

UNC Asheville Strategic Plan

To Serve as the Standard of Excellence in Public Liberal Arts Undergraduate Education

Our way of practicing the liberal arts embraces the centrality of learning, rigorous undergraduate research & scholarship, creative expression, exemplary teaching, and an informed commitment to serving our community and to leading our complex world.

Public * Liberal Arts * Sustainability

Diversity & Inclusion:

Assert and demonstrate our individual and collective responsibility to invite, honor, and learn from our differences, as preparation for an increasingly interconnected world.

Intentionally reflect the vibrant demographics, in all its complexity, of our city, our region, our State, and beyond.

North Carolina:

Attract, retain, and graduate North Carolina students of high academic promise by eliminating financial barriers to participation.

Furnish North Carolina's economy with highly accomplished thinkers, negotiators, planners, collaborators, and problem-solvers.

Assure that our campus, our region, and our State understand how uniquely positioned we are to define the practical, life-long value of a liberal arts education in the 21st century.

Asheville:

Share responsibility with the greater Asheville community for collaborations on issues of mutual concern, benefit, and accomplishment.

Undergraduate Education:

Serve as the standard of excellence for public liberal arts undergraduate education, emphasizing interdisciplinary learning and exceptional faculty-student mentoring.

Undergraduate Research:

UNC Asheville will be the leading undergraduate research institution for faculty-mentored, student-directed Undergraduate Research.

Assure continual stewardship of the Undergraduate Research program and deepen its focus on societal concerns.

The Campus Experience:

Engage all students in a robust campus learning experience based on community responsibility, learning, respect, and service.

Social Sustainability

Build a respectful, vibrant, responsible and inclusive campus community for everyone that encourages academic, civic, and public engagement.

Invest in the development and success of all students, faculty, and staff members.

Economic Sustainability:

Demonstrate the value of UNC Asheville's distinctiveness within the UNC system so that our optimal size and liberal arts mission are acknowledged and rewarded within the State formula for funding higher education.

Increase private funding to assure the University's ability to fulfill its commitments to generations of students and citizens of North Carolina.

Environmental Sustainability:

Build on our state-wide leadership and recognition for environmental stewardship through continued academic inquiry, energy efficiency, conservation, and green building practices. Pursue creative, respectful, mission-focused campus expansion.

UNC Asheville students

develop an inquisitive, interdisciplinary, engaged way of life in a vibrant university community which is just, collaborative, and increasingly diverse.

They demonstrate an accountability to their own moral and ethical principles, and a responsibility to individuals, community, and humanity; they develop a service orientation, a sense of adventure, and respect for differences; they discover the joys of entrepreneurship, enlightened risk-taking, and responsible activism.

They understand the interconnectedness of all disciplines, ideas, actions, and individuals; they practice lively engagement with others and the world; they have built a strong understanding of self, purpose, connection to the world, and their potential for changing it. Liberal arts is a habit of heart and mind that our students can articulate as a foundation for their life-long passion for learning and the University that inspired it.

They develop the inspiration, skills, and discipline to identify individual, community, and global needs; critical thinking and problem solving skills to address those needs; courage, inclination, and work ethic to develop solutions, work toward them, and inspire others to do the same. Students identify their unique University experience as something to cherish and support throughout their lives.