The following is a brief description of campus life at Union University and the various organizations and services that contribute to its unique community. A more complete list of campus organizations and resources is presented in the Campus Life Handbook at www.uu.edu/studentservices/handbook.

Barefoots Joe

Barefoots Joe, a coffeehouse and venue, offers the campus a place for conversation, exchange of ideas, and appreciation of the arts. We are proud to offer superior quality coffee that we roast in house. As a venue, Barefoots Joe seeks to provide co-curricular events that encourage thoughtful interaction with mediums often reserved for entertainment only. Students are invited to enjoy music, film and art from artists whose work is artistically excellent, influential in culture and appropriate to the context of our university.

Christian Life and Activities

Union University is committed to the spiritual growth and development of each person on campus. Understanding that faith development and academic achievement go hand in hand, Union provides an excellent atmosphere as well as ongoing activities that stimulate a Christ-centered worldview and a life of discipleship.

The Office of University Ministries encourages each student to grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and in service to Him. Activities include chapel services; Life Groups (a small group ministry for new students involving Bible study, discussion, and accountability); Women’s Cooperative discipleship groups, Men’s Cooperative discipleship groups, short-term mission projects through “Global Opportunities” trips, and off-campus ministries working with children, youth, adults, and senior adults. Also, Christian organizations providing fellowship and activities for students are available.

The Missionary-In-Residence Program brings a missionary family on stateside assignment from the international field to occupy the residence. To expose students to world missions, the missionaries speak on campus, counsel students interested in missions, and promote the Lottie Moon offering in West Tennessee Southern Baptist churches.

Chapel and Lecture Series

The University holds chapel services twice weekly. Through these times, students, faculty and staff worship collectively and receive spiritual encouragement, moral guidance, and intellectual challenge. The worship of God and the integration of faith and learning and living are encouraged through events such as Faith and Practice Week, Global Opportunities Week, and the Crabtree Lectures on Marriage and Family.

Confidentiality of Student Records

The privacy and confidentiality of all student records shall be preserved in accordance to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. The Act provides students greater access to and control over information in educational records. More information about FERPA can be obtained from the Registrar. Official student academic records, supporting documents, and other student files shall be maintained, only by members of the University staff employed for that purpose, in separate files:

- Academic records, supporting documents and general education records—maintained by the Academic Center, academic departments and advisors
- Records of discipline proceeding—maintained by the Student Services Office
- Financial records—maintained by the Business Office
- Medical records—maintained by the Health Services Office (governed also by HIPAA)
- Admissions records—maintained by the Admissions Office
- Financial aid records—maintained by the Financial Aid Office

Directory information (student’s name, address including email address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photograph, academic major, class schedule, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent previous educational institution attended) may be made public by the University. If the student wishes to have the aforementioned information private, they may make a request, in writing, to the Academic Center.

Records Not Available for Student Inspection

- Records of instructional, supervisory and administrative personnel which are in the sole possession of the maker thereof, and which are not accessible to others
- Records created or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional which are used only in connection with the provisions of treatment of a student and are not available to persons other than those providing such treatment (governed also by HIPAA)
- Financial records of students’ parents
- Evaluations for which a student has waived his/her right of inspection

Counseling Services

The services of a full-time licensed psychologist and part-time licensed professional counselor are available at no charge to students with personal or emotional concerns. Walk-ins are accepted based on the availability of the counselor, or students may make an appointment. Upon referral by the Director of Counseling Services or the Dean
of Students, students may also receive limited services from a psychological services provider under contract in the community. Consultation is provided in making referrals to special agencies upon request.

Academic counseling is administered through several avenues. Each student is assigned a Faculty Advisor in accordance with their intended major/vocational goal. Students undecided about their major are assigned temporarily to the Office of Academic Services. GPA counseling can be sought from the Office of Academic Services and through the Academic Center. The junior/senior student is required to have at least one counseling appointment with a degree auditor to focus on the completion of graduation requirements.

Disability Services
The Office for Disability Services offers support for students with disabilities and special needs through appropriate accommodations. Students must first provide documentation of a specific disability and how that disability impacts academic performance and ability. The Director will then meet with the student to formulate accommodations specific to the student’s disability. The Director is also available to help the student with time management and study skills and to assist the student in identifying additional resources. For more information, please visit www.uu.edu/studentservices/disabilityservices.

Health Services
The mission of Health Services is to promote healthy lifestyles and to demonstrate care in a Christ-like manner to students, faculty and staff and to provide medical services for minor injuries and illnesses. Health Services is staffed by a full-time nurse practitioner. There is no office visit charge for clinic care; all off-campus referrals and care may render a cost and are the responsibility of the patient. Whereas International students are required to have insurance, all students are strongly encouraged to do so. Information can be obtained through www.uu.edu/studentservices/healthservices.

Hundley Center for Academic Enrichment
The purpose of the Hundley Center is to support the efforts of the University faculty and encourage students to become independent learners by bridging the gap between the classroom and a true understanding of the material. The Hundley Center provides free peer tutoring in over 25 subjects and academic enrichment opportunities, including graduate school preparation and academic success workshops. For more information, visit the website at www.uu.edu/programs/hundleycenter.

Intramural Athletics
At Union University, intramural athletics constitute an essential part of the total college program. A program of competitive intramural sports is sponsored allowing wide participation for men and women. Awards are given each year based on a point system.

Intercollegiate Athletics
Intercollegiate athletics are an integral part of American college life. In 2011, Union’s application was approved to begin the membership process for NCAA DII. This means that Union’s successful history as a member of the NAIA and TranSouth Conference ended following the 2011-12 season. The 2012-13 season began the two-year membership process for NCAA DII. Union will compete in the Gulf South Conference which includes teams from Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. Union University offers varsity competition for men in basketball, baseball, cross-country, golf and soccer, and for women in basketball, softball, volleyball, soccer, golf and cross-country. Union’s athletic programs adhere strictly to all University, conference, and national regulations involving sports and academics for student athletes.

Library Services
The Emma Waters Summar Library offers the best of traditional and contemporary information resources. Books, e-books, periodicals, e-journals, media and electronic resources are available for use by the students, faculty, and staff of Union University. Professional librarians provide instructional assistance and offer a research coaching service to assist students throughout their academic journey. The library’s home page is found at www.uu.edu/library. As a member of OCLC’s WorldShare™ system, the Summar Library at Union offers its patrons access to libraries worldwide.

Ministry Leadership
Union University accepts seriously the challenge of providing practical guidance and training to students preparing for vocational church ministry. The Ministry Leadership program exists to equip students pursuing vocational ministry to grow in understanding of God-given calling and to participate in ministry practices which help prepare them for service to Church and society. The program is administered through the Office of University Ministries.

All students preparing for vocational church ministries are encouraged to participate in the Ministry Leadership program throughout their time at Union University. Many Ministry Leadership students may qualify for scholarship assistance as an active participant in the program. The Ministry Leadership program schedules opportunities which help prepare ministerial students for practical experience in church ministry. Students in the program attend at least three events per semester.
Expectations Vs. Regulations
Union University students are expected at all times to represent the University and the Christian community appropriately. The general policy of conduct at Union University is that students conduct themselves as persons of faith who strive to exemplify the character of Jesus Christ throughout their daily lives. Regulations regarding these expectations, student life as a whole and more particularly residence student life are found in detail in the Campus Life Handbook. The President, the EVPAA, the Provost, and the Dean of Students of the University are charged with the administration of discipline through the judicial system. They are empowered to rule in any irregularity pertaining to student life and impose redemptive discipline for community values violations as expressed in the Campus Life Handbook. The judicial system and the grievance and appeal system are described in detail in that same publication.

Residence Life
The mission of Residence Life at Union University is to provide a holistic living and learning environment where academic scholarship is developed, distinctive relationships are formed, servant leadership is practiced, community values are upheld, and biblical restoration is provided. To this end, all students are required to live in Union’s residence halls for the full academic year unless the student meets the requirements outlined in the Campus Life Handbook or an exception is granted by the Off-Campus Appeals Committee. For information on Residence Life community values, philosophy, costs, family housing, and general procedures, please refer to the Campus Life Handbook located on Union University’s website at www.uu.edu/studentservices/handbook.

Social Fraternities And Sororities
Union has six national social fraternities and sororities: Alpha Tau Omega, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Lambda Chi Alpha for men, Chi Omega, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Kappa Delta for women. Under the supervision of the University administration, these organizations host their own special activities and functions. The Office of Student Leadership and Engagement can also provide information on the Jackson chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Student Government Association
The SGA, composed of all students enrolled in Union University, functions through its executive, legislative and judicial branches. Its elected officers and representatives serve as the official voice of the students in institutional affairs. The SGA seeks to foster University unity, promote student welfare and provide student programs, activities and services designed to meet the needs and interest of students.

Student Activities Council
The Student Activities Council promotes community on campus by providing entertaining activities and various opportunities for campus involvement. Traditional events include Variety Show, Midnight Movies, Carl Perkins Christmas Party, Casey Jones Hullabaloo, Homecoming Concert, Movie on the Lawn, New Student Gamespace, and Be Our Guest.

Student Publications

The Cardinal and Cream
The Cardinal and Cream is the official award-winning campus newspaper of Union University. Budgeted as a part of the Communication Arts Department, the newspaper is published bimonthly and is distributed to students, faculty, staff, and administration without charge. The Cardinal and Cream is written and edited by students under the guidance of a faculty advisor. Staff positions are available for any student enrolled in classes at Union, and particularly those interested in journalism or a related communications field. The campus newspaper enhances the experiences of students in writing, layout, editing, photography, advertising, and journalism administration. Campus news, tweets and blogs can also be accessed off the newspaper’s new web site: www.cardinalandcream.info.

The Torch
The Torch is a student literary magazine under the editorship of an appointed student staff. Its contents are made up of the student creative writing and artwork selected from among presentations in the normal course of class work and from work submitted directly to the editors. The Torch is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association at Columbia University in New York.

Testing Center
Union University serves as a National Test Center for the American College Test (ACT), Praxis, College Board (SAT), Law School Admissions Test (LSAT,) the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Miller Analogies Test (MAT), and DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST). For a listing of testing dates and registration information, please visit Union's testing website at www.uu.edu/academics/testing.

Vocatio Center for Life Calling and Career
The Vocatio Center for Life Calling and Career derives the primary essence of its name “vocatio” from the Latin term which means “to call” or “calling.” Formerly named Career Services, the Vocatio Center has been established to offer an intentional and more holistic approach to the development of students for which the pursuit of God’s calling is primary. Ultimately, the Vocatio Center seeks to empower Romans 12 professionals who will utilize their differing gifts according to the grace given to them by God.
Our key goal, therefore, is to teach students holistically through a model that emphasizes vocation as ministry. “Our mission is to help students understand more clearly who God has uniquely created them to be and to assist them in discovering opportunities to live out their life calling in service to others.” Students are encouraged to start early utilizing the Vocatio Center for Life Calling and Career. Many are blessed to know exactly what God has called them to do; we can help better prepare you for that calling. However, if you are uncertain about your calling, we can offer you strategic direction through gifts assessment, career counseling, and life coaching which will help you understand who God truly has made you to be. The following services are offered by appointment:

- Life Calling and Career Counseling/Coaching; Goal Setting
- Professional Résumé, Cover Letter, Portfolio Development
- Individual and Group Personality and Interests Assessment and Interpretation (Myers-Briggs Type Indicator or MBTI and the Strong Interest Inventory)
- Interview Preparation and Salary Negotiation
- Coordination of Job Shadowing
- One-on-one Graduate School Preparation
- Referral Services for Part-time, Full-time, and Internships Opportunities (Student and Employer)
- On-campus Recruitment

Students should visit the Vocatio Center so we can get to know you individually. Your visit will allow us to offer personalized attention in sharing our services designed to give a strategy towards solidifying your life calling and career plan. We can help prepare you for your chosen vocation while offering the professional preparation you’ll need to be competitive in an ever-changing job market. In addition to our individualized services, discipline-specific workshops are offered in partnership with academic departments throughout the year to increase professional development opportunities by major area of study. Visit us at www.uu.edu/studentservices/vocatiocenter to find out more or to schedule an appointment.

Wellness Services

The Department of Wellness Services offers a 3,600 square foot Wellness Center, a 27,000 square foot Activities Center, and an indoor Aquatic Center. The department offers programs to promote healthy life-styles such as health assessments, motivational incentives, exercise prescription and health education including group fitness classes. Currently enrolled students, faculty, staff, and spouses are eligible to use the Center and participate in classes. One on one fitness training with a Certified Personal Trainer is available.

University Awards

The Academic Excellence Medal is awarded to the outstanding graduating senior in each major as selected by the faculty of the major. Inclusion in the selection process requires the student to have completed a minimum of 15 residence hours, excluding pass/fail courses, in the discipline and have a discipline GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The Elizabeth Tigrett Medal, established by the late Mr. I. B. Tigrett in memory of his mother, is presented to the outstanding senior in the graduating class. The award is based on citizenship, character, leadership, scholarship, and school service. To be eligible, a student must have attended Union his/her entire college career.

The University Academic Achievement Award is presented to the student with the highest academic achievement in the graduation class with not less than a 3.75 provided a minimum of 56 semester hours at Union University are completed.

The Class of 1962 Award recognizes the senior who has attended Union University for four years with the highest grade point average.

University Clubs and Organizations

Union University hosts over sixty active student organizations for students who are interested in almost any field of study or activity. From biologists to actors to those who want to work with elementary school students in Jackson, there is a place for every student who wants to be involved outside of the classroom. In fact, the typical undergrad chooses to be involved in several of these groups during his or her time at Union.

Academic departments sponsor campus organizations and honor societies relating to and for the promotion of their disciplines of study. These are described within the respective academic departments. The University sponsors special interest organizations relating to varied activities, service, political and social activism, and personal growth. These are detailed in full at www.uu.edu/studentservices/organizations.