Our Mission

The division of Student Affairs at Canisius College intentionally cultivates an environment where students are expected to be attentive to their experiences, reflect upon the meaning of those experiences, and develop a lifelong habit of discernment in order to encourage purposeful action.

Our Values

The values of the Student Affairs division at Canisius College are consistent with those stated in the College's Strategic Plan, and we emphasize the following values:

- Diversity and inclusivity
- Care and respect for every person
- Spiritual development
- Healthy lifestyle
- Teamwork
- Collegiality
- Kindness
- Humor

The vice president for student affairs determines all student affairs policies and procedures for the college, subject to the approval of the president.

Assistance to students is provided by the following offices within the division of student affairs:

- ALANA (African American, Latino/a, Native American, Asian American) Student Center (p. 1)
- Athletics — Division I Intercollegiate (p. 1)
- Campus Ministry (p. 1)
- Counseling Center (p. 2)
- The Griff Center for Academic Engagement (p. 2)
- International Student Programs (p. 3)
- Public Safety (p. 3)
- Student Health Center (p. 3)
- Study Abroad Programs (p. 4)

Student Life

- Student Involvement (p. 4)
- Club Sports and Intramurals (p. 4)
- New Student Orientation (p. 5)
- Office of Event Services (p. 5)
- Housing (p. 5)

ALANA Student Center

(ALANA = African American, Latino/a American, Asian American, Native American students) A genuine, pluralistic campus fosters respect, equality and understanding of a mosaic of cultural heritages. Such a campus recognizes the interdependence of cross-cultural student communities and the integrity of each individual. The college aims for all individuals to feel a sense of inclusion in the college's mission and activities, particularly those who have been historically marginalized in America primarily due to the color of their skin.

The ALANA Student Center assists the college in providing services for ALANA students while educating the entire student population about ALANA cultural patterns and trends in higher education. The staff assists students concerning racial perspectives, self-concept issues and participatory involvement within the framework of the campus.

Although primarily co-curricular focused, the ALANA Student Center also serves students as a referral and support unit with respect to other collegiate matters. The Center provides a place for students to share and discuss cross-cultural experiences and to interpret those experiences. By way of this service, and other support services campus-wide, Canisius College provides students with tools essential for their success in school and in the greater community.

Athletics

Canisius College conducts an extensive NCAA Division I athletics program for both men and women and is a member of the MAAC Conference and the Atlantic Hockey Conference.

Men’s Sports

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross-country/indoor/outdoor track
- Golf
- Ice hockey
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Swimming and diving

Women’s Sports

- Basketball
- Cross-country/indoor/outdoor track
- Lacrosse
- Rowing
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming and diving
- Volleyball

Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry supports the spiritual and religious life of the campus with activities open to students and staff of all faiths. Campus Ministry seeks to empower students, faculty, administrators, staff and alumni as persons of faith “for and with others” in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition.

In addition to providing for a vital Roman Catholic liturgical and sacramental life, the campus ministry team:

- offers opportunities for spiritual retreats
- organizes opportunities for prayer and small faith communities
- promotes opportunities for service to those in need, both locally and through domestic and international service immersion trips
- promotes ethical values and educates and organizes around issues of social justice and peace
- provides pastoral counseling and spiritual direction
Counseling Center

The Counseling Center ([https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/counseling-center](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/counseling-center)) is committed to developing the personal and academic potential of Canisius College students by providing comprehensive counseling services and outreach education to support the emotional and mental health of our students. Professional counseling services are available to all registered students, at no additional cost, to address concerns that may interfere with a student’s academic success and personal growth. In addition to individual and group counseling, counselors are available during and after college business hours for crisis intervention and mental health emergencies. Counselors are also available for consultation and referrals to community resources.

Students who access counseling services are assured confidentiality, unless it is apparent that a student may do harm to others. A student’s privacy and confidentiality are carefully guarded and protected. No information about participation in counseling becomes part of any official record. Students may schedule appointments by calling the Counseling Center at 716-888-2620. Appointments may also be scheduled in person. The Counseling Center is located in Bosch Hall Room 105, directly off the lobby of Bosch Hall. Enter via the quad side entrance of Bosch. The Counseling Center offers many educational programs and workshops throughout the academic year for the Canisius College community. Refer to the Counseling Center website for the most current information on programs and services, including online screening programs and self-help information.

The Griff Center for Academic Engagement

The Griff Center for Academic Engagement ([https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/griff-center](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/griff-center)) represents a collaboration between the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs that provides comprehensive programs, services, and resources to support student academic and career success and a transformative learning experience grounded in our Catholic, Jesuit mission. The Griff Center assists students in their academic and professional development and provides them with the support and assistance they need to become successful lifelong learners.

Strengths

The Griff Center uses StrengthsFinder to assist students in identifying and optimizing their strengths and applying them to all aspects of their lives. StrengthsFinder is used by hundreds of colleges and universities throughout the United States and it has been determined that students who are aware of their strengths are more likely to stay in college, earn higher GPA’s, and find success securing internships and jobs.

A student’s Strengths experience begins by taking the StrengthsFinder online assessment, which takes 20-30 minutes to complete. The top 5 talent themes are identified and this is the first step towards developing natural talents into strengths. The Griff Center helps guide students through the different themes, helps the student develop ways to incorporate their strengths into their daily life, and build upon them as they explore academic and career goals. Stop by the Griff Center to make an appointment to learn more about this great opportunity.

Tutoring Services (OM 315)

Tutoring services are available for all Canisius students and provide a variety of opportunities for them to achieve their own academic success. Group tutoring sessions allow students to receive academic assistance from peer and adjunct professor tutors. Tutors are available in the majority of academic disciplines and employ various academic strategies to help address individual student needs.

Study Zone (OM 318)

Open to all Canisius students, Study Zone provides students with an opportunity to focus on academic work in a quiet environment conveniently located near Tutoring Services where additional assistance may be sought.

Academic Mentor Program (OM 317)

This program presents students with an opportunity to meet one-on-one with an academic mentor on a regular basis to assist with better time management, prioritization of responsibilities, study skills, and assistance needed to achieve academic success.

Accessibility Support (OM 317)

Committed to creating equal access for all Canisius students with disabilities, Accessibility Support helps meet individual needs and oversees the administration of reasonable accommodations and proctoring exams. Academic and non-academic accommodations are determined on a case-by-case/course-by-course basis after review of a student’s official documentation.

Proctor Site (OM 317)

The Proctor Site assists in proctoring make-up exams for the campus community. Students must determine the feasibility of a make-up exam with their professor prior to making arrangements with the proctor site.

Veterans Support (OM 320)

The Griff Center provides an environment that helps student-veterans achieve their academic and personal goals. Our staff is committed to creating a supportive and friendly atmosphere where students feel comfortable seeking assistance concerning both academic and non-academic issues. In addition, there is a lounge designated for student-veterans where they may study and relax between classes.

Career Planning and Services: EXPLORE – EXPERIENCE – ENGAGE (OM 013)

The Griff Center is here to help students and alumni develop career plans and gain the professional skills needed in today’s competitive job market.

Career development begins on day one at Canisius! The Griff Center has developed a three-point career action plan designed to help students and alumni:

- **EXPLORE** • Learn about their strengths and interests and how they relate to majors and careers
- **EXPERIENCE** • Gain experience through internships, service, and research
- **ENGAGE** • Network with alumni and employers to launch their career

The Griff Center provides personalized, services and programs to meet the complete career development needs of Canisius students and alumni. The Griff Center offers: Career coaching; Assistance with locating internship and job opportunities; Resume and cover letter review; Video mock interviews; On-Campus Interviews with local and national organizations; On-and Off-Campus recruiting events and professional development opportunities as well as engage in career programs and events.

Handshake

The Griff Center is excited to provide students and alumni with free access to Handshake, an exclusive platform for Canisius students and alumni to search for full-time, part-time, volunteer, and internship opportunities as
well as engage in career programs and events. Handshake also has online resources for students’ professional development.

International Student Programs

Whether you are an international student who will study on an F-1 student visa, a visiting student who will be studying abroad for one semester, or an incoming student who did not grow up in the United States, the Office of International Student Programs (https://www.canisius.edu/global-education/international-student-programs) is here to support you. The Office of International Student Programs (ISP) at Canisius College supports the needs and development of the global student community through advisement and cultural support, in order to assist them in achieving their academic, personal, and professional goals. Other services for international students include an extensive orientation for new students, assistance understanding immigration regulations and workshops on practical training benefits. Global Horizons, a student organization for American and international students, plans additional activities to promote cultural awareness on campus. An example of this is Global Fest, an annual event celebrating different cultures through food tasting, music, performances and crafts from around the world! International students are required to complete an online semester SEVIS registration form at the start of each semester. This form ensures that ISP properly registers them for the semester in the SEVIS (Student Exchange and Visitor Information System). All international students studying on an F-1 or J-1 visa are required by the college to purchase a health insurance plan offered by Canisius College. This plan is designed and written specifically for the health care needs of international students studying in the United States. Information about the required health insurance plan is available in the Office of International Student Programs.

Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety, located in the basement of the Bosch Residence Hall, is open 24 hours a day, providing around the clock protection and services to the campus community. The department was established to protect the educational environment of Canisius College, keeping the environment free from the threat of physical harm, property damage and disruptive activity. Departmental objectives include aiding in the enforcement of federal, state and local laws; preventing crime; regulating non-criminal conduct and preserving the peace. Uniformed Public Safety Officers, all of whom are sworn peace officers, are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Their primary responsibilities include patrolling the campus area on foot, on bicycles and in vehicles; security services; emergency response; and requests for assistance involving members of the campus community.

Public Safety also provides a variety of support services that are tailored to meet the needs of the campus community. These services include conducting crime prevention and personal safety programs, dispatching the campus shuttle system, providing Canisius ID cards, and providing assistance to campus motorists experiencing minor mechanical problems.

For a comprehensive summary of the activities and services provided by Public Safety, visit the Department of Public Safety website (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/public-safety).

Crime Statistics

Canisius College complies with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act by providing available information on campus security and personal safety. This information includes crime prevention, public safety, law-enforcement authority, crime reporting policies, disciplinary procedures and other important matters regarding campus security. Statistics are available from the three previous calendar years on reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Canisius College, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. Upon request, the Canisius College Advisory Committee on Campus Safety will provide all campus crime statistics as reported to the United States Department of Education. This information is available on the Public Safety website (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/public-safety). A printed copy may be obtained by calling the office of student affairs at 716-888-2130.

Student Health Center

The Student Health Center (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/student-health) strives to provide high-quality care that is easy to access, individualized and designed to treat common sicknesses and injuries that slow down healthy college students. Staffed by doctors, a nurse practitioner and registered nurses, each visit offers an opportunity to feel better and to learn to optimize good health for success in college and beyond.

Appointments are not required but strongly encouraged. Students can schedule an appointment at myCanisiusHealth, by phone or by walking in to Student Health.

MyCanisiusHealth is a web based confidential health portal which allows students 24/7 access to schedule a Health Center appointment, locate health information and health care resources both on and off campus and receive confidential messages from Student Health medical staff. A link to myCanisiusHealth is located on the student portal page, under student services.

When Student Health is closed, students can visit one of the urgent care centers in Western New York. A list of those centers is located on myCanisiusHealth. In the event of a medical emergency on campus, students should contact Public Safety or dial 911.

Student Health does not write medical notes for missed classes or work. Health Center appointment verifications are sent via college email from noreply@medicat each evening. Student Health recommends students share the email verification notice with faculty or employers if proof of a doctor’s appointment is needed.

The Student Health Center website (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/student-health) provides detailed information about Student Health services, hours, staff, location, health requirements, health insurance, medical notes and more.

Health Insurance

Canisius College recommends all students have health insurance to ease the fiscal burden associated with sickness or injury. Students needing health insurance, who are US citizens, should visit www.healthcare.gov (http://www.healthcare.gov)

International students, studying on a F1 Visa, are required to purchase the international health insurance plan designed specifically for them. Information about the international student plan can be found at the Student Health Center website.

Accident Insurance

All full time undergraduates and full time graduate students are covered under a college sponsored accident plan. This plan works with a student’s own health insurance to help cover some of the costs associated with...
an accidental injury. This plan also provide an accidental death benefit. Information about the student accident injury plan can be found at the Student Health Center website.

**Immunization Requirements for Class Attendance**

**Measles, Mumps, Rubella**

New York State law requires all students taking six or more credits, attending any classes on campus, and born on or after January 1, 1957 to provide proof of immunity against measles, mumps and rubella to the Student Health Center prior to class attendance. Students must submit proof of two doses of measles (rubeola) vaccine, one dose of rubella (German measles) vaccine and one dose of mumps vaccine, given on or after their first birthday and after 1967.

**Meningitis Requirement**

All students registered for 6 or more credits and attending class on campus, regardless of birth date, are required to receive information about the risk of meningococcal disease and the benefit of vaccination. Students are required to read the information and either obtain the meningitis vaccine or sign a vaccine refusal statement within thirty days of first class attendance.

**Submission Dates and Non-Compliance**

Immunization records, must be submitted by July 31 for fall attendance and January 1 for spring attendance. Summer students must submit records before their first day of class. Non-compliance with health requirements results in registration withdrawal, removal from college housing, and inability to register with the college for future semesters. If registration is withdrawn, a student will be reinstated once the health forms are submitted and deemed complete. Canisius College charges an immunization reinstatement fee. To view the fee click here [https://www.canisius.edu/tuition-aid/student-records-and-financial-services/cost-attendance](https://www.canisius.edu/tuition-aid/student-records-and-financial-services/cost-attendance). Compliance with New York State health requirements is strictly enforced across the campus.

Students taking online courses only are generally exempt from these requirements, however some online programs have established stricter immunization requirements. On line students should discuss health requirements with Admissions or their program directors.

The Student Health Center website [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/student-health](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-support-services/student-health) has detailed information about health requirements and links to the required forms.

**Study Abroad Programs**

Canisius College students who study abroad say it is a life-changing experience which significantly expands their personal and professional horizons. The college offers diverse study abroad opportunities in 15 countries and 23 cities. While several Canisius majors require an international experience, students of all majors should consider study abroad.

Students who study abroad:

- Get jobs. They acquire marketable skills which are sought by potential employers in this global economy. According to an article in the Huffington Post, four out of five business leaders say that if similar candidates were before them and one had study abroad experience and one didn’t, they’d almost always hire the one with study abroad experience.
- Become more fluent in a foreign language when they immerse themselves in the culture and live among native speakers (however, some locations have no language requirement).
- Develop valuable life skills such as independence, flexibility, cross-cultural awareness/communication and problem-solving.
- Enhance their knowledge of global relations and deepen their knowledge of cultural and societal differences.
- Travel and meet new people and gain confidence.

Additional information about Study Abroad and other international experiences is available at the Global Opportunities website [https://www.canisius.edu/global-education](https://www.canisius.edu/global-education).

**Student Life (Student Involvement)**

Campus Programming encourages and promotes involvement and enhances student learning through co-curricular programming opportunities. To help achieve this mission, Campus Programming allows students the opportunity to get involved on campus. Students may choose from a variety of clubs and organizations [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-life-and-housing/student-involvement/clubs-and-organizations](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-life-and-housing/student-involvement/clubs-and-organizations), including the Undergraduate Student Association (USA) [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-affairs/student-life-and-housing/student-involvement/undergraduate](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-affairs/student-life-and-housing/student-involvement/undergraduate), which is comprised of the entire student body and is represented by an elected group, the Student Senate. The purpose of the Senate is to assist, finance and integrate all student organizations and to represent the views of the student body to the college administration. The Commuter Student Association (CSA) [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-life-and-housing/commuter-students](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-life-and-housing/commuter-students) represents all of the commuter students, and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the student governing body for the resident students at Canisius. Additionally, there are over 90 student clubs and organizations at Canisius. These organizations provide students with an opportunity to explore an academic subject informally yet deeply, gain familiarity with the arts or with differing cultures, provide service to the college or to the community, develop a wide range of leadership skills, or simply socialize with other students. Various honor societies give recognition to student excellence in numerous areas, and the student-run media on campus, such as the college newspaper (The Griffin) and the campus radio station (WCCG), provide students with opportunities to explore communications media while keeping the college community informed and entertained.

**Club Sports and Intramurals**

The currently active club sports [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/sports-athletic-facilities/club-sports](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/sports-athletic-facilities/club-sports) are listed below. Additional club sports can be added based on student interest. Club sports are played at a more competitive level than intramurals [https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/sports-athletic-facilities/intramurals](https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/sports-athletic-facilities/intramurals) and often involve team travel. Students are responsible for additional fees associated with most club sports.

**Co-ed club sports**

- Bowling
- Cheerleading and Dance
- Field hockey
- IHSA (Equestrian)
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Rifle
- Tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee
Men’s club sports
- Men’s Rugby
- Men’s Soccer
- Men’s Volleyball
- Men’s Ice Hockey
- Men’s Crew

Women’s club sports
- Women’s Soccer
- Women’s Volleyball
- Women’s Rugby

Intramurals
All intramural sports are currently co-ed and provide an opportunity for students to engage recreationally for fun, health, and wellness. Current intramural sports:
- Basketball-open
- Volleyball
- Floor Hockey
- Indoor Soccer
- Outdoor Soccer
- Flag Football
- Dodgeball
- Whiffle ball

New Student Orientation
New Student Orientation is the beginning of the journey for new students that provide a welcoming, informative, and incredibly fun start to their academic careers at Canisius. The program highlights a variety of academic supports and campus resources through informational sessions and activities.

Office of Event Services
Members of the Canisius Community or the public looking to reserve non-classroom space (including athletic facilities) for meetings and events should contact the Office of Event Services. Office staff will assist with room selection, securing appropriate technology, and facilitating connections with Chartwells food service when requested.

Student Life (Housing)
Student Life promotes the personal growth of resident students as they adjust to college life and interact with others in the residence halls and the college community.

Canisius College believes that the experience of living on-campus contributes to the development of a well-rounded individual. Student Life creates an environment where students can live, learn and develop leadership skills, and become men and women for and with others.

There are several housing options available to resident students. Bosch and Frisch halls are traditional residence halls for freshman students. They include double rooms, suites and social lounges with kitchens and lounges on each floor. Dugan Hall, our newest traditional residence hall for sophomore students includes suites and social lounges with kitchens on alternate floors. The Delavan Townhouses, built in 2002, feature one-, two-, three-, four-, and five-person apartments with single-person bedrooms. These apartments also have living rooms, kitchens, bathrooms and air conditioning. The Village Townhouses feature two and five person apartments. These apartments are equipped with some single and double bedrooms, kitchens bathrooms, and air conditioning. Additional information including virtual tours, pictures, floor plans, cost and the application process can be found on the Student Life webpages (https://www.canisius.edu/student-experience/student-life-and-housing).