Welcome to the University of North Dakota! We’re excited you’re interested in the College of Arts & Sciences! The UND College of Arts & Sciences (A&S) houses a wide variety of undergraduate (Bachelor’s) and graduate (Master’s and Doctorate) academic paths and opportunities within four divisions: Fine Arts, Humanities, Math & Science, and Social Sciences. There are numerous academic buildings where A&S departments and classes are held.

To help introduce you to some A&S places, our Student Ambassadors have created a Self-Guided Tour, which allows you to customize your walk around campus to your liking! We encourage you to use the following pages to read about the various buildings where students spend time here at UND, and then use the map below to guide you to view them in person. We hope you enjoy your walk around our beautiful campus, and that this self-guided tour will help you get a sense of student life at UND!
1 Hughes Fine Arts Center is the home of Art & Design and Music. It's one of the liveliest spaces on campus because students are always practicing, creating, and performing. Inside, you’ll find 35,000 square feet of studios for drawing, painting, and photography classes, woodcraft and welding rooms, ceramics and metalsmithing, a graphic design lab, and indoor and outdoor kilns. Check out The Mural by the Art department and the American Indian Leaders of Distinction exhibit in the Anna Mae Hughes Gallery. On the music side of the building, you’ll see small practice rooms open to students, ensembles and choirs collaborating, and the Josephine Campbell Recital Hall for recording and performing. Many music performances also take place in the Chester Fritz Auditorium.

2 Burtness Theatre hosts several dramatic and musical theatre productions put on by the students and faculty of the Theatre Arts department each year. An example of Collegiate Gothic architecture, the main theatre house has seats for 400 people. See if you can spot the cement face on the side of the building!

3 Merrifield Hall is one of UND’s most iconic buildings. Designed by noted architect Joseph Bell DeRemer, it’s a wonderful example of Collegiate Gothic architecture with its arched entrances and gargoyles. It would be hard to find a UND alum who does not remember walking up the beautiful stairwells to class. The building is named after a Classics professor – the first librarian and then President – who was instrumental in creating the liberal arts curriculum that remains the core of a UND education. Dedicated in 1928, the building will be undergoing renovation beginning in January 2023. When the building opens in 2024 you will find English, Philosophy & Ethics, Languages & International Studies, and the Honors Program. During construction, the departments of English, Philosophy, Languages, and Theatre Arts will be housed in nearby Gamble Hall (3a).
O’Kelly-Ireland-Gillette Hall is a social science hub housing Geography, Communication, History & American Indian Studies, Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Forensic Science. The newly renovated study spaces are very popular! O’Kelly has many special teaching spaces, like SCALE-UP classrooms used for small-group learning, especially in introductory science courses, and the Math MALL. The Math Active Learning Lab isn’t just a place to get tutored: students work at their own level and pace to do math problems and get immediate feedback and assistance from instructors and tutors.

Abbott Hall, where the Chemistry Department is located, marks the start of a STEM region of campus continuing along Cornell Street. Abbott includes 29 classrooms and laboratories studying everything from RNA binding proteins to wood pyrolysis to machine learning. Some of the research equipment on-hand includes a scanning electron microscope, mass spectrometry, and x-ray single crystal diffractometer. Abbott Hall also provides drop-in tutoring for all chemistry classes where students can get one-on-one help.

Witmer Hall is home to Physics & Astrophysics and Mathematics. You might see students working on the NASA Student Launch or UND Rocket Team, or doing research with faculty in areas like the Dark Energy Survey, superconductivity, and optics. Students can use top-notch technology like a CAT scan, X-Ray photoelectron spectroscopy, or one of the few machines in the country that can demonstrate quantum entanglement. Witmer also houses the Math Learning Center & Computer Lab used for tutoring and peer study groups.
Starcher Hall houses the Biology Department. Many students taking classes in Starcher are part of our specialized pre-health programs, but you can also study Fisheries & Wildlife Biology or Molecular Biology. In this building, you’ll find students doing labs, mastering PCR and running gels, scanning microscope slides, or participating in research with faculty. You can study living things from roof-top greenhouses to animal care spaces to genetics or viruses. An education in biology is not limited to Starcher Hall, however, as UND also has four biology field stations in the region used for research and education.

Columbia Hall is where you’ll find the office of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Brad Rundquist. If you have a question or problem, the College Office will help you figure it out! Columbia Hall also houses the Psychology department, with the basement devoted to Psychology research space. The Northern Prairie Community Clinic on-site provides opportunities for Psychology and Communication Sciences & Disorders students to learn while providing services to the community. There are some interesting study spaces in the atria in the building, along with the Honors Program office.

Whether you choose an A&S major or not (we hope you do!), you will likely spend time in one of these buildings taking classes from A&S faculty during your time at UND. I encourage you to explore courses from a variety of areas. It’s a great way to build knowledge and skills that will help fortify you for future success!