@princeton.edu)).

## New GC

Most of the New GC facilities are located in the pair of twin buildings in the heart of the NGC.

### The NGC Common Room and Book Exchange

The **NGC Common Room** is a smaller and more casual version of the room in the Old Graduate College, complete with couches. The **Book Exchange** is located on the shelves in the Common Room. You can take any books you like, as long as you donate the same number of books in exchange.

### NGC TV Room

The New GC has its own **TV Room** for those who don't want to walk over to the OGC Projector Room; it's across the stone walkway from the NGC Common Room. There are Blu-ray and VCR players for residents' use. The TV Room houses half of the House's videocassette collection; the other half is housed in the Music Room.

### Music Room

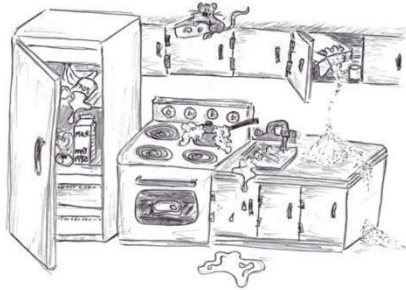
Located next to the TV Room, the **Music Room** contains an old piano, several chairs and several music stands. The door code is 9734. Please **don't share the codes** with people who are not GC residents. The music room is available on a first-come, first-serve basis if unoccupied, or it can be reserved for a specific practice time (see “Music Room Calendar” tab on the [GCHC website](#)).

For those who use the music room located in the New Graduate College, these are the expectations of you as you use this space. First, this space is meant to be utilized by Graduate College residents only. Also, given that the music room is situated in a residential area, only instruments without amplifiers may be used out of respect for our residents. Courtesy hours are subject to change and will be posted on the door of the Music Room. Graduate College residents being able to live and study at the GC without noise disturbance will always take priority over an extra-curricular activity such as the music room. So we reserve the right to request individuals to stop utilizing the space should it pose a problem with residents/should we receive complaints about the noise level. Please note that noise from instruments such as drums carry **even with the windows closed**. All residents who utilize the music room are expected to adhere to these set hours and parameters so that other residents are not disturbed. Please see the “Music Room Calendar” portion of the GCHC website for more information.



## NGC Kitchen

It contains a stove, three sinks, two refrigerator/freezers, and several microwaves. As it can get quite crowded in the kitchen, we suggest you utilize the Prep Room when preparing your food to be cooked. Keys to the **individual storage lockers** can be obtained from the Housing Department in the New South Building on a first-come, first-served basis.



*Can you spot the problems with this picture? Here are a couple of hints...*

- 1) no food directly on the grill (applies to ovens and microwaves),*
- 2) throw garbage in the trash, not the sink, otherwise the sink will overflow,*
- 3) wipe the counters and stove down...especially when you spill,*
- 4) date and label all food, and throw it out once it is expired.*

## NGC Laundry Room

NGC laundry facilities are in the basement of Entry 34. Do not forget to bring your ID card to get in the door.

## NGC Computer Cluster

There are PCs, Macs, a printer and a scanner. This room is also in the basement of Entry 34, down the hall from the NGC Laundry Room. The access code is 1-3-5-2 (same as for the OGC Computer Cluster).

## Extracurricular life

Student and campus organizations are a great way to meet new people and have fun. Social Activities Officers (SAOs), Special Events Officers, Community Associates sponsor parties and events. The SAOs run **Social Hours**, offering free cocktails every Friday evening during the academic year from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the OGC Common Room (and occasionally during the summer). Social Hour is a great way to kick off the weekend and mingle with other grad students. Naturally, there are always crowds at the **Dbar** (<http://gchc.princeton.edu/dbar/>), which is open most nights (see their website for a detailed calendar of events and opening hours), and **the Coffee House**, offering coffee, tea and dessert (see the chalkboard at the Coffee House for a regularly updated schedule of service hours). Periodically there are large-scale parties held in Procter Hall and the OGC Common Room, most notably the **Fall Ball** in the fall semester and **Graduate Formal** in the spring semester, which have featured great music by various local DJs, a photographer, and complimentary refreshments and cocktails.

On campus, the **Frist Campus Center** includes a spacious food court. For those looking for a quieter atmosphere than Frist, there is always the basement of **Murray-Dodge Cafe**, where you can find a wide variety of herbal teas and cookies until midnight. Refreshments are free, but they do have a cup for donations, and you have to wash your own mug when you are done. Hours are 12:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Meanwhile, the undergraduates lurk on “the Street” (officially known as **Prospect Ave.**) Thursday and Saturday nights; sometimes you can get in to their parties, sometimes the parties are closed.

## Movies

The only movie theater within walking distance is the **Princeton Garden Theater** (160 Nassau Street; 683-7595). The Garden specializes in good films: independent (“indie”) films, dramas, and non-Hollywood films are the staple, with an occasional quality big-Hollywood release thrown in for flavor. **Free movie screenings** sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government at the Garden Theater Thursday-Saturday during the academic semester. **Montgomery Cinemas** (1325 US Highway 206), a 10-minute drive up route 206, features the same genre, only with more screens.

Within a 10-15 minute car ride your choices for mainstream cinema improve dramatically. For a truly huge multiplex experience complete with IMAX, the **AMC Hamilton 24** (325 Sloan Avenue) features stadium seating in 24 auditoriums. **Market Fair** (520-8700) on Route 1 (also accessible via Canal Pointe Road) is also popular and the closest. All local cinemas offer discounted matinee prices.

A very nice selection of DVDs can also be rented at the **Princeton Public Library** downtown on Witherspoon Street for a small fee, once you sign up for a (free) library card: just beware of overdue fines.

## Events

Every week there are countless lectures, arts and cultural events, conferences, etc. at Princeton. If you are curious about what is happening there are several ways of keeping up. The **Public Events Calendar** has almost all *official* university events, and most of the academic lectures. You can also pick up the **Princeton University Bulletin** (<http://www.princeton.edu/communications/services/bulletin/>), available at several places around campus. This has almost the same information as the Events Calendar, plus some articles about Princeton goings-on. The **Daily Princetonian** is the campus’s newspaper of news, sports, and opinion. They also run ads for campus events. They do not deliver to the GC, but copies are available around campus. Useful information about the news and events in town can be found at **Planet Princeton**.

The University provides all graduate students with **Passport to the Arts** tickets, which you can use to attend the world-class productions at **McCarter Theater**, or the student productions on campus free of charge. Please be sure to read the fine print in the front of the Passport booklet for instructions on how and when you can use your free tickets.

There are several **listservs** that provide event information:

- **gc-res** and **gc-nonres**
- **dbar-events**: must be 21 years of age or older to subscribe

## Recreation

Indoors, there are pool, ping-pong, and air hockey tables in the OGC basement, and foosball and pool tables in the D-bar. Equipment for these games is also available in the Porter's Lodge or D-bar. Board games, croquet, and poker chips can be signed out from the Porter's Lodge, too. The GC Tennis Courts are located just across College Road from the New GC. Volleyball and basketball courts are located south of the OGC. The GC south lawn is often used for cricket and soccer.

**Dillon Gym** is the heart of most campus athletics, and questions about the numerous programs offered by Dillon, from horseback riding through ice skating, should be directed to Athletics Department staff. Stressed? You can also pay for massages onsite. Information is [online \(http://www.princeton.edu/campusrec/dillon-gym/\)](http://www.princeton.edu/campusrec/dillon-gym/).

If you ever feel the urge to escape the confines of the campus, the university Outdoor Action program (<https://outdooraction.princeton.edu/7>) runs a variety of outdoor activities and trips, such as hiking, climbing (there is even a climbing wall on campus), skiing, and kayaking. There is also the Rockville Climbing Center (200 Whitehead Rd., Hamilton NJ; 631-ROCK). **Carnegie Lake Rowing Association** is a community rowing club based out of the Princeton boat house, which has a program for novices starting every September. If you want to be on the water at a more relaxed pace, try an outing on the lake with a rented kayak from **Princeton Canoe & Kayak**.

There are also several **parks** in the Princeton area which are good for walks and picnics, most notably the **Mountain Lakes Nature Preserve** on Route 206. However, if you've never hiked around in the U.S. before, you should educate yourself a little first. Try to avoid **poison ivy**, which can cause a very uncomfortable allergic reaction, and deer ticks, which can harbor **Lyme disease**. Sunscreen and insect repellent are also recommended.

Golf can be played at the venerable [Springdale Golf Course](#) next door for a relatively hefty fee, though substantially subsidized.

## Graduate Student Organizations

There are a number of graduate student organizations on campus, as well as several undergraduate organizations with active graduate student participants. The reader should note that the Graduate School maintains an up-to-date directory of student organizations at <http://gradschool.princeton.edu/life-princeton/our-community/studentorg>.

### Residential Committees

There are House Committee equivalents for the residential apartment complexes. [Lawrence Committee](#) serves the Lawrence Apartments ([lawraps@princeton.edu](mailto:lawraps@princeton.edu)). [Lakeside Apartments Committee](#) serves the Lakeside residents ([lakesidecomm@princeton.edu](mailto:lakesidecomm@princeton.edu)).

### Student Government

The **Graduate Student Government (GSG)** is the information and advocacy body that represents the interests of graduate students to the administration. The GSG Assembly meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings of the Assembly are open to all graduate students to attend and participate, and a small dinner is usually provided. Particular members of the administration and the graduate school are often invited to attend these meetings so they provide a valuable forum for a free and open discussion about matters that affect graduate students.

The GSG Assembly is (formally) comprised of one voting delegate from each academic department in the University. Elections for departmental representatives are conducted on a department-by-department basis, and usually take place early in the fall of each year. There are occasionally vacancies for representatives from some departments. If your department's position is vacant and you would like to become a GSG representative, feel free to contact the GSG ([gsg@princeton.edu](mailto:gsg@princeton.edu)). The GSG also elects representatives to the Council of the Princeton University Community (CPUC) and the University's various committees, including the Priorities and Governance Committees.

The GSG Events Board has a significant pool of funds which it distributes to clubs and groups that organize events for graduate students. Reach out to the GSG Events if you wish to apply for funding. In addition, the GSG organizes several social events each year. These include the annual Wine and Cheese Social in the fall, the annual End of Semester Party and various events over the summer.

The GSG website contains a lot of information about issues that you might encounter during your time at Princeton. These include an extensive FAQ regarding the Student Health Plan, information about funding for travel grants, the campus shuttle and so on. If you have any questions or concerns or suggestions about any issue facing graduate students, feel free to contact the GSG ([gsg@princeton.edu](mailto:gsg@princeton.edu)).

## Other Campus Organizations

### Alumni Associations

The [Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni](#) (APGA) fosters intellectual, professional and social networks among graduate alumni and current graduate students. APGA events throughout the year give current graduate students a chance to meet graduate alumni. Questions? Suggestions for programs? Contact the APGA ([apga@princeton.edu](mailto:apga@princeton.edu)).

Several useful email listservs can be found on [TigerNet](#), where the Princeton University Alumni Association provides online services, including listservs dealing with real estate (including tri-state area sublets) and travel.

### International Center

The [Davis International Center](https://davisic.princeton.edu/) (<https://davisic.princeton.edu/>) answers to special needs of Princeton's foreign students (including visa issues) and visiting scholars, and provides a platform and focal point for intercultural exchanges and international understanding. The center's more than 200 community and campus volunteers serve as host families, English language partners and community resource people. Students and organizations work with the center's staff to organize a variety of social, cultural, educational and service programs in order to foster a larger and international community and to enhance Princetonians' cosmopolitan outlook. For more information, stop by the first floor at 20 Washington Road, call 609-258-5006, or check the website.

### Women's Center

The Princeton University [Women\\*s Center](#) is at 243 Frist Campus Center. Its mission is to provide space (conceptual and real) for all women; increase awareness of issues affecting women on campus, in the academy, and in global society; advocate to create and maintain a campus climate which enhances the quality of life of women; and to facilitate connections between individual community members. Princeton students are welcome to use the extensive library, lounge, and conference room for gatherings, meetings, or quiet study. Contact [women@princeton.edu](mailto:women@princeton.edu) or call 609-258-5565.

### LGBT Center

Located at 246 Frist Campus Center, Princeton University's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender ([LGBT](#)) Center (<https://odi.princeton.edu/centers/lgbt>) is by, for, and about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and asexual members of the Princeton University community. The LGBT Center works to create a safe and supportive academic environment through educational opportunities and advocating for the needs and concerns of LGBT students. Its goal is to enhance the Princeton University campus community and to ensure the advancement of Princeton students' academic pursuits by creating an open and affirming environment void of homophobia, heterosexism, and gender bias. Contact [lgbt@princeton.edu](mailto:lgbt@princeton.edu) or call 609-258-1353.

### Sexual Harassment/Assault Advising, Resources and Education (SHARE)

[The Sexual Harassment/Assault Advising, Resources and Education \(SHARE\) office](#) is a victim-centered, confidential resource on campus for the Princeton University community. SHARE provides crisis response, support, advocacy, education, and referral services to those who are dealing with incidents of interpersonal violence and abuse including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking.

## Food & Drink

For those of you who don't live by books and lectures alone, there are many off-campus dining options in the immediate Princeton area which range from take-out sandwich and pizza joints to posh restaurants best saved for when an out-of-town guest is treating you. The turn-over rates for restaurants in this area is somewhat high, so some of these restaurants may morph into newer, and hopefully better ones. Most of the restaurants listed here are either in the vicinity of Nassau Street or on Route 1, though a few restaurants are tucked away in nearby towns. **BYOB** means you can bring your own alcoholic beverage with you to drink with your meal.

Please note that as with any review, the opinions expressed below are based on personal experiences. For additional foodie advice, try other food review websites (such as [Yelp](#) and Google Reviews).

### Bakeries

[Chez Alice](#). Gourmet take-out. Also offers coffee and dessert. (5 Palmer Square West).

[The Little Chef](#). Heavenly desserts, and even more heavenly croissant; a great place to get a birthday cake for someone you really like. (8 S. Tulane St.).

[Panera Bread](#). See Chain Restaurants.

[Small World Coffee](#). See Coffee.

[Terra Momo Bread Company](#). The Witherspoon Bread Company produces a wide array of fresh-baked breads and pastries. (74 Witherspoon).

[LiLLiPiES Bakery](#). Some people say it is the best bakery in Princeton. (301 N Harrison St.)

[Bread Boutique](#). Croissant and focaccia options. (41 Witherspoon St.)

[Delizioso Bakery+Kitchen](#). Great options for pastries and sandwiches. (205 Witherspoon St.)

### Coffee

**GC Coffee House**. The Coffee House is located between entryways 11 and 12 of the OGC. It's a popular place for studying during the week and for playing games over the weekend. It's subsidized by the House Committee, so prices are low and free small chocolates are plentiful. There is a chalkboard at the Coffee House with a regularly updated schedule of service hours.

[The Little Chef](#). European-style coffee with excellent pastries. (8 S. Tulane St.).

[Rojo's Roastery](#). Artisan coffee roaster right next to the famous Bent Spoon ice cream shop. One of the newest residents of the Palmer Square commercial community. (33 Palmer Square W.)

[Small World Coffee](#). A very popular hangout for grad students, Small World can get quite crowded with folks nibbling on cakes and muffins. (14 Witherspoon St.). Free wifi available.

**Starbucks**. It's Starbucks (100 Nassau Street).

[Sakrid Coffee Roasters](#). Coffee with great vibe and decor. (20 Nassau St.)

[Ellinikon Agora & Coffee Delicatessen](#). Greek restaurant with coffee options. (200 Nassau St.)

### Diners

[Americana Diner](#). A deluxe diner for diner fans. Classy food presentation, plus retro decor. (359 Rt 130, East Windsor; 448-4477)

[Mastori's](#). Located in Bordentown (144 Rte 130), this upscale diner serves fantastic sweet bread with every meal.

[Omega Diner](#). Far away, but a great option. Huge portions, reasonable prices and good cooking. (1337 Rt 1, North Brunswick)

[Princetonian Diner](#). Located on Route 1 south of Princeton, near Meadow Rd. It's relatively close to campus; prices are ok, food is OK. (3509 Rt 1)

[PJ's Pancake House](#). See miscellaneous.

## Ice Cream, Frozen Yogurt, & Dessert

The concentration of dessert places in Princeton itself and the surrounding area is quite astounding, so your sweet tooth will be in for quite a treat:

**Baskin-Robbins.** Several area locations house this national chain with its beloved mint chocolate chip ice cream.

**Bent Spoon.** Some say this is the best ice cream in town. It offers “artisan ice cream” and has a bakery. Everything is very yummy, if pricey. You can taste before you buy. (35 Palmer Square)

**Fruity Yogurt.** This is a branch of a local New Jersey chain. They have fruit-flavoured frozen yogurts to which toppings can be added. They also have bubble tea. (166 Nassau Street; 924-5335)

**Halo Pub & Halo Fête.** Others say that Halo Pub is the best ice cream in Princeton. Good hot drinks too. Halo Farms, where the pub gets its supply, is located within driving distance, and pints are extremely cheap. Open till 11pm every night. Next door is the French-inspired pastry shop, Halo Fête, which specializes in desserts that incorporate the Halo ice cream in some way. (9 Hulfish Street)

**House Of Cupcakes.** There is a large variety of cupcakes on offer here. (30 Witherspoon St.)

**The Little Chef.** In the summertime the Little Chef sometimes makes his own sorbet. Highly recommended. (8 S. Tulane St.; 924-5335)

**Thomas Sweets.** Great ice cream and chocolates. Offers “blend-ins” of up to three toppings. It has two locations; the Nassau street location is ice-cream only and makes it well-positioned for a post-lunch ice cream run. The Palmer street is chocolates only and is great for a birthday gift (29 Palmer Square and 183 Nassau Street).

**Kilwins.** Old-fashioned confectionery chain selling chocolates, ice cream, handmade sweets & gift baskets. (16 Witherspoon St.)

## Sandwiches & Salads

**Chuck’s Spring Street Cafe.** Hidden away off Witherspoon, a block off of Nassau Street. The best buffalo wings in Princeton. Many fried foods. (16 Spring St.)

**Hoagie Haven.** Good take-out sandwiches for great prices. \$8 can last you lunch and dinner since the sandwiches are huge. A very popular spot. Service is fast. (242 Nassau St.)

**Tico’s Eatery and Juice Bar.** Tucked away off Witherspoon, this little cafe has a nice selection of salads, soups, and sandwiches, as well as smoothies and juices. It is reasonably priced and brightly lit. (33 Witherspoon St.)

**Nassau Street Seafood.** It’s mainly a fish market, but they serve a really fantastic crabcake sandwich. (256 Nassau St.)

**Olives.** This Mediterranean catering outfit does a speedy take-out business with some of the best lunch food you can get in Princeton. Their legendary hummus is the best in the area. Student discount (no tax for students). (22 Witherspoon St.)

**Terra Momo Bread Company.** Good mozzarella-tomato-basil sandwiches, and prosciutto sandwiches. Grab a bite and find a seat outside in the sun, or head back to campus. (74 Witherspoon St.)

**Delizioso Bakery+Kitchen.** Great options for pastries and sandwiches. (205 Witherspoon St.)

**Say Cheez.** Offers custom-made grilled cheese sandwiches and homemade soups. (183 Nassau St.)

**Ficus.** Great sandwiches and bubble tea options. (235 Nassau St.)

## Pizza

**Alfonso’s Pizzeria & Restaurant.** Excellent Pizza, pasta and salads. A bit of a hike up Route 206, but it’s worth it. (Princeton North Shopping Center, Rt 206).

**Conte’s.** Beer and pizza, 15-minute walk north on Witherspoon. Very popular as a traditional “Princeton” place. Often gets crowded around 6-7pm (339 Witherspoon St.)

**Nomad Pizza.** One of the best pizzas in town. A bit far away, and a bit pricey, but worth it for special occasions. (301 N Harrison St, Princeton.)

**Papa John's.** A good choice for inexpensive pizza delivered to you. Ask about specials. Student discount available. (175 Washington Rd.)

**Pizza Star.** Your pizza option at the Princeton Shopping Center. (310 North Harrison St.)

**Pizza Den.** One of the closest options to the campus. It is affordable. (242 Nassau St.)

**Valentino's Pizzeria.** The closest pizza to Plasma Physics, and an E-Quad delivery favorite. (110-A Rockingham Row, Forrestal Village)

Jules Thin Crust Princeton. Organic thin-crust pizza pies and salads. (18 Witherspoon St.)

Proof. One of the best pizzas in town. (84 Nassau St.)

## Italian Fusion

**D'Angelo's Italian Market.** Serves hot Italian food at the counter and has both inside and outside seating area. You can also get Italian-themed groceries here. (35 Spring Street)

Eno Terra. Located in Kingston. Same owners as Teresa Café, and just as good (4484 Rt. 27, Kingston)

Fedora. Located on Main St. in Lawrenceville, Fedora is a pastry shop, a coffee shop, and a restaurant. Huge dinner salads. Interesting décor and cozy atmosphere. About a 15-20 minute drive down Rt. 206. (2633 Main St., Lawrenceville)

**J.B. Winberie's.** Right off Palmer Square, Winberie's has sandwiches, burgers, and pasta in a pleasant pub-like atmosphere. Offers a tempting Sunday brunch spread. (1 Palmer Square)

**La Mezzaluna.** OK Italian food in a cozy setting. Excellent flambé desserts—and tiramisu! BYOB. (25 Witherspoon St.)

Teresa Cafe. This nice Italian restaurant off of Palmer Square offers a menu of brick oven pizzas, pasta, fish, and meat dishes with Italian accents. The desserts are excellent. Be prepared for a wait during peak hours. (21 Palmer Square E.)

## Mexican

**Chapin.** Mexican-Guatemalan cuisine, walking distance from campus. No tables; just stools and a bar along the wall.

**Tortuga's.** Go down Witherspoon past the Princeton Hospital, turn left on Leigh Avenue. It's quite a walk, but an easy drive (parking available in a nearby lot). Good steak fajitas. BYOB. (44 Leigh Avenue)

**Taste of Mexico.** This is a family run business with only a handful of tables. The food is consistently tasty and well prepared. An excellent choice for vegetarians. (180 Nassau St.)

Tacoria. Favorite among undergraduates with excellent vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. (110 Nassau St.)

Chipotle. Two restaurants, both a short drive away from campus, with good bowls and quesadillas.

## Asian

**Ajihei.** Ajihei is known as “the sushi place in the basement” on Chambers St.; a very reliable friend of a past editor proclaimed this the best Japanese food west of New York. (11 Chambers St)

Amazing Thai. A bit pricey, but excellent options for Thai food and drinks. (260 Nassau St.)

**Crown Palace.** Far away, but good for a special banquet. Excellent high-end dishes: Peking duck, etc. (8 N Main St., Marlboro)

**Hunan.** Szechuan, Malaysian (exotic seafood!), Vietnamese, and, of course, Hunan cuisine, within walking distance of campus. (157 Witherspoon St.)

**Nassau Sushi.** Formerly known as Nassau Bagel and Sushi, they serve sushi and spicy Korean food that's not too starchy or sugary. (179 Nassau St; 497-3275)



**Penang Princeton.** You'll find Malaysian and Thai cuisine here, accompanied with bright orange chopsticks. A good place to take a big group--they have lots of seating. Roti canai and mango chicken are highly recommended. (635 Nassau Park Blvd, across from Sam's Club.)

**Pho 99.** Reasonable Vietnamese noodles, appetizers, and grilled meat in the Great Wall Supermarket shopping center. Cash Only (3151 Rt 27 Unit K, Franklin Park.).

**Sakura Express.** Sakura offers affordable sushi, teriyaki, and salad. Brothers Andrew and Albert "like to feed people," and it shows. Packed day in and day out. (43 Witherspoon St.)

**Shanghai Park.** Quality Chinese food. People rave about their "soup dumplings"—but study proper technique before you try to eat one! Their dim sum can be twice the price you might expect per dish, but also nearly twice the portion size of an average dim sum place. (Princeton Shopping Center)

**Soonja's Café.** Down Alexander Rd., Soonja's offers Korean cuisine, including pricey sushi, as well as Thai food. (244 Alexander Road)

**Thai Village.** Thai food. (235 Nassau Street.)

**Tiger Noodles.** Fast Chinese food, heavy on the MSG. Reasonable prices and good daily specials. The silver noodles are very popular, as well as the home style bean curd. The scallion pancakes don't disappoint. Cash or check only. (260 Nassau Street.)

**Tomo Sushi.** A good choice for take-out Japanese with friendly service, near the E-Quad. (236 Nassau Street)

**Wonder Seafood Restaurant.** Worth the trip for the weekend dim sum. Fast cart and tray service, authentic food; don't come for the decor. (1984 State Rt 27, Edison)

## Indian

**Crown of India.** Take Scudder's Mill Rd. to the Princeton Meadows Shopping Center for some wonderful Indian food in a dark, quiet, and peaceful place. (660 Plainsboro Rd.)

**Chennai Chimney.** Offers authentic South Indian cuisine, with all you can eat, with good vegetarian options on the weekends for less than 20 dollars. (19 Chambers St, Princeton)

**Dosa Grill.** Offers authentic South Indian cuisine. (440 US-130, East Windsor)

**The Mint.** They offer tasty Indian cuisine as well as tea. Quick and easy takeout from the basement entrance if you're between E-Quad and Firestone. (164 Nassau St.)

**Dvaraka Indian Restaurant.** (36 Witherspoon St.)

**Cross Culture.** (Princeton Shopping Center)

## Nice Restaurants

You will find a number of restaurants in Princeton whose prices (high) make them best for special occasions. **The Alchemist and Barrister** on Witherspoon Street. **Le Plumet Royal** is inside the Peacock Inn. For a more open atmosphere with good cuisine try **Mediterra** on Hulfish St. near Halo Pub. The **Blue Point Grill** on Nassau St, as well as **Acacia** in Lawrenceville are excellent choices. The **Hyatt**, while having a remarkable atmosphere, is fairly institutional. Walking down Witherspoon, do take a look into the windows to see what people are eating to get some idea. **Agricola** at Witherspoon is also a local favorite! If you have time and funds and you fancy top-flight dining, however, venture out to New York City or down to Philadelphia, where the good restaurants are plentiful.

## Miscellaneous

**Efes Mediterranean Grill.** Only Turkish place in Princeton and a good option for lunch or take-out option near Equad (235B Nassau Street)

**Food Court, Forrestal Village.** This is right near both the Forrestal Campus and NEC, so if you work on Rt 1 North, you will probably end up there for lunch at some point. (Forrestal Village, Rt 1 North)

**KC Prime Restaurant.** It's a steakhouse, but Sunday brunch is reputed to be especially good. (4160 Quakerbridge Rd, Trenton)

**McCaffrey's Supermarket Cafe.** Much like the Wegmans Cafe, but a bit smaller. (Princeton Shopping Center)

**Jammin' Crepes.** Nice local place to eat some crepes. They have an organic, local and eco-friendly vibe in their food that makes it not only delicious, but exciting. (20 Nassau St.)

**PJ's Pancake House.** Come to PJ's for a bit of Princeton character and a good selection of breakfast fare available all day. The dishes are made fresh. Treat yourself to a large fresh OJ and carve your initials into the tabletop. The line forms early on the weekend. (154 Nassau Street.)

**Princeton Theological Seminary Cafeteria.** The seminary is right next to the GC and its cafeteria makes an inexpensive and friendly alternative to Procter Hall food. It is particularly valuable when Procter Hall is closed during holidays and the summer. In the seminary you buy your meal a la carte, but prices are great and you can easily fill up for less than \$7. Free bread, peanut butter, and jelly are available.

**Wegmans Food Market Cafe.** Choose from a selection of Wegmans prepared foods and eat in a pleasant upstairs seating area. (Nassau Park Blvd)

**Whole Foods Market Cafe.** Arguably the best of the three supermarket cafes in the area. The triple squash soup is worth taking home. (3495 Brunswick Pike)

**Local Greek.** Nice Greek restaurant with excellent food. The place also has a smaller version at 20 Nassau Street, [Small Bites by Local Greek](#). (44 Leigh Avenue)

## Chain Restaurants

**Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar.** Good, reliable American food. Their "riblets" are the classic dish to order. (Quaker Bridge Mall)

**Cheesecake Factory.\*** For diehard cheesecake fans. (3320 US-1, Lawrenceville)

**Old Man Rafferty's.** This chain has a branch near Somerville right on Rt 206 north of Princeton, making it a good stop on the way back from a long trip. It has lots of desserts and huge portions. Another branch in New Brunswick makes for a great dinner on the way back from New York City. (384 Rt 206 S, Hillsborough and 106 Albany St, New Brunswick)

**Olive Garden.** Another Italian chain restaurant. It is open at night and has very good salad. (3345 Brunswick Pike / Rt 1; 987-9207)

**On the Border.** On the Border makes its mark with its frozen margaritas. A good place to bring a crowd for Mexican food. (3567 Rt 1)

**Panera.** In the Nassau Park mall, this chain offers a restaurant and bakery in one. Offers a wide variety of sandwiches and salads, and a soup and sandwich combination which is quite good. Also offers bagels, and dinner pizzas.

**P.F. Chang's.** If you like your Chinese food heavily Americanized, this is the place for you. A stand-alone building in the Market Fair mall area on Rt. 1. (3545 US-1)

**Ruby Tuesdays.** Similar to TGI Friday's, but north on Rt 1 instead of south. (381 Rt 1)

**TGI Friday's.** American food (3535 Rt 1 S)

## "I'll Drink to that!" The Princeton Pub Guide

**Alchemist and Barrister.** This place attracts an older crowd but is still worth a visit. The food is good. If you're ok spending \$17 on a burger, the ones here are pretty darn good. The bar has Flying Fish beer (a good local New Jersey brew) on tap. (28 Witherspoon St; 924-5555)

**Conte's.** Conte's is a piece of postwar Americana with a counter bar serving pizza and Peroni. However, pizza is a good stomach liner, and could be a good beginning to a night out. (339 Witherspoon)

**The Dbar.** The Dbar is the pub situated in the basement of the GC. For all students it should be a must, as it is local, very cheap and is full of people of your ilk. It has a good atmosphere, being situated in the bowels of the Princeton world—they couldn't have hidden it better if they tried. Hours are posted on **Dbar's website** (<http://gchc.princeton.edu/dbar>). There are pool tables, foosball tables, and a high-definition TV. The Dbar is well worth a visit during its peak period from Thursday to Saturday, or the rest of the week if you prefer a more mellow atmosphere. Friday night theme parties pack the place. Also remember the monthly Karaoke Night and Quiz Night. There is a good selection of beers and mixed drinks, so it's the traditional place to arrange to meet some friends for a cheap night out.

**The Ivy.** The pub has a lot of character, and the aura of a place to go and drink. One of the only places in town with a pool table and karaoke. (248 Nassau St.)

**J.B. Winberie's.** Winberie's is a few steps across Palmer Square from the Nassau Inn. Predominantly a restaurant, it also has a bar. Winberie's can be quite busy in the early evenings and on weekends. They have a very good but limited selection of beers, as well as the usual spirits. The bar snacks are reasonably priced and tasty. (1 Palmer Square; 921-0700)

**New Hope.** This is a great town to go to for a night out of Princeton. About a 30 minute drive (North on 206, west on 518, across the bridge on Bridge St), it offers a lot of pubs all on the same road, and two dance clubs. There is also a more formal bar in nearby Lambertville on Bridge Street.

**Triumph Brewing Company.** Once you make your way down the long entrance, you'll find Triumph has a casual, twenty-something-young-professional-after-work atmosphere. Dinner is expensive, but the food's good. Triumph is the only place in town where you won't find a tap beer with the "Lite" modifier following its name. There's a selection of stouts, ales, pilsners, and just plain lager. All the beer is made on the premises, so it's never stale and always tastes good.

**Yankee Doodle Tap Room.** The Tap Room is part of the Nassau Inn. The bar staff are friendly and quick. Live music is normally played on Friday and Saturday nights, with varying standards. The clientele are normally in their thirties or older—a common feature of Princeton pubs. Check out the Norman Rockwell mural at some point. (10 Palmer Square)

**The Street.** For the cheapest, flowingest free beer, morph yourself into an undergraduate and visit some of the Eating Clubs on Prospect Ave. Thursdays and Saturdays are the big "going-out" nights. Bands play or DJs spin. Some good clubs for beginners are Tower, Terrace, Colonial, and Quad. Make it a goal once in your time here to snag an invitation to eat at Ivy, served by a waiter on a table bedecked with lit candelabras. (Up and down Prospect Ave.)

## Travel Information

Students are encouraged to register their itineraries at **Concur**, a University-sponsored travel information platform. Many university negotiated discounts, such as car rental and hotel accommodation, and a free professional travel planning app (TripIt Pro), are readily available on Concur.

### Airports and airlines

**NJ Transit** has a stop at **Newark Airport**. Make sure to buy a ticket to Newark Airport, and the AirTrain surcharge will be included. When you get off at the Newark Airport stop, you swipe your NJT ticket at the fare gates to take the **AirTrain shuttle** to the airport itself. The AirTrain is cheaper and usually faster than the Airporter Shuttle.

If you wish to engage the services of a private limousine (perhaps if you have a lot of luggage and time is of the essence), approximately \$70 will purchase you a one-way trip from **LVS Limousine Service** (800-841-6369). The trip is about an hour each way, and you will be met either at your place for departures, or, for arrivals, at baggage claim when your flight gets in.

**Newark Airport** is a major hub of **United**, which offers nonstop flights to most destinations in Europe, North America and Asia, in terms of minimizing connections and transit time. For Southeast Asia, **Singapore Airlines** (800-742-3333) is the superior choice, offering a direct flight to Singapore and frequent connections beyond.

**Philadelphia Airport** is also a viable option for travel. It is less stressful than the NYC airports, but a little longer travel time to get there. Take the NJ Transit train to Trenton (20 minutes), then a **SEPTA** train to 30<sup>th</sup> Street Station (1 hour from Trenton). From there, take the R1 train to the Philadelphia Airport. If you can get a good price on an airline ticket (if you are headed to the mid or intermountain West, check out Frontier), it may be worth the hour and a half of train travel time.

JFK Airport hosts cheaper flights to East Asia and Europe with Air China, Aeroflot, Turkish Airlines and Lufthansa. The best (still time-consuming) way to get there is to take NJ Transit to Penn Station, switch trains for Jamaica and then take the LIRR to the airport.

### NYC & Philadelphia

To get to/from NYC or Philadelphia, **NJ Transit** (800-772-2222) offers the cheapest train rides. The Dinky is a small train managed by the NJ Transit which connects the campus to Princeton Junction train station, where NJ Transit trains can be taken to NYC or Philadelphia and several destinations in between. The Dinky is located at the Princeton train station, the same location as the local Wawa. Schedules are available at train stations, on the Web, and in the Porter's Lodge. Round trip to NYC (Penn Station) is cheaper during non-peak hours. Amtrak (800-523-8720) is faster but much more expensive. To get to Philadelphia, take NJ Transit to Trenton and transfer to SEPTA.

You can also take the **Suburban Transit bus** to NYC (the 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Port Authority Bus Terminal). Buses typically leave every hour from Palmer Square and take from 90 minutes to 2 hours. You have to purchase a ticket from the news kiosk on Palmer Square before you go and wait for the bus by FitzRandolph gate in front of Nassau Hall. You can also buy a ticket online. You can get a copy of the most current bus schedule at the kiosk as well. More information on this bus can be found online. Be warned, though, that the Web site is not always up to date and the best information is from either the news kiosk or calling them (800-222-0492).

### Campus Shuttle

The University provides an extensive shuttle network. The system services all of campus and features a website where students can track the GPS coordinates of shuttles. Please check with the official **website** or the app Princeton Mobile or the latest schedules and services. Search the University website for current information: the shuttle is very useful!

## Car Rental

**Zipcar** and **Enterprise** provides brand cars that students can rent by the hour.

## Travel Savings

**Student Advantage Card.** For a small fee you can get a Student Advantage card which is good for discounts at participating businesses and services. Its main benefit is a **15% discount** on Greyhound and Amtrak tickets, making it well-worth the cost if you plan to be traveling interstate frequently.

**STA Travel.** An organization specializing in student travel packages. Better in person than online.

## Undergraduates?

There is a myth of sorts that Princeton undergraduates and graduates mix like water and oil. Like most myths, it has its origins in some grain of truth, but is largely a truth obscured by the woolly cobwebs of time and hyperbole.

“Where *is* the GC?” Most undergrads don’t know, and don’t know us. Undergraduates rarely make it over to the GC, except the few brave souls who seek out Procter Hall or the Dbar their senior year before they graduate.

This division is not fate, however. There are a variety of ways to get involved in u-grad life at Princeton, arguably one of the best u-grad institutions in the nation.

### Publications

There are several u-grad-centered publications that are worth reading. A few grad students also contribute articles and columns to these.

- *Daily Princetonian*. The University’s newspaper of record. Available around one’s department office, as well as at the Information Desk at Frist and the Daily Princetonian office next to the U-Store. Worth glancing through. Comprehensive sports coverage.
- *Nassau Weekly*. Also known as “the Nass”, this is Princeton’s answer to Harvard Lampoon. Funny and oftentimes raunchy articles. A great column called “verbatim” where people send in actual outrageous quotes heard around campus.
- *American Foreign Policy*. A project begun after 9/11, this new magazine leans to the right on policy issues.
- *CommonSense*. A national collegiate Humanist magazine, published by Princeton students. Articles debating religion, philosophy and politics.
- *The Tory*. Right wing magazine.
- *Progressive Review*. Liberal journal of opinion. Has had award-winning articles in the past.

**Sports.** Princeton is a jock school, with nearly half of the student body playing some sort of sports. Our teams aren’t bad, and worth checking out. Graduate students may purchase a pass for all athletic events (except NCAA events) for an annual fee ... please contact the ticket office for more information at 609-258-4849.

**Social Life.** The u-grads throw great parties, dances, shows, etc. Don’t think you can’t come just because you’re slightly older. Use your Passport to the Arts tickets to check out some of the undergraduates’ productions!

**Campus Groups.** Many undergrad groups welcome grad students. They value our experience. Many of the most active groups around Princeton have been joint grad-undergrad ventures. Graduate students cannot serve as president or treasurer of an undergraduate group, but can fully participate otherwise. Don’t hesitate to come to their meetings; they are listed **online** (<http://www.princeton.edu/odus/activities/organizations/directory/>).

**Arts.** Princeton students put on class acts: drama, music, dance. Again, many groups would love grad students to be involved either as participants or as spectators.

**Terminology.** Informants among the undergraduates have revealed a number of key phrases:

- “Arch sing” – Outdoor concert by any of the numerous a-capella groups on campus utilizing the acoustic properties of collegiate Gothic architecture.
- “Bicker” – There are two types of Eating Clubs. The ones that “bicker” are selective in their choosing of members. The other types of Clubs are “sign-ins” where anyone who wants to join can join.
- “Eating Clubs” – These are the big houses on Prospect Ave., where a good number of students, especially after Freshman year, eat and drink. They used to be much nastier and exclusive. Now mostly harmless, though the University officially doesn’t recognize them. Membership is expensive but the food is good and the beer is unending. If you know some undergraduates, you could try to ask them to take you to lunch at their Club.
- “Gut class” – An easy “A” class.
- “Independent” – A student who is not a member of an eating club. The university, believe it or not, provides them special housing eligibility for apartments with kitchens.
- “JP” – The Junior Paper is sort of pre-thesis completed (theoretically) by third year students before undertaking the final year thesis. Preceptors and TAs are likely to be sought for last-minute therapy.

“On pass” – When an eating club has an event that only members and their friends (whom they give passes to) can attend.

- “Prox” – What those of us with prior institutionalization experience might call an ID or TigerCard.
- “Rock star professor” – Celebrity professors who are treated as gods by academics, but who go virtually unrecognized on the streets of non-academic America.
- “Sketchy” – Not so appropriate and stable. Usually refers to matters of social interaction and sexual mores.
- “The Street” – Prospect Avenue, home to the Eating Clubs and ergo nightlife. Also sometimes referred to as “Prospect.”
- “Viv” – Café Vivian in the Frist Campus Center, a popular coffeehouse and meeting place.
- “the Wa” – The Wawa market located next to the Dinky station.
- “Wa-Run” – A purchasing expedition undertaken usually late at night, taking advantage of the Wa’s never closing and its fine range of food.
- “Walk of shame” – The early morning walk home after waking up in a strange bed.

## You & Your Undergrads!

The undergraduates dwell for their first two years in 7 residential colleges: Butler, Forbes, Mathey, New College West, Rockefeller, Whitman, and Yeh College. Each has a cafeteria open to grad students on the meal plan. Princeton has a culture of intervention, so students who are doing poorly – academically, mentally, physically, or otherwise – there are professionals to be alerted.

Graduate students can participate in Residential College life in a number of ways: run language tables, serve as tutors, etc. If you love or think you’d love working more closely with undergraduates, consider applying to be a Residential Graduate Student (RGS). Emails for RGS applications are typically sent during the Fall.

Princeton undergraduates go on in life to be successful in life and in their professions. They are interesting, ambitious, and smart kids - worth getting to know. The fact that you are a grad student doesn’t matter much in the end. In fact, our status has a certain allure to it and you may be peppered with questions such as “where do the graduate students live?”

## Important Times of Year

**General Exam Periods.** Most departments have General Examinations for Ph.D. candidates. Please be considerate during these periods and keep quiet, especially at night. The General Examination periods for the academic year can be found on the [academic calendar](#).

**The Breaks.** There are several breaks scheduled in the [Academic Calendar](#): Fall Recess, Thanksgiving Recess, Winter Recess, Intersession, and Spring Recess. In general, Procter Hall will be closed for dinner over these breaks, so plan accordingly.

**House Committee Elections.** Elections are held each year in the Winter and ballots are cast online. Please consider running.

**Room Draw.** Pay attention in March for announcements regarding room draw for the next year. There is a separate summer application for students remaining over the summer.

**Movearound.** The GC is open and operating all year. At some point over the summer, you will be relocated to your fall assignment if you are moving into a different GC room. (“Handyman Dan” is a member of the Princeton maintenance staff, and several students have hired him to help with moving. Call 609-599-4073.)

**Reunions.** Usually the last week of May, Princeton Reunions are the largest, most lavish of any school! There is the infamous **P-rade** where thousands of alumni/ae march down Nassau Street, starting with the oldest living alum. Each graduating class has its own special orange and black ‘beer jacket’; at their 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion they upgrade to a distinctively tacky blazer in the same color scheme. Reunions also entail a few nights of wild partying by the upper to professional classes, at ‘tent parties’ organized by class year—you’ll need to purchase a wristband to get in, so watch your email for details during the Spring. Bands play, beer is drunk, people dance, kids are running around – it’s a great time for all. Don’t miss the spectacular **fireworks** display and show. There are also opportunities to work for big bucks as a staff member on Reunion weekend.



# Landmarks of the Graduate College

## Cleveland Tower

Dedicated to the memory of President Grover Cleveland, the Tower is probably the most recognizable feature of the GC. The Cleveland Tower also houses a magnificent manually-played bell instrument called a carillon (<https://gradschool.princeton.edu/about/carillon>). It is the fifth largest instrument in North America, the largest bell of which weighs 12,880 pounds. Except during PhD exams, the carillon is played regularly on Sundays at 1:00pm by the University Carillonneur and throughout the week by student carillonneurs. Carillonneurs from around the world are invited annually to participate in the Summer Concert Series held Sundays during July and August. For more information on the carillon or learning to play it, please contact Lisa Lonie, University Carillonneur, [LLonie@hotmail.com](mailto:LLonie@hotmail.com).

## Pyne Tower

This is the second tallest tower in the GC. The stained-glass window in the anteroom in front of Procter Hall is by Charles J. Connick and commemorates six GC residents who died in World War I. The military saints of the four nations where the students died are depicted: St. George of England, St. Joan of Arc of France, St. Michael of Belgium, and St. Maurice of Italy.

## Procter Hall

Procter Hall is the GC dining hall and a masterpiece of modern Gothic Revival architecture. Its most commanding feature is the **stained glass** window opposite the main entrance. It was made by William and Annie Lee Willet of Philadelphia and depicts the seven Liberal Arts: grammar, logic, rhetoric, geometry, arithmetic, astronomy, and music. The Latin motto beneath the window means: "Neither be ye called masters, for one is your Master, even Christ." The motto over the fireplace means: "Enter good; leave better." Industrialist Henry Clay Frick<sup>1</sup> donated the original **organ** in Procter Hall, but it has been replaced by a cheaper model; the organ is still played on occasion. Keys to the organ chamber may be borrowed from the Porter's Lodge after being approved to do so.

The elevated **High Table** sits under the central window. Several times a year, distinguished persons are invited to dine at High Table with a small number of students. Shortly before a **High Table dinner**, an invitation and signups will be done by email. **The High Table is not used at any other time.**

## The North Courtyard

The archway behind Dean West's left shoulder leads into the North Courtyard, home of OGC entryways 16 through 21.

## Wyman Garden

Located between the west end of Procter Hall and Springdale Road, this well-maintained garden is open to the public from dawn to dusk. Students should enter through the entrance near the New Graduate College; the Dean's backyard entrance is reserved for special occasions.

## The Sculptures

The larger-than-life figure seated in the middle of the Main Courtyard is Dean Andrew Fleming West, first Dean of the Graduate School (1901-1928) and administrator responsible for our remote location. Dean West's head

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<sup>1</sup>Was Frick a murderer? In 1891, nine striking coke oven workers were shot to death by the deputised agents of Frick Coke Co. While Frick was the superintendent of the Carnegie Steel Company in 1892 it was under his watch that the Homestead Strike occurred pitting "locked-out" iron and steel workers and their families against the company and its Pinkerton guards. Frick refused to recognise the union, evicted striking workers' families, and brought in strike-breakers. 10 workers and a little boy were killed, dozens of men, women and children were injured. The young anarchist Alexander Berkman (lover of Emma Goldman) - on hearing of the gun-fight between the steel men and the Pinkertons - hastened to Homestead, burst into Frick's office, and shot and stabbed him a number of times. Frick lived a long life, however. Berkman was sent to prison, while Goldman became the world's most famous anarchist thinker and activist.

serves as a popular perch for local birds. The statue was designed by R. Tait McKenzie and was the gift of William Cooper Procter. Gaston Lachaise's *Floating Figure* and Kenneth Snelson's *Northwood II* decorate the NGC. Both sculptures are part of the 21-piece Putnam outdoor sculpture collection dotting the campus. A small brochure describing the collection is available at the U-Store.

### Squirrels, Deer, Woodchucks, Rabbits

Our fine furry friends love to hang around the GC. On a balmy spring night, you may see deer loitering around the NGC – do not scare them! Squirrels are our constant companions. Oh, and do not forget to lock your window screens; they love to drop by unexpectedly, chew through your containers, and snack on any food they can find in your room. If they chew through your window screens, as has been known to happen, call x8-8000 for repairs. And beware of the ninja squirrels who sometimes come flying out of the outdoor trash cans. (Very rarely, residents may have a much-too-close encounter with the local animals and get bitten. If this happens to you, visit McCosh immediately for a checkup.)

### Bicycles

Please lock your bike to one of the grey eyelets located around the GC. Bikes are not allowed to be left free-standing under the archways and your bike **will be towed**. Every now and then a bike is stolen, so do keep them locked up, even if you are only leaving for a minute. If you suspect a parked bike has been abandoned, please let the House Committee know and we will try to facilitate its removal. Periodically Public Safety will sweep through and remove abandoned bikes, so if you are leaving campus for a long period, put your bicycle in storage in the basement, do not leave it in a rack! Don't forget to register your bicycle at [Transportation and Parking Services](#), 609-258-7655.

# History of the Graduate College

## The Graduate School

The Graduate School was established in 1901, although informal graduate work was carried out as far back as the 18<sup>th</sup> century—James Madison did six months of graduate study in 1771, making him the first graduate student outside of the area of theology. In the 1870s, Princeton awarded its first graduate degrees. In 1896, the College of New Jersey became Princeton University, and Giger Professor of Latin Andrew Fleming West (Class of 1874) began to advocate the creation of a Graduate School and a Graduate College. On December 13, 1900, the University trustees voted to establish a Graduate School; Professor West was appointed Dean, starting in fall 1901. A “Graduate House” called Merwick was the first graduate residence on campus. In 1906, Mrs. Josephine Thomson Swan left a bequest of \$275,000 for the construction of a graduate college—her name is memorialized in stone on the north wall of the Main Court, and the proper name for the Main Court (which is almost never used) is “Thomson Colledge”, after Senator John R. Thomson (Class of 1817).

## West vs. Wilson

Woodrow Wilson (later Governor of New Jersey and President of the United States) was at that time President of Princeton University. He wanted the Graduate College to be constructed on the main campus so that undergraduates and graduate students could interact with each other. Dean West favored the current location, by the golf course, which had also been favored by the late Grover Cleveland (former US President), as a University trustee. In 1909, William Cooper Procter (Class of 1883) donated \$500,000 for the graduate college project, provided that a site could be found that would be acceptable to him; Procter was a friend of West’s and by this request meant that the new college should be built where West wanted. Much argument ensued. In 1910, Isaac Wyman (Class of 1848) died and left \$794,000 for the construction of a graduate college, provided that it be built where West wanted it. The trustees accepted the bequest, and President Wilson resigned soon after. M. Taylor Pyne (Class of 1877) donated the funds necessary for the construction of Pyne Tower. Construction began in May 1911, and the dedication was made on October 22, 1913. The architect was Ralph Adams Cram of Boston. Cleveland Tower was built as a memorial to Grover Cleveland and funded by public donations. Dean West occupied Wyman House, the official residence of the Dean of the Graduate School, and Harold Crosby Butler (Class of 1892) was named the first Master in residence.

## Additions

In 1927, William Cooper Procter made a further donation that was used (was University funds) to build the North Court. The same year, the Class of 1892 donated the carillon in Cleveland Tower. The New Graduate College, consisting of the Procter and Compton Quadrangles, was built in 1963. (The Butler Apartments, the first housing for married graduate students, were opened shortly after the Second World War; the Lawrence Apartments were built in 1966.) In 1961, women were first admitted to the Graduate School, and housed in the Annexes; in 1968, women were first housed in the Graduate College. The Debasement Bar was opened in 1970, and named by Tom Reed \*71.

## Administration

Dean West retired in 1928. His successors were: Dean Augustus Trowbridge (Physics), 1928-1933; Dean Luther P. Eisenhart (Mathematics), 1933-1945; Dean Hugh S. Taylor (Chemistry), 1945-1958; Dean Donald R. Hamilton (Physics), 1958-65; Dean Colin S. Pittendrigh (Biology), 1965-1969; Dean Aaron Lemonick (Physics), 1969-1973; Dean Alvin Kernan (English), 1973-1977; Dean Nina Garsoian (Near Eastern Studies), 1977-79; Dean Theodore Ziolkowski (Germanic Languages and Literatures), 1979-92; Dean Albert J. Raboteau (Religion), 1992-1994; Dean John F. Wilson (Religion), 1994-2002, Dean William Russel (Chemical Engineering), 2002-2014, and Dean Sanjeev Kulkarni (2014-present).

## Masters

The first Master of the Graduate College (previously Merwick House, before the Graduate College was completed in 1913) was Howard Crosby Butler (1905-1922). He was followed by William Gillespie (1923-1939), Sidney Lawrence Levensgood (1939-1948), Dean James Thorpe (1949-1953), Frank Card Bourne (1954-1957),

Jerome Blum (1958-1978), Barbara and Raymond Hill (1979-1981), Gerald Geison (1982-1984), and Victor Preller (1985-1990). The tradition was terminated in 1990.

### “As Much like Oxford as Monkeys could Make It”

*The Princeton Graduate School: A History*. Edited by Patricia Marks. Princeton: Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni, 2000. Reviewed by Anthony Grafton. [Reprinted from the *Prince Magazine*, January 22, 2001.]

We sit there, we historians, in yellow-tiled Dickinson Hall, and we listen to the Orange Key guides taking groups around campus. We admire their ability to walk backwards, appreciate their enthusiasm – and even enjoy hearing the old stories about the downspout on the chapel for the 100<sup>th</sup> time. We’re especially pleased when a guide departs from the script, as one did a couple of years ago. “Note the ivy growing up professor Grafton,” he quipped, to the amusement of his group, as I staggered by, schlepping a load of books back to Firestone.

But we do have our doubts about some components of the tour: especially when we hear guides assuring the punters that Princeton barely has a graduate school, and that professors here, unlike those at other research universities, devote virtually all their time, energy and affection to their undergraduates. That’s just not true. The graduate school and its students form a vital strand in Princeton’s past and an essential part of its life.

“The Princeton Graduate School: A History” is a collaborative work, originally published in the 1970s and now reedited by Patricia Marks and brought down to the present by James Axtell. Dean by dean and building by building, it tells a complex and bittersweet story that many Princeton undergraduates and alumni – and most visitors – don’t know.

Individual graduates stayed on at Princeton to do more advanced work as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century. But the real graduate school came into existence in the years around 1900, as Americans flocked to do Ph.D’s in Germany, and Princeton – like many of its rivals – decided to transform itself. Presidents McCosh, Patton and Wilson worked in very different ways. But they all agreed that Princeton could become a real university only if it could attract graduate students working at the frontiers of their field – and professors of international reputation to guide them. The plan to offer systematic graduate education accompanied efforts to hire great scholars and scientists and build libraries and laboratories. No graduate school, no university: just a fine liberal arts college, Willams by the Lake.

By 1913 graduate students had a Gothic home in the Graduate College, a spectacular pastiche encrusted with curlicues and moldings by the influential architect Ralph Adams Cram (“as much like Oxford as monkeys could make it,” said [British philosopher] Bertrand Russell). Princeton stole more than an incongruous building style from the Brits. For decades, residents of the Graduate College wore gowns to dinner, recited a Latin grace before meals and sent a committee to discuss problems with the college’s resident faculty Master.

Still, during the next century, Princeton’s graduate school developed a coherent, very American style of its own. It always remained small. Princeton graduate students received, most of the time, better financial support and more consistent advising than their colleagues elsewhere, but they also received pressure – not always gentle – to work intensively, finish their degrees and go away. Not for Princeton, the slow, reflective version of graduate study long practiced at Berkeley, Chicago and Harvard.

The regime seems austere. But recently, as the academic job market has remained in the doldrums and the very possibility of working one’s way through graduate school has vanished, Princeton has become a national model for selective and rapid training of students, most of whom finish and find jobs. Even the Colossus of the North in Cambridge, Mass., has begun to emulate us.

In a conservative university, the graduate school has stood for change. The Graduate School accepted and honored Jews like Richard Feynman in the 1930s. It admitted African Americans in the 1940s and women in the 1960s, and long ago began to attract large numbers of international students, now one of the college’s priorities as well.

This decorous history destroys a number of stereotypes. Many outsiders and some Princetonians will be surprised to learn that for decades, the majority of Princeton graduate students were undergraduate alumni – and that Princeton’s chief administrators long tried hard to convince more students from the college to earn doctorates and teach. A generation and more ago, in an era of livelier politics, graduate students joined undergraduates in planning and staging demonstrations. They articulately denounced the University’s involvement with the Defense Department and its investments in South Africa. Widespread myths to the contrary, finally, graduate students do a great deal of this college’s teaching – often very well indeed.

Still, as Axtell acknowledges in his excellent final chapter, the University community – and the college above all – have never fully accepted the graduate school. Woodrow Wilson, President when the school was created, wanted to put it on the main campus. He thought graduate students should live and mingle with the undergraduates (one plan would have dropped it where the School of Architecture now sits). But he lost out – not for the last time – after a long and bitter struggle with Andrew Fleming West, first dean of the graduate school and a brilliant politician. West envisioned the school as an elite establishment, uncontaminated by contact with the college. His statue still broods over the Graduate College's main quad, far away on its hill above the golf course.

West's victory, appropriately for a classicist, proved Pyrrhic. In recent years, the University has given the school more and more financial support and public recognition. The last three presidents have been products of the graduate school (Robert Goheen '40 graduated from the college as well). Graduate alumni are formally recognized as alumni march in the P-rade. Geographically and socially, however, the school has been – and remains – on the margins. Princeton fosters little of the active social contact between graduate and undergraduate students that takes place more often at the other great universities we compete with. If Wilson had won his fight with West, Lake Carnegie would not have turned to lemonade. But undergraduate life might well be more intellectually exciting, and graduate life less bleak.

Here, as at other old universities, ghosts walk the quads, next to the tourists. None of them is sadder than the spirit of Wilson's Princeton, the real university that never quite took on material form. Like many good histories, this one tells as much about possibilities never realized as it does about the names and deeds of presidents and deans.

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- Alexander Leitch, *A Princeton Companion*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1978.
- David R. Coffin, *Princeton University's Graduate College*, Princeton: Princeton University, 2000.
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### 2023-2024 Graduate College House Committee

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