



CAMPUS PROFILE

THE UNIVERSITY

As articulated in the university's vision statement, Viterbo is a *Catholic, Franciscan university boldly transforming students and our communities through service, collaboration, and leadership.*



Viterbo University was founded in 1890 as St. Rose Normal School by the *Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration* to prepare Sisters to teach in elementary schools. Collegiate courses were introduced in 1923. In 1937, the name of the college was changed from St. Rose College to Viterbo College. Lay women were admitted in 1943. Men were admitted in 1970. In 2000, Viterbo changed from college to university status. The university introduced its first doctorate program in nursing practice in 2013.

In fall of 2022, the university enrolled 2,457 students overall with 1,390 undergraduate and 1,067 graduate students. Ninety-eight percent of undergraduate students receive financial aid and the average financial aid need met is 85 percent. With an 11:1 student-to-faculty ratio, the average class size is 16, helping to cultivate the strong relationships shared among students and faculty through mentoring, advising, and teaching. Viterbo currently enrolls students from 38 countries. Today, there are more than 23,000 living Viterbo alumni worldwide. The university employs 358 individuals including 118 faculty.

A warm and welcoming community for students, faculty, and staff of all faiths, Viterbo's proud Catholic and Franciscan heritage can be felt throughout campus. As one of only 23 Franciscan universities in the U.S., Viterbo's mission to prepare students for faithful service and ethical leadership provides a values-based education grounded in leadership through service, with a strong emphasis on ethics. In keeping with the tradition of its Franciscan founders, the university has established five core values: *Contemplation*, reflecting upon the presence of God in our lives and work; *Hospitality*, welcoming everyone we encounter as an honored guest; *Integrity*, striving for honesty in everything we say and do; *Stewardship*, practicing responsible use of all resources in our trust; and *Service*, working for the common good in the spirit of humility and joy.

In recent years, Viterbo has expanded both undergraduate and graduate offerings, including programs in engineering, computer science, nutrition/dietetics, counseling, and tracks in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

A program to serve military-aligned students and their families was successfully launched and continues to grow. Athletics added several sports; women's volleyball ended the 2019 season ranked third in the NAIA, and women's cross country earned a first ever conference title. Through collaboration with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse and philanthropic support, Viterbo has launched a full-tuition scholarship for a member of the local club. In 2020 Viterbo launched a co-admission program with Western Technical College, allowing students to seamlessly transfer between the institutions.

Take a [virtual campus tour](#) or watch our short [campus tour video](#).

LEADERSHIP

[President Rick Trietley](#) is supported by the members of the Cabinet, which includes the vice president for administration and finance; the vice president for academic affairs and institutional effectiveness; the vice president for advancement; the vice president for enrollment management; the vice president for student life and dean of students; the vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion; the executive director of university relations; the executive director of mission and social justice; and the university chaplain. The Cabinet is joined by the deans and the faculty and staff assembly leaders to form the leadership council for the university, and serve on various committees of the Board of Trustees. The university has a two-tier governance system with a 31-member Board of Trustees and the sponsoring entity, Viterbo Ministries (a Public Juridic Person).

President Trietley serves as the 10th president of Viterbo after serving in student affairs at Viterbo and St. Bonaventure University. This follows a 22-year career in the U.S. Army, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. His work as president is guided by the [Strategic Plan](#) and [Vision 2027: Imagine, Believe, Act](#).

ACADEMICS

Over a century ago, the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration recognized the importance of educating the whole person when they began teaching young students in the La Crosse area. This tradition continues to guide a Viterbo education through liberal arts and professional programs that include an associate degree, 40 [undergraduate degree programs](#), nine graduate degrees, and multiple certification programs.

Viterbo University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and received re-accreditation in 2018.

Academic programs are housed within three colleges and the conservatory:

- College of Business, Leadership, Ethics, and Education
- College of Engineering, Letters, and Sciences
- College of Nursing and Health
- Conservatory for the Performing Arts



Undergraduate Education

The university's core curriculum is grounded in the liberal arts and prepares students to live and work in a global society, affirm the dignity of all people, embrace a passion for justice, revere the natural world, and nurture a spirit of inquiry and a love of truth. Viterbo students study a broad range of disciplines, from the natural and social sciences to the arts and humanities, so they may fully appreciate and understand the world and their role within it. The university offers more than 40 undergraduate majors and 41 minors—complete with internships, study abroad, and research opportunities—firmly rooted in the liberal

arts so that students learn to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, integrate knowledge from different disciplines, and apply knowledge and skills in real world settings, preparing them for an increasingly complex and interconnected world after graduation.

Bachelor Completion and Graduate Education

Since 1976, Viterbo has been serving the needs of working professionals. The bachelor completion and graduate programs offer a specialized learning environment tailored specifically for serving the needs of working adults with classroom-based and online offerings. The programs offered include:

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Graduate programs in education, including Master of Arts in Education and licensure programs
- Master of Arts in Servant Leadership
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling
- Master of Science in Community Medical Dietetics
- Master of Science in Nursing (direct entry)
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- EdD in Counselor Education and Supervision
- EdD in Ethical Leadership

Viterbo's graduate degree programs offer a unique combination of academic rigor, a solid foundation in ethics, and a balance between life and work. Viterbo offers nine master's degrees, three doctorates, and 19 certificates. A Graduate Council, comprised of an interdisciplinary team of leaders from the graduate programs, provides oversight.

The university's center in West Des Moines, Iowa, serves primarily as the home for the Iowa Graduate Programs in Education. Additionally, Viterbo offers graduate education programs throughout Wisconsin.

ONLINE BACHELOR COMPLETION PROGRAMS

- Accounting
- Business Leadership
- Elementary Education
- Health Care Management
- Nursing



Experiential Learning

All students at Viterbo have the opportunity to engage in experiential learning, whether as a component of their major or through internships, volunteering, service, research projects, or study abroad. Viterbo recognizes that internship experiences are an essential component of students' education, providing them with a chance to learn new skills, network with professionals in their field, apply coursework to a real-world work situation, and explore career options. Service learning is facilitated by the creation of UGetConnected, a one-stop, online center formed in partnership with Great Rivers United Way, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and Western Technical College.



Following in the Franciscan tradition of peacemaking, social justice and equity courses help students serve the common good by presenting social justice frameworks they can use as the basis for making recommendations to improve community life, politics, or government. Students engage in a range of activities including service learning, critical reflection, collaborative problem solving, and academic research. In addition, monthly Service Saturdays include a variety of service learning opportunities with the Children's Museum, Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, and many other non-profit organizations.

Viterbo University is dedicated to undergraduate research by providing students with resources and opportunities to engage in meaningful faculty-student collaborative research and creative work; supplying infrastructure and support to faculty who mentor undergraduate research and creative work; facilitating students' presentations of their scholarship to faculty, peers, and community members; and fostering the growth of students as inquisitive scholars, engaged citizens, and ethical leaders. Each year the university holds three research showcases: Scholars Days, a university-wide celebration of student achievement across academic disciplines; the Seven Rivers Undergraduate Research Symposium, a premier regional conference on undergraduate research and creative inquiry; and the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, which supports faculty-student collaborative research and creative projects during the summer.



Study abroad is one of the most enriching and life-changing experiences Viterbo can provide to its students, allowing them the opportunity to deepen their understanding and appreciation of places, people, and cultures, as well as global issues as a foundation for decision-making and action as they lead and serve after graduation. Many of these experiences are faculty-led. Students have traveled to Belize, China, Guatemala, England, Italy, and South Africa among other destinations.

DISTINCTIONS

- One hundred percent of Viterbo's alumni report being employed or attending graduate school within six months of graduation.
- Viterbo University was designated as a Top 10 Gold Military Friendly School—one of only four colleges and two privates in Wisconsin to earn that distinction—by G.I. Jobs. Viterbo has also been recognized as a Military Friendly Spouse school.
- Viterbo University was consistently recognized for community service through the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, demonstrating that its students, faculty, and staff are engaged in meaningful service that achieves measurable results in the community.
- Viterbo graduates more four-year nurses than any other private university in Wisconsin.
- The Dahl School of Business offers guaranteed paid internships to all business majors, and the largest regional MBA program.
- Viterbo is recognized as a silver level Champions of Character Five-Star Institution by the NAIA. Criterion include character training, conduct in competition, academic focus, character recognition, character promotion, and their commitment to the five NAIA core values: integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership.
- Viterbo was named a 2022 Top School of Online Master's Degree Program in Dietetics.
- The D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership, created in 1999, provides opportunities for education, research, and dialogue about significant ethical ideas and issues through prominent speakers, academic conferences, sponsored academic fellowships and other initiatives. The institute also boasts Viterbo's only endowed professorship.

FINANCES

Viterbo University is in a strong financial position. The university is tuition dependent and the challenge to recruit traditional undergraduate students from the declining number of high school graduates is affecting undergraduate enrollment. The institution has an endowment of about \$70 million, with a significant portion unrestricted. The Board of Trustees values strategic thinking and innovation and allows the use of the unrestricted endowment funds to fund strategic initiatives. The long-term debt is less than \$2 million. The total operating budget is \$58 million.

CAMPUS LIFE

Students have ample opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive through a variety of campus programs. Cornerstones of campus life include the campus recreation center and intramural leagues, Viterbo's leadership development program, the Identities Project, and more than 30 active student clubs and organizations, including academic, spiritual, cultural, and social clubs. Viterbo has a vibrant residential housing program, which includes a first and second year residency requirement and eight residential facilities. Campus dining offerings include Viterbo's campus coffee shop, Einstein Bros. Bagels at Franny's, as well as the P.O.D. Market and the Caf, Viterbo's main dining hall. Support services abound through counseling services; Academic Resource Center; Diversity and Inclusion Center; academic and career development; health services; the Bias Response Intervention team (BRIT); and the Campus Assessment, Referral, and Education (CARE) team.

Mission and Ministry

Viterbo provides opportunities for employees and students to engage in the institutional mission. The Mission Integration committee is comprised of faculty and staff from across campus and provides direction and advice on how to continually incorporate mission into campus. The annual St. Francis Week activities, Sister Thea Bowman Week, and a variety of other options make the mission visible on campus.

Campus Ministry at Viterbo University serves as a vehicle for implementing the mission of Viterbo University as a Catholic, Franciscan university embracing persons of all faiths in an ecumenical Christian community and preparing students for ethical leadership and service rooted in the values of human dignity and respect for the world. It is the specific mission of Viterbo Campus Ministry to proclaim the Good News to the Viterbo University community in a prophetic, yet reconciling and welcoming way. Weekly worship is held and various retreat, service, and volunteer opportunities are offered throughout the year.

Viterbo also boasts a Diversity and Inclusion Center, multi-faith prayer space, the Sister Thea Bowman Center and Military Student Success Center to provide additional space for reflection and for building community.



Athletics

Viterbo athletics is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), North Star Athletic Association. The Viterbo V-Hawks compete in: men's basketball, baseball, bowling, cross country, golf, soccer, volleyball, and track (indoor/outdoor); women's basketball, bowling, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, track (indoor/outdoor), volleyball, and co-ed Esports and competitive dance. The R.W. Beggs Sr. Gymnasium in the Varsity Athletics Center is home to basketball and volleyball games on campus, while Viterbo's soccer, softball, and baseball fields are located approximately 3.5 miles north of the main campus at the Outdoor Athletics Complex. Student athletes are supported by the V-Hawk Strength Center, modern locker rooms, athletic trainers, and talent scholarships. Viterbo student athletes thrive academically with many students earning GPAs above 3.5, and retention and graduation rates exceeding those of the overall student body.



The Arts

Viterbo's magnificent **Fine Arts Center** attracts over 90,000 patrons annually—adults and children alike—to concerts, shows, lectures, and theatrical performances. The Fine Arts Center includes a main theatre, recital hall, black box theatre, dance studios, and art gallery. The main theatre's Broadway-sized stage hosts a mixture of professional musical artists, dance companies, and touring theatre companies, including in recent years *Jersey Boys* and *Hairspray*. In addition, each season, approximately 20,000 area school children and teachers attend matinees in the Arts for Young America school series, which enhances the classroom curriculum with connections to popular children's literature, historical events, multiculturalism, music, and dance.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Viterbo University is proud to partner with many regional corporations and non-profits, including neighbors Mayo Clinic Health System-Franciscan Healthcare and Gundersen Health System. To support comprehensive education in the Catholic intellectual tradition, Viterbo has partnerships with Aquinas Catholic Schools, Regis Catholic Schools, and Pacelli Catholic High School. Viterbo also partners with TheDream.US to offer full tuition scholarships to undocumented immigrant students in Wisconsin.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse

Last year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse and Viterbo University celebrated the 15-year anniversary of the [*Amie L. Mathy Center*](#), a fitness center for students at the university that doubles as a place for children of the Boys & Girls Club of the south side of La Crosse to gather after school. This unique joint project is the first of its kind in the nation, combining assets and strengths of both organizations for the betterment of youth and the surrounding neighborhood, while promoting well-being and the physical, recreational, and educational development of students of all ages.

La Crosse Community Theatre

In 2013, Viterbo University and the community of La Crosse celebrated the opening of the [*Weber Center for the Performing Arts*](#). Located a short distance from Viterbo's main campus, the Weber Center is a collaborative venue supporting the missions of La Crosse Community Theatre and Viterbo University. It is located on the Mississippi River in the heart of La Crosse's downtown arts district. The Weber Center serves as a performance and learning center where students are able to perform and attend classes in acting and stage direction, while also expanding and advancing Viterbo's regional and national arts reputation and providing a beautiful community asset for events through cooperation and sustainability.

LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

Located along the Mississippi River and with a population of 51,000, La Crosse is home not only to Viterbo University but also to the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Western Technical College. Viterbo's campus is just a 20-minute drive from the La Crosse Municipal Airport and 10-minute walk from downtown La Crosse which has experienced significant growth in recent years. The downtown offers farmers' markets, hotels, restaurants, specialty shops, and events, such as those at the [*Weber Center for the Performing Arts*](#). The [*La Crosse Center*](#), a convention hall and arena with meeting and exhibit space, also serves as a premier Midwest convention site and entertainment destination for acts such as Elton John and the Harlem Globetrotters. In addition, there are beautiful riverfront parks and outdoor recreation areas including bike paths, running trails, and kayaking. Grandad Bluff, the largest bluff in the La Crosse area, is a particularly popular attraction, well known for its scenic overlook of La Crosse and the tri-state area. La Crosse is also within a three-hour drive of Madison, Wis. and St. Paul/Minneapolis, and just over three hours from Milwaukee.



In addition, La Crosse is a regional technology and medical hub with multiple hospitals, including the Mayo Clinic Health System and Gundersen Health System. Also, the [*La Crosse Promise*](#), a local non-profit organization, is working to transform La Crosse economically and improve the quality of life for all citizens through a strong commitment to education.

La Crosse has been named as one of the best places to live, a top small city where business is thriving, and one of the most exciting small cities in America. To learn more about La Crosse, visit <http://cityoflacrosse.org/>, www.explorelacrosse.com/ or www.lacrossedowntown.com/. For a scenic overview of the city, [click here](#).

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Viterbo University is accepting applications for the position of vice president for academic affairs and institutional effectiveness (VPAAIE).

The Position

Reporting to the president, the vice president for academic affairs and institutional effectiveness is the chief academic officer responsible for providing administrative leadership, direction, and evaluation for all academic activities and faculty affairs of the university. This includes program review and continuous improvement; accreditation and self-evaluation; assessment of student learning and advancement of student success; personnel decisions; budget development and fiscal accountability; program and curriculum development; continuous improvement of academic student support systems and administration; and fostering the environment of teaching and learning.

The VPAAIE directly supervises the following:

- Assistant vice president of institutional effectiveness
- Three deans
- Executive director of Conservatory for the Performing Arts
- Registrar
- Director of the Academic Resource Center
- Director of advising and career development
- Academics office coordinator

Qualifications

- An earned doctoral degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Ten years of combined experience in a teaching and/or administrative role in a college or university, or related experience
- Demonstrated commitment to and leadership in education and improved student success
- A commitment to excellence in teaching and scholarship
- A proven track record in strategic planning and academic development and assessment
- Experience building partnerships on and off campus
- Willingness to embrace the core values of the university

Desired Attributes

- Strong academic leadership
- Student-centered decision maker
- Creative, innovative, and flexible in decisions
- Transparent leader
- Respects and understands the faculty and staff
- Strategic in thoughts and actions
- Embraces the liberal arts traditions
- Understands the trends in higher education
- Engaged in the life of the university; visible on and off campus
- A builder of teams and relationships
- Genuine and relatable
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Motivates and empowers others

Application Information

Viterbo University is being assisted by the search firm of Hyatt-Fennell, Executive Search Plus. For inquiries contact Cheryl Hyatt or Jann Weitzel at 724-242-0476. Application materials should be submitted to ViterboVPAA@hyatt-fennell.com. Applications will include a focused letter of interest, a current resume/CV, and contact information for five professional references. Applications should be submitted by Feb. 10, 2023, to receive full consideration. All applications and nominations will be considered highly confidential.