

# INTRODUCTION

## History

Founded by the Religious Sisters of Mercy, Salve Regina was established as an independent institution in the Catholic tradition to provide higher education to women and men. Salve Regina College was chartered by the State of Rhode Island in 1934 and, after acquiring Ochre Court in 1947, welcomed its first class of 58 students. By a 1991 amendment to the charter, the name was changed to Salve Regina University.

The University offers baccalaureate, certificates, master's degrees, and doctoral degrees. Salve Regina enrolls 2,500 men and women from 35 states and 16 foreign countries and boasts over 14,000 alumni.

## Mission of the University

As an academic community that welcomes people of all beliefs, Salve Regina University, a Catholic institution founded by the Sisters of Mercy, seeks wisdom and promotes universal justice. The University, through teaching and research, prepares men and women for responsible lives by imparting and expanding knowledge, developing skills and cultivating enduring values. Through liberal arts and professional programs, students develop their abilities for thinking clearly and creatively, enhance their capacity for sound judgment, and prepare for the challenge of learning throughout their lives. In keeping with the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy, and recognizing that all people are stewards of God's creation, the University encourages students to work for a world that is harmonious, just and merciful.

## Accreditations and Memberships

The University is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. Accreditation of an institution of higher education by NECHE indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality periodically applied through a peer review process. An accredited College or University is one which has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by NECHE is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution. Inquiries regarding the accreditation status by NECHE should be directed to the administrative staff of the institution. Individuals may also contact: Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Commission of Higher Education, 3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100, Burlington MA 01803, (781) 425-7700, e-mail: [cihe@neasc.org](mailto:cihe@neasc.org).

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredits the nursing program which is also approved by the Rhode Island Board of Nurses Registration and Nursing Education. The business studies program is accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education. The master's program in rehabilitative counseling is accredited by Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

The University is a member of the American Council on Education, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Association of Colleges and Universities, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers, the College Entrance Examination Board, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the National Association of College Admission Counselors, the National Catholic Educational Association, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges, the Council on Rehabilitation Education, the Mercy Higher Education Colloquium, the Association of Mercy Colleges, and the Council on Social Work Education. The University participates in Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and its regional subdivisions.

## Disability Accommodations

Salve Regina University is committed to providing equal access to graduate and professional studies students with disabilities to all its programs and services, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students with disabilities that entitle them to instructional modifications or other accommodations must register with the Office of Disability Services and provide professional documentation of the disabling condition. The office is located on the 2nd floor of the Library and is open Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. EST, and can be reached by phone (401-341-3150) or by e-mail ([disabilityservices@salve.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@salve.edu)).

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

As a Catholic institution of higher learning under the sponsorship of the Sisters of the Mercy, Salve Regina University exists to provide educational opportunities for students who choose to live a more perceptive and fulfilling life. The University's purpose is to prepare men and women for responsible lives by imparting and expanding knowledge, developing skills, and cultivating enduring values. It encourages students to develop their abilities for thinking clearly and creatively, to enhance their capacity for sound judgment, and to prepare for the challenge of learning throughout their lives.

Students are expected to treat all members of the University community with respect and civility and to exercise guaranteed freedoms in a responsible manner consistent with the goals and traditions of the University. Students should acknowledge the interdependence of the University and the surrounding community and should take responsibility for their learning and collective welfare. Upon enrollment, the student becomes a member of the academic community and thereby accepts both the rights and responsibilities associated with that membership.

It is the student's responsibility to know the policies, procedures, standards, and regulations which affect student rights; and it shall be the student's responsibility to obtain and act appropriately on such information. Ignorance of the information made accessible to the student shall not be cause to waive policies, procedures, standards, and regulations.