AT NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, YOU’LL GET A DIFFERENT KIND OF EDUCATION. OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND MODERN FACILITIES BRING CLASSROOM CONCEPTS TO LIFE THROUGH HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES.

BUILD YOUR EXPERIENCE

Experience travel and studying different cultures. Experience competition and improving lives through creative ideas. Experience learning through participation in student organizations. Your NDSU education sets you apart and prepares you for a successful life and career. Where will your NDSU experience lead you?
Will Odland, a senior in industrial engineering and management from Alexandria, Minnesota, participated in two study abroad trips to Europe. First, as a sophomore business student, he traveled to the Netherlands, Belgium and France. After changing majors as a junior, Odland explored Rome, Florence and the Tuscany region of Italy.

Odland chose NDSU’s Global Seminar Program, which combines on-campus coursework with two-week learning experiences abroad during the university’s winter, spring or summer break. He said it was the perfect amount of time for him to learn and explore. Full semester study abroad experiences also are available for students in a variety of majors.

“I was able to see beautiful buildings, landscapes and museums. I was able to eat great food and interact with locals,” Odland said. “I learned a lot from the tour guides and faculty on topics including history, architecture, business and politics. One of the benefits I experienced was developing a global mindset. Experiencing different cultures, languages and political systems gave me a better appreciation of other countries and their cultures.”

Odland visited landmarks and made new friends while learning from the people who lived in each location. He said connecting with people of different backgrounds helped him during his recent internship.

“I worked with teams from Ireland and India,” he said. “Thanks to my study abroad experiences, I was more aware of cultural nuances, more flexible and better at communicating with a diverse set of co-workers.”

Learn, travel and create your own adventure with an NDSU study abroad experience.
INvolvement in clubs and competitions at NDSU can accelerate your knowledge and professional success.

Fast track your success

NDSU students put classroom concepts to use through teamwork and competition. One example is the NDSU Formula Electric Team — 15 students building a “shrunken down, open-wheeled Indy-style race car.” The car is being designed and built for an international competition sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE).

NDSU’s electric-powered car will be about a meter wide and three meters long with a tube frame under the body and will feature a double wishbone suspension and state-of-the-art electronics. The motor currently produces 35 kilowatts of power, which will provide rapid acceleration.

Jordan Baker, a mechanical engineering student from Maple Grove, Minnesota, leads the team. “This club has helped me connect my passion for motor sports with my degree, and to realize they can coexist,” he said. “I’m getting a lot of experience, and I think it really helps team members prepare for their first internship or job.”

NDSU historically has participated in the SAE combustion engine competition, and this is the club’s first electric car. The worldwide event really puts the competitors to the test, with a technical inspection; student presentations; and acceleration, skid pad, autocross and endurance events.

Baker highly recommends NDSU for potential students interested in engineering careers. “Here at NDSU, everybody in the program knows you — that’s pretty nice. Taking part in SAE and this club helps bridge the gap between what you learn in the classroom and how to apply it in the real world,” said Baker, who is interning for Polaris Inc. and hopes to be a design engineer for the company after graduation. “That’s a huge thing for me; it gives you a head start so you can hit the ground running.”
New experiences with friends are a big part of college life. With that in mind, NDSU offers a competition you’ve likely never heard of: Canoe Battleship. During the competition, teams compete to be the last canoe floating in the Wallman Wellness Center pool.

Three-person teams use buckets of water to sink opposing canoes within a 10-minute time limit. Lifeguards push canoes closer together as time moves on. All three participants must stay in the canoe the entire time, or the team is eliminated. Scores are based on the time it takes to sink the other canoe.

“It’s a wild experience and there’s no correct way to approach it, except to expect to get wet,” said Mitchell Johnson, a pre-nursing student from Rockford, Minnesota. “Everyone has a blast. My team has been working out, because a five-gallon bucket of water is much heavier than we thought.”

Participants can catch water thrown at them, but they are not allowed to bail water out of their canoe. If a participant is caught cheating, one full bucket of water will be added to the canoe as a penalty.

The free event began in 2016. It’s held twice a year and any NDSU student can participate.

“This is my second time competing in Canoe Battleship; I love it,” Johnson said. “It’s an awesome way to meet new friends on campus. After the last event, many of us stayed to enjoy the rest of the night at the wellness center. I ended up talking with some of the guys from the winning team, and now we are not only great friends, but also roommates.”
“My professors are amazing,” Doyle said. “They really get to know you personally, and they want to make sure you get the most out of your experience in the program.”

In addition to coursework, NDSU offers many practical, hands-on learning opportunities at the Bison Information Network (BIN) television studio, KNDS Radio and The Spectrum student newspaper. Doyle’s choice is the BIN, where she is the general manager.

“We get to take the camera equipment out to shoot our own stories, and then come back to the lab and utilize the incredible video editing software in the BIN studio,” she said.

“Experience is the only way to get a job in the world of journalism and NDSU gives you all the tools to build your resume before you step out the door” Doyle said. “This department does a really good job of setting you up for success come graduation.”

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES IN A VARIETY OF PLATFORMS GIVE JOURNALISM STUDENTS THE TOOLS TO BUILD A STRONG PORTFOLIO AND RESUME.
DESIGN PRODUCTS TO IMPROVE LIVES

Helping a friend is the goal of an extraordinary senior design project by NDSU students Krystal Jamison, Ashley Jacobson, Amber Younggren and Sonny Bawi.

Their friend had complaints about her wheelchair – it didn’t match her body shape, the design wasn’t right for her active lifestyle, and it cost about $20,000. So the mechanical engineering majors went to work to design a much improved model, customized to her physical dimensions and built for her active daily needs. It also will only cost about $2,000, but even better, she won’t have to pay a penny for it, since the Department of Mechanical Engineering not only approved the project, but also agreed to fund it.

The students improved the chair’s back support, moved the wheels for better stability and put the footplate in a more comfortable position. “We will fix all these design flaws in hopes of making the best wheelchair for her needs, while also learning as much as we can through this design and manufacturing process,” said Jamison, who is from St. Paul, Minnesota.

The project has been a great hands-on learning effort for everyone involved.

“I like it because it’s a realistic experience,” said Bawi, who is from Baghdad, Iraq, and plans to design another wheelchair for his brother-in-law. “The process we are going through right now is really close to the actual process in industry. The team may get bigger, but the process is the same.”

Not all engineers get this type of experience, demonstrating how well NDSU prepares students.
Almost 200 NDSU nursing and pharmacy students became part of history while gaining practical experience during the global coronavirus pandemic. Upper-level students were trained to help healthcare systems to administer COVID-19 vaccinations to front-line healthcare workers.

NDSU nursing students in Bismarck were the first educational partners to assist in administering the COVID-19 vaccination to frontline workers in the city.

“After a wild year, this vaccine is the light at the end of the tunnel and I feel honored to have been able to be a part of history,” said Sumeja Mujanovic, a student at NDSU School of Nursing at Sanford Health in Bismarck. “This experience will definitely be something I will remember for my entire career. How cool is it that I get to say I was one of the people in the world to administer the first-ever COVID-19 vaccination?”

In Fargo, NDSU pharmacy and nursing students also assisted Essentia Health and Sanford Health in providing vaccinations quickly to front-line healthcare workers.

“I participated because there is a tremendous amount of hope being given with this vaccine. As a pharmacy student, I can help to distribute that hope,” said Martin McNichols, fourth-year pharmacy student at NDSU. “As the night went on (during the vaccination clinic), people seemed more and more upbeat, setting a possible end to this pandemic and defeat of this virus.”

EXPERIENCE

EXPERIENCES LIKE ADMINISTERING VACCINES DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS SERVE THE COMMUNITY WHILE EXPANDING YOUR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE.

HEAL THE WORLD

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EXPERIENCE

NDSU OFFERS HUNDREDS OF STUDENT CLUBS. JOIN ONE (OR A FEW) TO PERFORM, COMPETE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, BUILD LEADERSHIP SKILLS OR JUST HAVE FUN.

connect

Learn more at ndsu.edu/experience

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