

A PROFILE & SHORT HISTORY OF COLORADO COLLEGE

Colorado College is an independent liberal arts college, located at the foot of Pikes Peak. Established in 1874 as a coeducational institution, the College occupies a 90-acre campus in a residential section of Colorado Springs, a community of about 400,000 people. In the 2007-08 academic year, the College enrollment averaged 2,053 undergraduate students. Approximately fifty-five percent are women and forty-five percent were men. The College grants both the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree and the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree.

Although the College requires all students to concentrate their academic work around a “major” field of study, it strongly encourages students to develop an active appreciation for the interconnection of ideas and different disciplines through the general education program. The primary goal of Colorado College is not to develop specialists, but to develop women and men who possess a broad spectrum of knowledge and ideals; who are equipped to think and express themselves imaginatively; and who live productively according to their best insights and values.

A distinguishing feature of Colorado College is the Block Plan, a system implemented in 1970 and developed and refined since then. The Block Plan divides the academic year into eight three-and-a-half week segments known as “blocks.” Students typically take one block at a time, and similarly, faculty teach one block at a time. (Each block is equivalent to four hours of credit under a traditional semester system.) Variations of the plan include courses lasting more than one block, and team-taught blocks. Generally, students complete eight blocks per academic year.

There are several noteworthy instructional features of the Block Plan. First, courses do not place competing demands on students; thus, students are able to give their full attention to each course they take, without “time-stealing” from other courses. Each class day is extremely important. One result is that there is a very high level of class attendance. In addition, class sizes are kept small; there is a limit of 25 students per class, with an average class size of approximately 13 students. First Year Seminars have a maximum class size of 15, Emphasis on Writing courses have a limit of 12, and team-taught courses have a limit of 32 students. Class time is unregulated by rigid schedules, and instructors are free to organize the blocks in a variety of ways. Under this system, lectures are used less frequently than under other systems, and seminar discussions, active laboratories and field experiences are used more frequently.

Interdisciplinary courses are common, including courses team-taught by faculty from different disciplines. Interdisciplinary majors and thematic minors, structured around related courses drawn from two or more disciplines, are common as well. There is an emphasis on student writing in most classes, supported by the college’s Writing Center. Independent study is encouraged through independent study courses and supervised theses carried out in addition to a student’s normal course load. Students have numerous opportunities to study off-campus, including study abroad and our faculty is enriched by a variety of block visitors. The concentrated format, small classes, and variety of learning options are carefully designed with one vital educational principle in mind: At Colorado College, the student is an active participant instead of a passive recipient in the learning process.

STATEMENT OF MISSION AND CORE VALUES

MISSION: At Colorado College our goal is to provide the finest liberal arts education in the country. Drawing upon the adventurous spirit of the Rocky Mountain West, we challenge students, one course at a time, to develop those habits of intellect and imagination that will prepare them for learning and leadership throughout their lives.

CORE VALUES: As members of the Colorado College community, we share a commitment to

- honor the life of the mind as the central focus of our common endeavor;
- value all persons and seek to learn from their diverse experiences and perspectives;
- practice intellectual honesty and live with integrity;
- serve as stewards of the traditions and resources of Colorado College;
- nurture a sense of place and an ethic of environmental sustainability;
- encourage engagement and social responsibility at local, national and global levels;
- seek excellence, constantly assessing our policies and programs

Source: <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/welcome/mission/>, Colorado College

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, GENERAL INFORMATION

Founded:	1871 by General William Jackson Palmer (Colorado College founded 1874)
Description:	Colorado's Second-Largest City
Elevation:	6,035 Feet Above Sea Level
Elevation Pikes Peak Summit:	14,110 Feet Above Sea Level
Square Miles:	186
Population (2007):¹	City: 376,427 Metro Area: 609,096
County:	El Paso
Median Age:²	34.0
Median Household Income:²	\$47,854
Universities:	12
Colleges:	8
Graduate Schools:	4
Major Industries:	Tourism, Military, Space Technology, Computers and Electronics, Healthcare, Printing and Publishing, Manufacturing
Climate:	Moderate temperatures throughout the year.
Avg. Yearly Days of Sunshine:	Nearly 300
Avg. Yearly Precipitation:	17.4 Inches
Avg. Yearly Snowfall:	37 Inches

Source (unless otherwise indicated): The Colorado Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau: 2005 Annual Report

¹U.S. Census Bureau Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Estimates 2007

²Source: United States Census Bureau: 2005 American Community Survey Data Profile Highlights

COLORADO COLLEGE, GENERAL INFORMATION

Founded:	1874
Affiliation:	Independent, not-for-profit
Accreditation:	North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (NCA). State of Colorado Board of Education.
Degrees Offered:	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Masters in Teaching (M.A.T)
Academic Calendar:	Block Schedule (Eight three and a half week blocks and a two and a half week “half block” in January; Summer Session blocks, which are three weeks in length, are also offered every summer)
Campus Size:	94 acres
Location:	14 E. Cache La Poudre Street Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
Athletic Conferences:	Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) for Division I men’s ice hockey, Conference USA for Division I women’s soccer, and Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference for Division III sports other than lacrosse and water polo.
School colors:	Black and Gold
School mascot:	Tiger

Source: Colorado College web pages

OVERVIEW OF THE COLORADO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Colorado College Board of Trustees as of September 2008

Overview of Board of Trustees:

Total number of trustees: 32

Includes:

The President of the College
26 Charter Trustees (elected by the board)
3 Trustees Elected by Alumni
President of the Alumni Association Board
Past President of the Alumni Association Board

26 trustees are alumni of Colorado College

Terms of Office:

For charter trustees:	4 years
For alumni-elected trustees:	6 years
For President and Past President of Alumni Association Board:	2 years

Geographical Distribution (census bureau categories):

Colorado:	12
Other West:	12
Midwest:	2
Northeast:	2
South:	4

Source: Director of the Office of the President

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Undergraduate Programs

The Colorado College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (NCA). The address and telephone numbers for the NCA are:

30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602
312/263-0456 OR 800/621-7440

Last reaccreditation review: 2007

Graduate Program

Teacher education programs, including the Master of Arts in Teaching program, are accredited by the State of Colorado Board of Education. The State Board of Education may be contacted through Colorado's Department of Education at:

201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203-1799

Last reaccreditation review: 2005

Source: Office of the Dean and Education Department

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

U.S. News & World Report: America's Best Colleges: "Best Liberal Arts"

Year	Publication Date	Academic Year	Ranking
2009	September 2008	2007-08	30
2008	September 2007	2006-07	26
2007	September 2006	2005-06	26
2006	September 2005	2004-05	27
2005	September 2004	2003-04	33
Average ranking over past 5 years:			28.4

Peer Group Comparisons: U.S. News & World Report Rankings AY 2003-04 through AY 2007-08

Peer School	Academic Year and Ranking				
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Amherst	2	2	2	2	1
Carleton	5	5	6	5	8
Colby	19	20	20	22	23
Grinnell	16	15	14	11	14
Kenyon	29	32	32	32	32
Hamilton	19	15	17	17	20
Macalester	26	25	24	26	25
Middlebury	11	8	5	5	5
Oberlin	23	23	22	20	20
Pomona	5	6	7	7	6
Trinity College	24	25	30	34	33
Williams	1	1	1	1	1

Source: U.S. News & World Report, September Issue 2008, Annual Report

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO

Full-Time Undergraduate Students to F.T.E. Faculty

AY 2004-05 through AY 2008-09

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Registered Undergraduate Students	1994	1928	1939	2034	1972
Faculty FTE	208 ¹	206 ¹	195 ¹	186 ¹	205 ¹
Student/Faculty Ratio	9.6:1	9.4:1	9.9:1	10.9:1	9.6:1

¹F.T.E. Faculty calculated by Full-Time Faculty plus total books taught by Part-Time Faculty divided by six (full-time course load).

Source: Common Data Sets, 2004-2008

TUITION & FEES

Annual Tuition Rates and General Fees

2004-2005 through 2008-2009

	Academic Year				
	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-08	2008-09
Tuition and Fees	\$28,644	\$30,048	\$32,124	\$33,972	\$35,844
Room	3,880	4,116	4,368	\$4,630	\$5,024
Board	3,336	3,504	3,684	\$3,868	\$4,072
COMPREHENSIVE CHARGE	\$35,860	\$37,668	\$40,176	\$42,470	\$44,940

Percent Change in Comprehensive Charge From Previous Year

2004-2005 through 2008-2009

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Percent Change	+5.6	+5.0	+6.7	+5.7	+5.8

Source: *The Colorado College Catalog of Courses: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09*

DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED

Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Humanities

Art: History	50.0703
Art: Studio	50.0702
Classics	16.1200
Classics/English.....	23.0101
Comparative Literature.....	16.0104
Dance.....	50.0301
Drama	50.0501
English.....	23.0101
English: Creative Writing.....	23.0501
English: Film Studies	50.0601
French/Francophone Studies	05.0124
German: Language & Literature.....	16.0501
Italian Studies	05.0126
Music	50.0901
Philosophy	38.0101
Religion	38.0201
Romance Languages: French/Italian	16.0901
Romance Languages: French/Spanish	16.0901
Romance Languages: Italian/French	16.0902
Romance Languages: Italian/Spanish	16.0902
Romance Languages: Spanish/French	16.0905
Romance Languages: Spanish/Italian	16.0905
Russian: Language & Literature.....	16.0402
Spanish: Hispanic Studies	05.0203

Natural Sciences

Biology	26.0101
Biochemistry.....	26.0202
Chemistry	40.0501

Computer Science.....	11.0199
Environmental Policy	03.0103
Environmental Science: Integrated...	03.0104
Environmental Science: Chemistry ..	03.0104
Environmental Science: Physics	03.0104
Geology	40.0601
Mathematics	27.0101
Neuroscience	30.2401
Physics.....	40.0801
Psychology	42.0101

Social Sciences

Anthropology.....	45.0201
Economics	45.0601
History	54.0101
History/Political Science	45.9999
Political Economy: International	45.0605
Political Science	45.1001
Sociology	45.1101

Interdisciplinary Studies

Asian Studies	05.0103
Classics/History/Politics	30.9999
German/Other Combination	30.9999
History/Philosophy	30.9999
Liberal Arts & Sciences.....	24.0199
Math: Emphasis Computer Science..	30.0801
Mathematical Economics	45.0603
Feminist & Gender Studies.....	05.0207
Russian/Eurasian Studies.....	05.0110
Southwest Studies.....	05.0122

Graduate: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

For prospective teachers:

Elementary School Teaching (General), 13.1202

Secondary School Teaching (Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art,

Music, English, French, Japanese, Latin, German, Spanish), 13.1206

For experienced teachers:

Humanities for Secondary School Teachers, 13.1206

Liberal Arts for Elementary School Teachers, 13.1202

Integrated Natural Science for Teachers of All Levels, 13.1205

Southwest Studies for Teachers of All Levels, 13.1205