

## **Swarthmore Info Guide**

### **School Type**

Private, nonsectarian, liberal arts with engineering

### **School Size**

- Number of undergrads: 1,581
- 98% of students returning sophomore year

### **Location**

- Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, 11 miles southwest of Philadelphia
- Suburban
- 425 acres, comprising a renowned Arboretum, featuring rolling lawns, a creek, wooded hills, hiking

### **Diversity**

Gender Diversity:

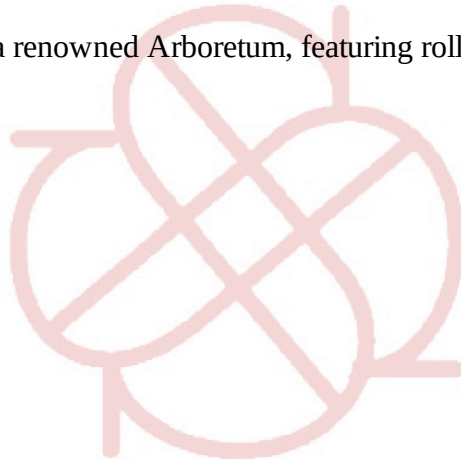
- 51% Female
- 49% Male

Ethnic Diversity:

- 42% White
- 17 % Asian
- 13% Hispanic/Latino
- 6% Black/African American

Geographic Diversity:

- Top states: New York (12%), California (12%), Pennsylvania (11%), New Jersey (7%), Washington (3%)



## **Financial Info**

- 24% of students receive federal loans
- Average student debt upon graduation: \$18,100
- 61% of students receive financial aid

## **Admissions Info**

- Acceptance Rate: 9%
- Tuition: \$54, 256 (in and out-of-state)
- Requirements:
  - Essay/Statement (Required)
  - SAT/ACT (Optional)
    - Average SAT Score: 1460
    - Composite 1380 – 1540
    - Reading 680 – 750
    - Math 700 – 790
    - Average ACT Score: 33
    - Composite 31 – 35
    - English 33 – 35
    - Math 29 – 34
  - Subject Tests (Optional)
  - Resume (Optional)
  - Portfolio (Optional)
  - Interview (Optional)
  - Audition or Portfolio Review (Optional)
  - Application Fee: \$60
  - Application Deadlines:
    - Early Decision: November 15
    - Early Decision II: January 1
    - Regular Decision: January 1

## **Core Curriculum/Requirements**

### Distribution Requirements:

- At least 20 credits outside of one major department before graduation
- At least three courses in each of the three divisions of the College
- At least two courses in each division in different departmental subjects
- At least three W courses or W seminars, and those three must include work in at least two divisions
- Complete one science laboratory course

### Physical Education Requirement:

- Complete 4 units of physical education by the end of their sophomore year
- All students must pass a survival swimming test or complete a unit of swimming instruction
- Foreign Language Requirement:
- Successfully studied 3 years or the "block" equivalent of a single foreign language during grades 9 through 12

### Graduation Requirements:

- Completed 32 course credits or their equivalent
- An average grade of at least C in the Swarthmore courses counted for graduation
- Complied with the distribution requirements and have completed at least 20 credits outside one major department
- Fulfilled the foreign language requirement
- Met the requirements in the major and supporting fields during the last 2 years
- Passed the comprehensive examinations satisfactorily in his or her major field or met the standards set by visiting examiners for a degree with honors
- Completed four semesters of study at Swarthmore College
- Met the physical education requirement.
- Paid all outstanding bills and returned all equipment and library books

## **Academics**

- 49 majors
- More than 600 courses are offered
- Student to faculty ratio→8:1
- Class sizes are small, usually consisting of fewer than 20 students
- Three Divisions:
  - Humanities: Art and Art History, Classics (literature), English Literature, Film and Media Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Music and Dance, Philosophy, Religion, Spanish, and Theater.
  - Natural sciences and Engineering: Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and Astronomy, and Psychology courses that qualify for the natural sciences and engineering practicum.
  - Social sciences: Classics (ancient history), Economics, Educational Studies, History, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology (other than natural sciences and engineering practicum courses), and Sociology and Anthropology.
- All students are required to have one major to graduate
- A second major, minor, and Honors are optional

## **First-Year Experience**

During their first semester at Swarthmore, students are evaluated using a pass/fail system.

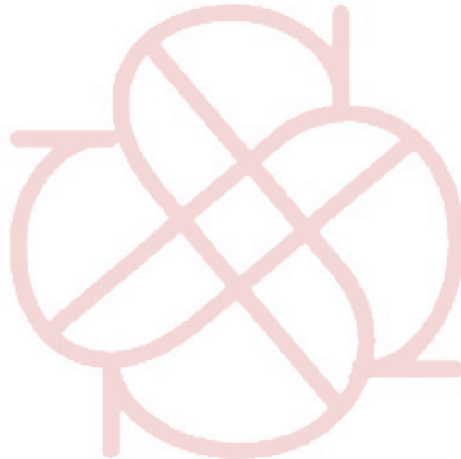
You are graded, but grades don't go on your transcript (you either get credit or you don't)

Allows students to adjust to college and take risks to focus on learning (not letter grades)

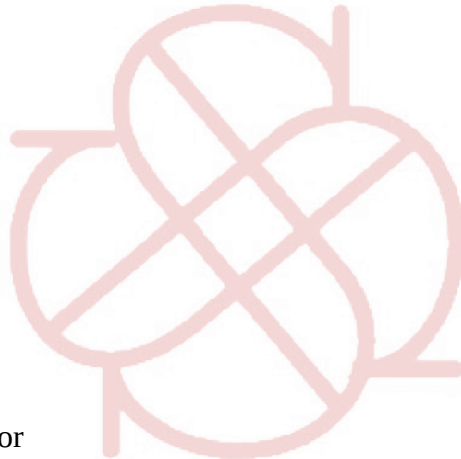
- First-Year Seminars are offered to freshmen
- Small courses
- Introduce students to a particular field of study and teaches learning skills
- Tri-College Consortium (Tri-Co)
- Collaboration amongst Bryn Mawr College, Haverford College, and Swarthmore College
- Allows students to register for courses at the other colleges
- The Quaker Consortium joins the Tri-co with the University of Pennsylvania and offers cross-registration for courses there as well
- Expands social and academic opportunities

**List of Majors:**

- Ancient history
- Anthropology
- Arabic
- Art and Art History
- Asian Studies
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Black Studies
- Chemistry
- Chinese
- Classics
- Cognitive Science
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Economics
- Educational Studies
- Engineering
- English Literature
- Environmental Studies
- Film & Media Studies
- French and Francophone Studies
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- German Studies
- Global Studies
- Greek
- History
- Interpretation Theory
- Islamic Studies



- Japanese
- Latin
- Latin American and Latino Studies
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Medieval Studies
- Modern Languages & Literatures
- Music
- Peace & Conflict Studies
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Religion
- Russian
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Theater
- Design Your Own Major
- Opportunity to create your own distinct program (Ex. Ethnomusicology, Health and Social Policy, Urban Studies, Dance & Anthropology)



### **Opportunities:**

- Week-long externships during winter break
- See what it's like to work at your dream job
- Undergraduate Research or Independent Creative Projects
- Supported by more than \$800,000 in grants
- Opportunities are available in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and engineering divisions, as well as for social action projects.
- Summer Research and Opportunities program

- Students take the time and effort to pursue a creative scholarly project, internship, work/research leading to thesis, immersion, etc. during the summer months
- Expands the professional exposure of students.
- Three divisions of research: Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, or Natural Sciences and Engineering
- Funding for social action projects
- Students may submit proposals for the following types of work:
  - laboratory, field, archival, and/or desk research
  - Internships
  - Creative arts
  - Intensive language study
  - Engaged scholarship
  - Academically informed activism
  - Work to support an honors preparation
  - Research leading to a thesis
  - Honors Program
    - Here is a webinar with everything you need to know about this program:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLZ01hiiGE>

### **Student Life/Environment**

- 100+ clubs & societies
- As of 2019, Swarthmore no longer offers Greek life
- Being such a small school, Swarthmore offers a collaborative and tight-knit community
- Home of the Scott Arboretum
- Beautiful gardens that stretch along the campus
- Traditions
- First Collection
- During orientation week, first-years gather in Scott Amphitheater to mark their official start of college
- 'The Graduate' Screening

- Crum Regatta
- Mary Lyon Halloween Party
- Pterodactyl Hunt
- Primal Scream
- Winter Formal
- Screw Your Roommate
- Ninjagrams
- Bathtub Debates
- Battle of the Bands
- Worthstock
- Rose at Commencement
- Campus Tour: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeZYshApzbM>

### **Athletics**

22 varsity sports, club sports, and physical education; Division III

Men's Varsity Sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross country
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field (Indoor and Outdoor)

Women's Varsity Sports:

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Field Hockey
- Lacrosse



- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field (Indoor and Outdoor)
- Volleyball

### **Dorms/Housing**

95% of students live on campus

Dorm Tour: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9Mb7kFFS5Q>

- Palmer Hall
  - Occupancy: 31 students
  - Coed
  - Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors ONLY
  - Large kitchen and lounge that is shared with the connecting Hall—Pittenger
  - Close to the athletic center & Swarthmore Campus and Community Store
  - A mixture of single and double beds
  - Gender-inclusive hall bathrooms
  - Joined to Pittenger via a covered walkway
- Parrish Hall
  - Located at the center of campus
  - Occupancy: 120
  - All-female east wing
  - All-male west wing
  - Mainly for upperclassmen, but some freshmen reside here
  - High ceilings and large windows
  - Closet space can be limited
  - Large, central lounge on the 4th floor
- Pittenger Hall
  - Occupancy: 50

- Coed
- Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors ONLY
- Large kitchen and lounge that is shared with the connecting Hall—Palmer
- Close to the athletic center & Swarthmore Campus and Community Store
- Mixture of single and double beds
- Gender-inclusive hall bathrooms
- Joined to Palmer via a covered walkway
- Shared courtyard with a grill for BBQ's
- PPR Apartments
  - Relatively new (2017)
  - Occupancy: 125
  - Coed
  - Suite-style residential community
  - Courtyard
  - Three different structures that are interconnected on all floors w/ central elevator
  - View of baseball/softball fields
  - Easy access to restaurants and shops
  - Each suite (5-6 junior or senior students) includes a common living room, kitchen space, bathroom/shower rooms, and individual single rooms
  - Larger units (9-11 students) include a two-story loft-style experience
- Roberts Hall
  - Occupancy: 43
  - Coed
  - Upperclassmen ONLY
  - Courtyard
  - Single, double, and/or triple beds arranged into suites (accommodates up to five people sharing a semi-private bathroom)
  - Large kitchen
  - Large common area
  - Spacious with windows and high ceilings
- Wharton Hall

- Occupancy: 218
- Coed
- Divided into three sections: AB, CD, and EF
- CD houses seniors
- AB and EF houses first years
- Small lounges scattered throughout the building
- Main lounge in the central section
- Beautiful views and close to the dining hall
- Willets Hall
  - Occupancy: 123
  - Coed
  - Close to many resources
  - Houses mostly first years
  - Mostly double beds
  - Large windows and natural light
  - Large lounge on each floor
- Woolman House
  - Occupancy: 22
  - Coed
  - Upperclassmen ONLY
  - Has the feel of off-campus living
  - Each floor has several rooms and shared bathrooms
  - Hardwood floors and large windows
  - Kitchen
  - Laundry
  - Communal lounge with piano
  - Fireplace
  - Computer station
- Worth Hall
  - Occupancy: 75

- Coed
- Upperclassmen ONLY
- Singles, two-room doubles, and sometimes two-room triples
- Split into six separate sections with connecting passageways
- Bathrooms are semi-private and gender-inclusive
- Scenic courtyard

## **Food**

### Dining Dollars

- Can be used at college dining venues: Sharples, Essie Mae's Snack Bar, Kohlberg Coffee Bar and Science Center Coffee Bar
- Do not carry over to the next semester

### Swat Points

- Can be used at college dining venues: Sharples, Essie Mae's Snack Bar, Kohlberg Coffee Bar and Science Center Coffee Bar, or at participating merchants in the Borough of Swarthmore

### Garnet Cash

- Can be added to any meal plan and is similar to using cash on a debit card
- Can add Garnet Cash to your account if you are living off-campus and not on a meal plan

### Dining Locations:

- Sharples Dining Hall
  - Great sense of community
  - Locally sourced food
  - Gluten-free, vegetarian, and vegan options
- The Crumb Café
  - Student-run late-night venue
- Essie Mae's Snack Bar
  - Various breakfast selections
  - Lunch and dinner: sandwiches, comfort food, salads, and more!
  - Gluten-free, vegan, and vegetarian options

- Kohlberg Coffee Bar
  - Great study space!
  - Café food: roasted coffee, teas, smoothies, soups, sandwiches, etc.
- Science Center Café
  - Locally roasted coffee, baked goods, and lunch
  - Fresh sushi and Chinese food delivered daily from a local restaurant

### Meal Plans

- All of the plans include:
  - A late-night snack equivalency
  - 3 guest meals per semester

### **Local Dining**

Variety of places for off-campus dining. Some include:

- Aria Mediterranean Cuisine
- Bamboo Bistro
- Bertucci's
- Carrabba's Italian Grill
- Dunkin Donuts
- Famous Dave's BBQ
- Heng's Thai Restaurant
- Iron Hill Brewery
- Long Horn Steakhouse
- Olive Garden Italian Restaurant
- Outback Steakhouse
- Panera Bread
- Pei Wei Asian Diner
- Renato Pizza

