

Mission Statements of the Schools of Yale University

Yale College. The mission of Yale College is to seek exceptionally promising students of all backgrounds from across the nation and around the world and to educate them, through mental discipline and social experience, to develop their intellectual, moral, civic, and creative capacities to the fullest. The aim of this education is the cultivation of citizens with a rich awareness of our heritage to lead and serve in every sphere of human activity.

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The mission of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is to seek students of the highest intellectual promise and achievement of all backgrounds, from across the nation and around the world, and to educate them to be scholars, teachers, and leaders for many sectors of society. The larger aim of this enterprise is to prepare and stimulate each new generation to perpetuate and advance human knowledge and to contribute to the health and development of the human community.

School of Architecture. The task of architecture is the creation of human environments. It is both an expression of human values and a context for human activity. Through the design process, architecture addresses the interrelated environmental, behavioral, and cultural issues that underlie the organization of built form. The student of architecture is called upon to direct sensitivity, imagination, and intellect to the physical significance of these fundamental issues in designing a coherent environment for people. Architectural design as a comprehensive creative process is the focus of the Yale School of Architecture.

The objectives of the School of Architecture reflect the view that architecture is an intellectual discipline, both an art and a profession. The program, therefore, is based on the following intentions: (1) to stimulate artistic sensitivity and creative powers, (2) to strengthen intellectual growth and the capacity to develop creative and responsible solutions to unique and changing problems, and (3) to help the student acquire the individual capabilities necessary for the competent practice of architecture and lifelong learning.

School of Art. The mission of the Yale University School of Art is to teach studio art within the context of a liberal arts university. The school has a long and distinguished history of educating artists at the highest level. The full-time faculty of the school works in conjunction with a broad cross-section of visiting artists to produce a wide range of educational programs.

The School of Art is founded on the belief that art is a fundamental force in culture, and that the caliber of any nation's artists provides a measure of the society itself. The Yale University School of Art teaches at the graduate and undergraduate levels, and consequently the student body consists of those whose full attention is devoted to art as well as those for whom art is studied as part of a liberal education. The school currently offers degrees and undergraduate majors in the areas of Graphic Design, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, and Sculpture.

Divinity School. Yale Divinity School has an enduring commitment to foster the knowledge and love of God through critical engagement with the traditions of the Christian churches in the context of the contemporary world. It furnishes resources for the churches to reflect critically on their identity and mission in response to changing social and cultural realities and other religions of the world. It offers a university setting for the scholarly assessment of the religious features of human existence. Ecumenical and university-based, the school recognizes as indispensable to its mission a communal environment that combines rigorous scholarly inquiry, public worship and spiritual nurture, practical involvement with the churches' ministries, and mutual regard among human beings across the diversities of gender, sexual orientation, race, class, nationality, and culture.

The Divinity School pursues its mission through three principal activities: (1) it enables women and men to prepare for the lay and ordained ministries of the Christian churches; (2) through its own programs and through the participation of members of its faculty in programs of the Graduate School, it shares in the education of those who will become scholars and teachers on the faculties of theological schools and departments of religious studies; and (3) in conjunction with other professional schools of the University, it equips persons anticipating professional service in education, law, health care, social work, community organizations, public life, or the arts to understand more fully the theological basis of their vocations.

School of Drama. Yale School of Drama and Yale Repertory Theatre are committed to rigorous, adventurous, and passionate exploration of this art form. They embrace a global audience. Their highest aim is to train artistic leaders—in every theatrical discipline—who create bold new works that astonish the mind, challenge the heart, and delight the senses.

The School of Drama professes the following core values: artistry, professionalism, collaboration, discovery, diversity, and community. The goal of Yale School of Drama is to develop the artistry, craft, and attitudes of its students to prepare them for careers in the professional theater. Yale School of Drama and Yale Repertory Theatre together are a unique conservatory for theater training within the University. In each discipline of the School of Drama the aesthetic sensibility is translated into the language of the stage. The process of applying theory to professional practice is central to the School of Drama, and Yale Repertory Theatre serves as the master teacher toward this aim. Although many graduates' paths evolve into distinctive careers in film, television, teaching, and alternative forms of theatrical production and presentation, the primary focus of training at Yale School of Drama is the artistry of the legitimate stage.

School of Engineering & Applied Science. The mission of the School of Engineering & Applied Science is to provide a modern liberal education, based on scientific principles and engineering practice, which forms the foundation for leadership in careers vital to society.

School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. The Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies prepares new leaders and creates new knowledge to sustain and restore the long-term health of the biosphere and the well-being of its people.

For over one hundred years, first as a pioneering school of forestry, Yale has marshaled the expertise of diverse disciplines in the service of responsible stewardship of the environment. As the world's population grows and development accelerates, conserving the beauty, diversity, and integrity of the natural world becomes at once more important and more challenging. Such conservation is a practical and moral imperative.

Law School. The primary educational purpose of Yale Law School is to train lawyers and to prepare its students for leadership positions in the public and private sectors both in the U.S. and globally. The primary scholarly role of Yale Law School is to encourage research in law and in interdisciplinary approaches to law and public policy. Throughout the school's history, its teachers, students, and deans have taken a broad view of the role of law and lawyers in society. The school long has trained lawyers for public service and teaching as well as for private practice. Our students are expected to advance our knowledge and understanding of the law, to expand the reach of the law, and to inculcate knowledge about the central role that the rule of law plays in a free society. The professional orientation of the Law School is deeply enriched by an intellectual environment that embraces a wide variety of intellectual currents and is designed to produce lawyers who are creative, sensitive, and open to new ideas.

School of Management. The Yale School of Management, the youngest of Yale's professional schools, was founded in 1974 with the mission to educate leaders for business and society. The school embodies its mission through its innovative integrated M.B.A. curriculum, launched in 2006; through its distinctive leadership model; through its traditional multi-sectored focus; and through its vision that Yale School of Management graduates are broadly engaged, inspiring leaders who own and solve hard problems that matter.

School of Medicine. As a preeminent academic medical center that supports the highest-quality education, research, and patient care, the Yale School of Medicine will (1) educate and inspire scholars and future leaders who will advance the practice of medicine and the biomedical sciences; (2) advance medical knowledge to sustain and improve health and to alleviate suffering caused by illness and disease; and (3) provide outstanding care and service for patients in a compassionate and respectful manner.

School of Music. The Yale School of Music educates and inspires students with exceptional artistic and academic talent for service to the profession and to society. The school fosters a vibrant musical environment where graduate-level performers and composers realize their highest artistic potential with an internationally distinguished faculty. To prepare students for roles as cultural leaders, the school engages fully with the University's extraordinary intellectual and technological resources while collaborating with artistic centers throughout the world.

School of Nursing. The ultimate mission of the Yale School of Nursing is to contribute to better health care for all people. Through the systematic study of the nature and effect of nursing practice, students are prepared to become effective nurse clinicians and nurse scholars capable of improving practice through sound clinical judgment, scholarship, and research. In this endeavor the School of Nursing faculty is mindful not only of its privilege and freedom as educators in this resource-filled private university, but also of its responsibility and accountability with colleagues to consumers. The former allows it to be creative in its thinking and innovative in its practice, while the latter demands a commitment to implementation and a realism in problem solving.

School of Public Health. The School of Public Health provides leadership to protect and improve the health of the public. Through innovative research, policy analysis, and education that draw upon multidisciplinary scholarship from across the graduate and professional programs at Yale, the school serves local, national, and international communities with its knowledge and expertise.

Institute of Sacred Music. The Yale Institute of Sacred Music, an interdisciplinary graduate center, educates leaders who foster, explore, and study engagement with the sacred through music, worship, and the arts in Christian communities, diverse religious traditions, and public life. Partnering with the Yale School of Music and Yale Divinity School, as well as other academic and professional units at Yale, the Institute prepares its students for careers in church music and other sacred music, pastoral ministry, performance, and scholarship. The Institute's curriculum integrates the study and practice of religion with that of music and the arts. With a core focus on Christian sacred music, the ISM builds bridges among disciplines and vocations and makes creative space for scholarship, performance, and practice.