Facilities and Services

Books for Off-Campus Courses
Textbooks for off-campus courses may be purchased at the first meeting of each course. Payment may be made by cash, check or credit card. Additionally, textbooks may be purchased on-line at www.wpibooks.com or by calling the bookstore at 1-888-WPI-BOOKS. Textbook delivery for ADLN remote locations may be arranged by calling the bookstore or by e-mailing the bookstore at wpi@tatnuck.com.

Campus Police
Personal safety information, security practices at WPI and the University’s crime statistic information can be obtained by visiting the campus police Web site. Students can also obtain a copy of the University’s safety brochure by contacting the WPI Police Department at 508-831-5433.

Parking on campus can be challenging. Graduate students are entitled to parking permits for the Boynton Street parking lot located behind the library. Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis. Decals can be purchased for $2.00 at the campus police station located at 35 Dean Street. You should also receive a copy of the University’s parking regulations. We recommend that you keep this brochure in your vehicle's glove compartment for easy reference. Parking is also available on the city streets surrounding the campus. Be sure to obey parking signs, as enforcement in Worcester is strict. The city’s winter parking regulations are available on the WPI police Web site, as well.

Career Development Center
The Career Development Center (CDC) at WPI assists students in the development of lifelong skills related to careers and the job search process. CDC serves not only undergraduate students but graduate students and alumni as well. Information and guidance is provided in the areas of full-time employment, graduate school, part-time employment, cooperative education and summer positions. Call 508-831-5260.

Class Cancellation
Classes are rarely cancelled because of inclement weather. However, if in doubt, you may call the WPI switchboard, the Graduate Studies & Enrollment Office or 508-831-5744 to find out if a particular class has been cancelled. When all classes are cancelled (severe weather during the midday period, forecast to last through evening) cancellation will be broadcast on radio stations WTAG, WSRS, WAAF, WFTQ, WKOX and WBZ.

Computer Resources
WPI’s Fuller Laboratories provide dedicated space for faculty, staff and students working in the information sciences. The WPI Computing and Communication Center (CCC) is located in this building, along with the Computer Science Department and the Academic Technology Center.

CCC provides a wide range of services and access to computer resources for the WPI community, and manages an array of powerful UNIX, Linux and Windows servers. All WPI students, faculty and staff can obtain a login ID at CCC for academic course work, research and self-education. The ID will remain in force as long as the person continues to be registered as a student at or is employed by WPI. The systems have been configured so that the user will see the same familiar environment no matter which CCC workstation is used.

CCC facilities are accessible from a wide variety of locations on campus, or from around the world via the Internet. CCC operates the campus data network and the Internet connectivity including a VPN (Virtual Private Network) to access internal resources remotely. Computer systems operated by academic departments are also on the same CCC communications infrastructure, so they are accessible just as easily. The CCC supports open access labs in every academic building totaling hundreds of computers across campus. Wireless network access is available in all academic buildings and wireless laptops are available on loan for use in the library and campus center.

CCC manages a computer Helpdesk to answer users’ questions on any of the computer platforms and to provide technical support for endorsed packages. CCC also provides instruction sessions on supported software in the state-of-the-art computer-training classroom that CCC maintains in the Gordon Library.

CCC is generally open from 11 a.m. Sunday until 10 p.m. Friday (24 hours a day) and Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the academic year. When WPI is not in session and during undergraduate “term breaks,” as well as summer session, hours will be posted at CCC.

To reach the CCC help desk, call 508-831-5888 or e-mail: helpdesk@wpi.edu.

Extracurricular Activities
The Institute provides a varied program of sports and recreation. Graduate students usually enter teams in several intramural sports, and may participate in certain intercollegiate club sports as well as on-campus musical or theater groups.

There are outstanding athletic facilities for tennis, swimming, bowling, squash, basketball, racquetball and volleyball, as well as a weight-lifting room, a fitness center, a sauna and several outdoor playing fields. Graduate students frequently join faculty groups for noontime jogging, aerobics and basketball.

A wide variety of entertainment is brought to the campus, ranging from small informal groups to popular entertainers in the 3,500-seat Harrington Auditorium. A series of films is shown in Perreault Hall, and chamber concerts are presented in the Baronial Hall of Higgins House.

The normal social activities of a medium-sized city are readily accessible, many within easy walking distance. Other activities of interest to students are offered by the many colleges in the Worcester Consortium (see Intercollege Studies and the Consortium, page 9).
In addition to Gordon Library’s resources, WPI students may utilize the collections of other Worcester area libraries. Students with a WPI ID and an ARC cross-borrowing card can borrow directly from Assumption College, Becker College, Clark University, College of the Holy Cross, and Worcester State. ARC cards can be obtained at the Gordon Library Circulation desk.

Housing
A limited amount of on-campus housing is available for single graduate students. Family housing is not available on campus. Most graduate students live in rooms or apartments in residential areas near the campus.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Residential Services, 508-831-5645, for information regarding both on-campus and off-campus housing. A listing of off-campus accommodations is available at www.wpi.edu/+RSO.

International Graduate Student Services
The Office of International Students and Scholars is located in WPI’s International House at 28 Trowbridge Road. The office provides information and assistance on immigration and other regulatory matters, information on cultural and social programs and services, as well as general counseling.

The International House also serves as a meeting place for international students with its lounge area, meeting room and resource room. WPI’s English as a Second Language (ESL) program is located in the house. The house also offers limited temporary housing for international graduate students.


Student ID Cards
The WPI ID is your library card and is used in many departments for lab access as well.

You may also deposit money on your card for use in the WPI dining locations at a 10% discount. The ID office is located in Daniels Hall, first floor, and the hours are: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 508-831-5150.

Student Life
The Student Life Office staff is available to students enrolled in all programs to assist with any out-of-the-classroom concerns that may arise. Staff members are available between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Appointments outside of these hours can be arranged by calling 508-831-5201.