

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON

Visiting International
Student Program (VISP)

Explore
your
future

at a top American university.



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON



Pursue a world-class education.



Explore a different culture.

You have big plans for an exceptional global experience and so do we.

Welcome to the University of Wisconsin–Madison.



Meet new friends.



The Visiting International Student Program (VISP)

welcomes students interested in short-term study at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. VISP staff provide personalized advising as well as a variety of cultural and social events to help students feel welcome on our campus.

Why Wisconsin

UW–Madison is a dynamic campus with more than 47,000 students from all 50 U.S. states and more than 7,000 international students hailing from over 130 countries. This geographic and cultural diversity enriches our campus and advances our ideals to serve the global community.

UW–Madison is committed to helping apply in- and out-of-classroom learning in ways that have significant and positive impact on the world. Faculty and staff strive to connect international students with the unparalleled academic, research, work, and social opportunities available at UW–Madison.

#1

U.S. Public University

—Washington Monthly National University Rankings, 2021

Impressive university rankings

#8

U.S. Research Expenditures

—National Science Foundation, 2020

#10

U.S. Public University

—U.S. News & World Report, 2022

#27

Worldwide University

—Center for World University Rankings, 2022

Check out

news.wisc.edu/tag/rankings for the latest.



Location

Madison is a beautiful mid-sized city of 270,000 residents, routinely ranked as one of the best places to live in the United States. Along the scenic lakeshores are peaceful places to study and explore while experiencing the beauty of Madison. Short day-trips to Milwaukee and Chicago can offer a taste of big-city life in America.

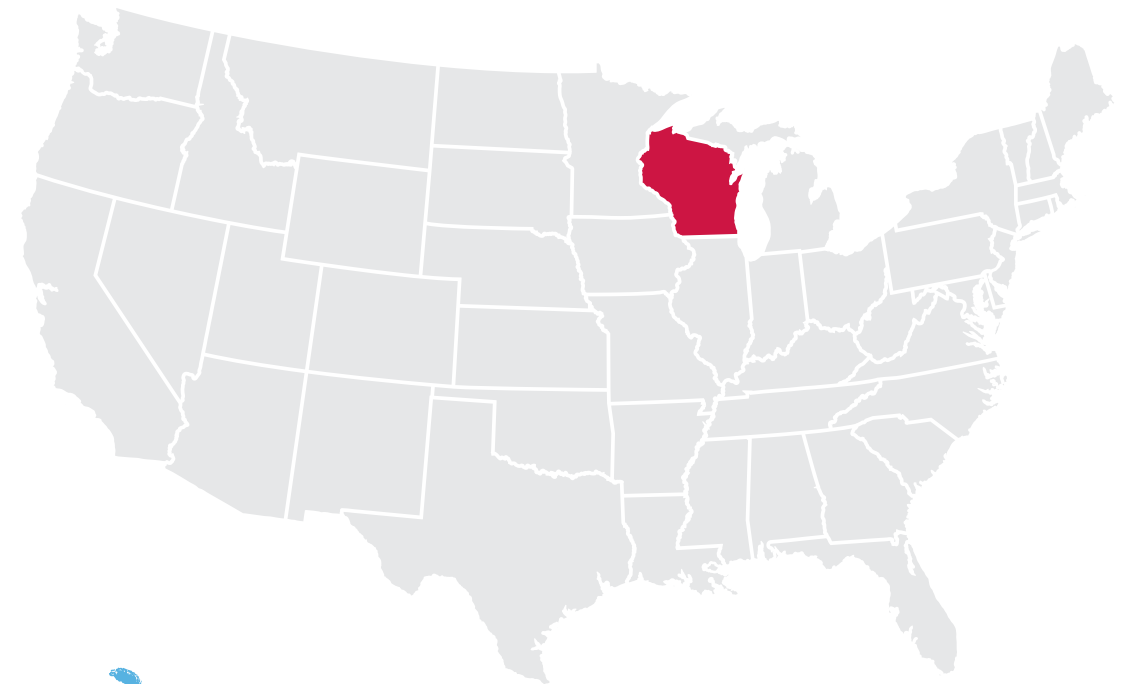
Safety

The city of Madison and the UW–Madison campus community are strongly committed to safety. Madison is regularly ranked one of the Top 20 safest cities in America.

Housing

There are many housing options available, including on-campus residence halls, housing cooperatives, and private apartments. VISP participants can choose the housing option that best fits their lifestyle.

“I just love everything about Madison – the awesome fall colors, breathtaking engineering education, the majestic Capitol, chilling out at the Terrace, the night life at State Street, experiencing Badger football game day, and so much more.”



Madison, Wisconsin

Academics

Academic excellence is at the heart of UW–Madison’s mission—that’s why the university is recognized worldwide for its commitment to academics and out-of-classroom learning. We remain an internationally recognized public research institution with exceptional resources and a world-class learning experience. VISP students benefit from our focus on academic excellence and continuous innovation.

VISP students enroll in regular university courses taught by outstanding faculty during the fall, spring, or summer term. Students have full access to campus services and earn official university credit on their UW–Madison transcript.

More than
5,000
courses in
200+
academic
areas

are taught each year on our campus. With this many options, students are sure to find courses that meet their needs.

Academic track options

Traditional track
Traditional track students select from courses offered across our university’s offerings.

Depending on course availability, students can choose to focus on one to two academic areas or try courses in several departments to create the right schedule for them.

Thematic track
Thematic track students focus their studies on one academic area to maximize their learning.

Students receive additional advising support from the department, as well as the bulk of their courses guaranteed within that specific academic area.

Thematic tracks:

- Computer Sciences
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Political Science
- Statistics

See website for current offerings:
visp.wisc.edu/thematic





Summer Term

Summer Term is a perfect time to experience UW–Madison student life. Summer Term combines flexibility with academic rigor. Our most popular sessions are four or eight weeks. You'll cover the same material as you would during a traditional semester, but everything moves faster. It's a quick but manageable pace. Summer Term VISP students can choose from more than 1,000 thought-provoking courses in a wide variety of subjects.

Popular Sessions

4-week session	— Mid-May through mid-June
4-week session	— Mid-June through mid-July
4-week session	— Mid-July through early August
8-week session	— Mid-June through early August

Summer courses are announced in early January on our public Course Search & Enroll app: public.enroll.wisc.edu.

Academics

Popular subjects include:

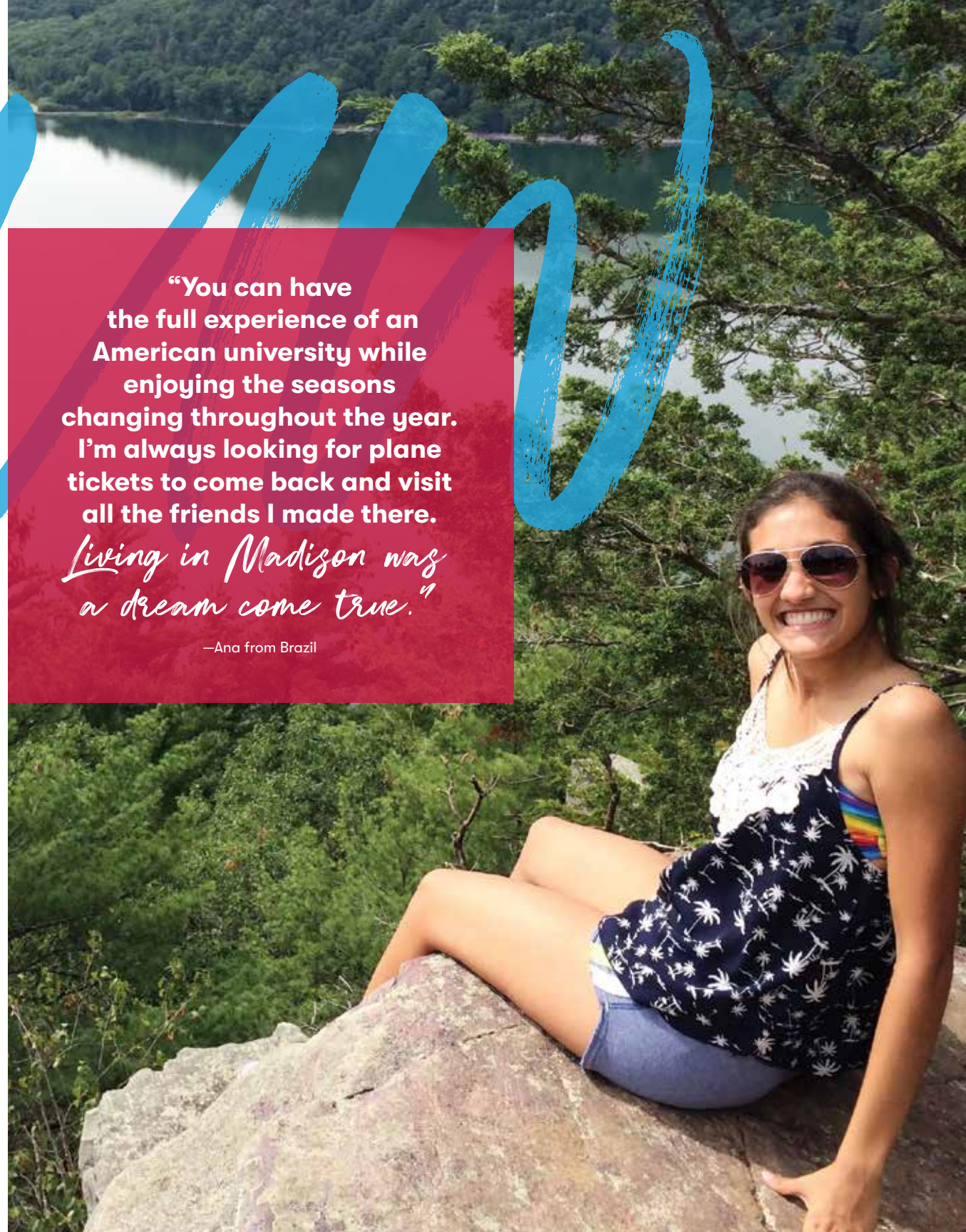
- Accounting
- Art
- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Communication Arts
- Computer Sciences
- Economics
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Finance
- Math
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Statistics

Learn more about summer courses at: visp.wisc.edu/summer

“You can have the full experience of an American university while enjoying the seasons changing throughout the year. I’m always looking for plane tickets to come back and visit all the friends I made there.

Living in Madison was a dream come true.”

—Ana from Brazil





“Cherish your life at Madison. It’s an amazing and beautiful place.”

Academic calendar

VISP participants are welcome during any academic term. Fall and spring semesters are each 15 weeks.

Flexible summer sessions range from four to eight weeks.

Fall

September to December

Spring

January to May

Summer

Various sessions between May and August

Student life

There are countless ways to get involved and meet other people while at UW–Madison. Here are just a few of the opportunities available to VISP participants:

- More than 1,000 official student organizations unite students with common interests. Explore an existing passion or learn something new!
- The Morgridge Center for Public Service helps connect you with volunteer opportunities in the Madison community.
- Recreation & Wellbeing offers you the opportunity to use workout facilities, swim, join sports clubs, or take noncredit group fitness classes.

VISP events

VISP staff organize fun social events and cultural outings for our students. Past events have included trips to Milwaukee to watch professional sporting events, Chinese New Year celebrations, painting parties, UW Badger sporting events, guided museum tours, and more.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Ideal VISP candidates meet the university’s high academic standards, are interested in a wide range of courses, and have a high proficiency in the English language. Visit our website for full details on admissions requirements: visp.wisc.edu/admissions

CAN I GET A DEGREE THROUGH VISP?

VISP is not a degree program. For those interested in applying to UW–Madison as a full degree student, please visit wisc.edu/admissions.

Apply today! [VISP.wisc.edu](https://visp.wisc.edu)



“Get ready to have one of the most amazing experiences of your life at one of the best universities in the world.

On, Wisconsin!”

“This is my home away from home.

UW–Madison is the combination of a world-class academic institution while at the same time an incomparable college experience.”



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