

= Oxford College of Emory University =

Oxford College of Emory University , also called Oxford College and originally founded as Emory College , is an American two @-@ year residential college specializing in the foundations of liberal arts education . It is the birthplace and one of nine academic divisions of Emory University . The college is located on Emory University 's original campus in Oxford , Georgia , 38 miles east of Emory 's Atlanta campus . Students at Oxford automatically continue their studies in Atlanta after successfully completing Oxford 's curriculum .

Emory College was built one mile north of Covington , Georgia by the Georgia Methodist Conference , after a failed attempt to establish a church @-@ sponsored manual labor school a few miles away . Following this , the Conference in 1836 granted Ignatius Alphonso Few a charter to open a new school . This school opened in 1838 and was named after John Emory , an influential Methodist bishop who had died before the school 's opening , and Oxford University , the alma mater of the founders of the Methodist movement . After the turn of the 20th century , Emory College received a generous monetary and land grant from Asa Griggs Candler , president of The Coca @-@ Cola Company , and moved its operations to Druid Hills , which is adjacent to Atlanta . During those years , Oxford spent time as a college preparatory school , junior college , four @-@ year college , and finally the two @-@ year Emory liberal arts program known today as Oxford College .

Oxford College has a total enrollment of 947 freshman and sophomore students from a wide variety of religious , ethnic , and geographic backgrounds , including 34 U.S. states , Puerto Rico , and 18 foreign countries . Campus organizations include various community service groups , interest clubs , and " social clubs " , the school 's replacement for traditional fraternities and sororities . Oxford participates in NJCAA Division III sports , with the men 's and women 's tennis teams winning national championships multiple times .

= = History = =

= = = Founding and early history = = =

In 1833 , the Georgia Methodist Conference began considering establishing a church @-@ sponsored manual labor school where students would combine farm work with a college preparatory curriculum . At the Georgia Methodist Conference in 1834 , a preacher known as " Uncle Allen " Turner suggested that Georgia Methodists should develop their own school rather than support Randolph @-@ Macon College in Virginia . Heeding his advice , the Conference opened the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School in 1835 , but the institution immediately began facing financial challenges . As a result , the Conference granted Ignatius Few a charter to establish a new college named after John Emory , a Methodist bishop who was involved in the labor school 's founding but had died in a carriage accident before the school opened . In 1836 , the new school , Emory College , was established on a tract of land in Newton County one mile north of Covington , Georgia . This site was chosen because of its distance from the city , which the school 's founders feared would be a source of distraction for its students . The campus and the surrounding areas were planned and built in 1837 by Edward Lloyd Thomas , a Georgia land surveyor who also planned the city of Columbus , Georgia . On December 23 , 1839 , the state legislature incorporated the land around the school into a new city called Oxford . This name was selected because the founders of the Methodist movement , Charles Wesley and John Wesley , had previously attended Oxford University . Because the college and town were built together , many of the town 's early residents had contributed to the college 's founding and continued to be involved in its daily activities .

On September 17 , 1838 , two years after its chartering , President Ignatius Few and three faculty members welcomed fifteen freshmen and sophomores into its inaugural class . In order to raise money for maintaining the school , Few began selling lots around the college to local citizens . The

founders envisaged a curriculum that would rest squarely on the classics and mathematics , with four years ' study of Greek , Latin , and mathematics , and three years ' study of the English Bible and the sciences of geography , astronomy , and chemistry . According to historian Henry M. Bullock , the founders intended Emory to be , " in the fullest sense of the term , a Christian college . "

= = = Literary societies = = =

Sometime in 1837 , a year before the inaugural class of students were officially enrolled , the new student body founded the Phi Gamma literary society on campus . The society adapted a motto : " Scientia et Religio Libertatis Custodes " . In 1851 , Phi Gamma Hall was constructed and remains the oldest structure still standing on Oxford 's campus . A few years later , Phi Gamma decided it needed a rival society to compete with . Consequently , fourteen members withdrew from Phi Gamma to establish Few society , named after Ignatius Few . The facilities and libraries of each debate society were open to members of the rival society . The two halls oppose each other across the quad , and both buildings are variations of two @-@ story Greek Revival structures with temple form designs and columned porticos . Debate topics included the justifiability of war , women 's suffrage , the morality of slavery , and prohibition .

In 1850 , members of the two literary societies debated whether or not Georgia should secede from the union . A vote on the matter by members of both societies resolved for Georgia to remain in the union . However , when the American Civil War broke out , both debate societies temporarily suspended their activities as members left school to fight in the war . Both Phi Gamma and Few Halls were used as infirmaries for wounded soldiers .

= = = Civil War and Reconstruction = = =

Financial tension had reduced the college 's income and student body prior to the outbreak of war . So when war broke out in the summer of 1861 , the college 's administration made the decision to temporarily cease all academic operations . Emory College would remain closed to students for the duration of the fighting . During the war , college facilities were used by both Northern and Southern soldiers as military headquarters and infirmaries . Because of this , many deceased soldiers are buried near campus . The school 's library and other archives were damaged and later destroyed due to mishandling by military generals . It was not until the summer of 1866 that the campus was able to return to its academic functions , when it reopened with twenty students and three professors . Emory College continued to struggle with financial hardships after the war , and was only able to continue their operations with the aid of a state G.I. Bill .

In 1880 , the school 's fortunes reversed when College President Atticus G. Haygood delivered a Thanksgiving Day sermon expressing gratitude for the end of slavery and calling on the South to put the past behind them to " cultivate the growth of industry " . The speech captured the attention of George I. Seney , a Brooklyn banker and Methodist . Seney gave Emory College \$ 5 @,@ 000 to repay its debts , \$ 50 @,@ 000 for construction , and \$ 75 @,@ 000 to establish a new endowment . Over the years , Seney invested more than a quarter @-@ million dollars into Emory College , helping to erect the Victorian Gothic @-@ style administrative building in the center of Oxford College that bears his name . The bell in the Seney Hall clocktower is the oldest permanent monument at Emory University today . Cast in 1796 , the bell was a gift from Alexander Means , the fourth President of Emory College , who in turn received it from Queen Victoria .

= = = Move to Atlanta = = =

By the turn of the 20th century , Emory College began producing several notable graduates . Alben W. Barkley , who graduated from Emory in 1900 , went on to represent Kentucky in both the United States House of Representatives and the Senate before becoming ? at age 71 in 1949 ? the oldest Vice @-@ President of the United States in history . Thomas M. Rivers became one of the nation 's

premier virologists at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School , investigating encephalitis and smallpox and later leading the National Science Foundation 's quest for a polio vaccine . Dumas Malone went on to become the head of Harvard University Press , one of the nation 's leading academic publishers , and completed a Pulitzer Prize @-@ winning six @-@ volume study of Thomas Jefferson when he was past 90 years of age .

Wilbur A. Carlton , a student at Emory College in 1910 , described his experiences at the school at the time :

" At that time , half @-@ a century ago , Oxford was completely without pavement , plumbing in the homes , and electric lights except for the Williams Gymnasium and the Young J. Allen Memorial Church , which were furnished electricity by a dynamo in the boiler room of the gym . And of course , we obtained water from open wells for drinking as well as for all other purposes ... We had to do our studying by the light of a kerosene lamp . There were scarcely any automobiles and absolutely no co @-@ eds at that particular time although there had been a few previously . There was only one college dormitory , Marvin Hall , which was " outmoded " even for 1910 and which could accommodate only a small part of the student body ... Most of the students lived in boarding houses (or private homes) , of which there were several ... Such was our beloved Oxford in 1910 . "

Soon , the Georgia Methodist Conference began discussing transforming Emory College into a university , with Birmingham and Atlanta both bidding to host the proposed institution . Atlanta was eventually chosen as the home of the new Emory University after Asa Griggs Candler , president of the Coca @-@ Cola Company , deeded the university 65 acres of land six miles from the city 's downtown and contributed \$ 1 million to the school 's endowment . Candler was originally reluctant to donate money to a project that he called " a crumbling castle " , but his brother , Warren Candler , convinced him otherwise . Asa Candler went on to serve as chair of the Emory University Board of Trustees and his brother later served as university president .

The Oxford campus continued to be used after the school 's move to Atlanta in 1915 . At first , the site was organized into the " Emory University Academy " , a preparatory school modeled after Phillips Academy and Phillips Exeter Academy in order to respond to the failure of the state 's public high schools . By 1921 , the academy had reached its peak enrollment of three hundred , doubling its previous enrollment record as a college . Due to financial concerns , including the loss of third @-@ party financial support , Emory University cut programs for all academic divisions at the academy , laid off faculty , and raised tuition . By the mid @-@ 1930s , with the introduction of college @-@ level curriculum , the University Academy was renamed " Emory Junior College at Oxford " and the site was reorganized into a two @-@ year junior college . In 1947 , influenced by the experimental models of integrating secondary and post @-@ secondary education at the University of Chicago , Emory and Oxford leaders reorganized the Oxford curriculum into the South 's first accredited four @-@ year junior college . The program combined an accelerated program for the last two years of high school with the first two years of college , but the program ended in 1963 after facing enrollment shortages . In response , Dean Virgil Eady recommended a name change to " Oxford College of Emory University " and advocated the position that Oxford is part of Emory University and not a " quasi @-@ independent college at Oxford " . The new college was then set up as a two @-@ year liberal arts program , similar in concept to the original Emory College model .

= = Campus = =

Oxford College is located on a 56 @-@ acre campus in Newton County , approximately 38 miles east of Emory 's Atlanta campus . It is located in the center of Oxford , a town located about half a mile north of Interstate 20 , and is directly bounded by Georgia State Route 81 (signed as " Emory Street ") to the east and the Fleming Woods to the west . Emory University 's bus routes provide service from Oxford to the Atlanta campus , Stonecrest Mall , and Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority stations .

Today , much of the college is organized around a pedestrian @-@ only quadrangle in the center and a few nearby streets . The campus ' western exits lead to the county @-@ owned Fleming Woods and hiking trails . Additionally , the college owns and operates an 11 @-@ acre organic farm

located several blocks south of the campus . The land is utilized as both an educational environment for related courses and as a functioning farm that operates its own community @-@ supported agriculture and sells its produce at local farmers ' markets . In 1975 , the campus and many of its older buildings , such as Phi Gamma Hall and Seney Hall , and other surrounding structures were listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as Oxford Historic District .

The majority of the school 's facilities are situated around the rectangular quadrangle in the center of campus , including two buildings that existed before the school was established : Phi Gamma Hall and a chapel . A nearly identical replica of Phi Gamma , Few Hall , sits opposite of Phi Gamma across the quad . These three buildings are all Greek Revival temple @-@ like structures with white columned porticos . In addition , a marble obelisk , erected in 1885 by the Grand Masonic Lodge of Georgia in memory of Ignatius Alphonso Few , sits in the center of the quad . Directly south of the monument is Seney Hall , a five @-@ story Victorian Gothic @-@ style building that is topped by a clock tower and bell that was given to the college by Queen Victoria in 1855 . At the end of every academic year , the bell is rung once in honor of each graduating student . Seney Hall is flanked to the west by Hopkins Hall and the Williams Gymnasium , and to the west by Language Hall , which was recently renovated and restored in 2013 . Further to the east sits Candler Hall , which was built in the Neoclassical architectural style and served as the school library until 1970 . Today it acts as a student center and houses a Barnes & Noble bookstore .

The other buildings that stand on the quad are Humanities Hall , the Jolley Residential Center , Oxford Science Building , Tarbuton Performance Arts Center (which now adjoins Few Hall) , Pierce Hall , and a library containing 85 @,@ 643 volumes .

= = Academics = =

Oxford College , as part of Emory 's undergraduate bachelor 's program , offers introductory and intermediate courses that contribute to undergraduate degrees in eighty @-@ five majors , the most popular being economics , psychology , biology , business administration , neuroscience and behavioral biology , and political science . All courses are on a credit hour system . Some classes are designated " theory @-@ practice service learning " courses , which integrate theory learning in the classroom with real @-@ world application . For example , students enrolled in the Sociology of Food course would dedicate certain hours a week working at the school 's organic farm . All students receive an associate of the arts degree upon completing Oxford 's curriculum , before continuing their studies in Atlanta .

= = = Faculty = = =

Oxford College has 56 faculty members in teaching positions , including Nitya Jacob , associate professor of biology who is one of fifteen international recipients of Science Magazine 's Inquiry @-@ Based @-@ Instruction Prize . Oxford College also has a visiting scholar agreement with Oxford University in England , where a faculty member from each school exchanges places for at least one week and deliver public lectures at their host 's location . Visiting professors in the past have included Jane Shaw and Tiffany Stern .

= = = Admissions = = =

Oxford College enrolled 947 students for the 2013 ? 14 academic year , with an average class size of 21 students and a maximum class size of 50 students . 26 percent of the students enrolled are Asian / Pacific Islanders , 10 percent are African American , and 6 percent are Latino . Students who apply to Emory University may choose to begin study for four semesters at Oxford College before automatically continuing to the School of Arts and Sciences in Atlanta . Oxford graduates may also choose to apply for admission to the Goizueta Business School or the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing .

There were 7 @,@ 425 applicants for the Oxford College class of 2016 , of whom 38 percent were

ultimately accepted . Oxford College maintains the same application as Emory College on the Common Application , and applicants merely have to select one box or both regarding which school they wish to apply to . In addition to regular decision , students may choose to apply via the restrictive Early Decision option to either Emory College or Oxford College , or both , but not to another school . All applicants are able to participate in the Oxford Scholars program , the highest tier of which offers a full academic merit scholarship for four semesters at Oxford and four semesters at Emory . Admitted students had a 50th @-@ percentile range (25th to 75th percentile) GPA of 3 @.@ 5 ? 3 @.@ 92 and SAT scores ranging from 620 ? 730 in critical reading , 630 @-@ 740 in writing , and 630 ? 730 in mathematics . Enrolled students for the class of 2016 came from 355 high schools and 71 percent came from outside of the state of Georgia . 62 percent of undergraduates received an average financial aid package of \$ 32 @,@ 901 and a total of 242 students received academic merit scholarships .

= = Student life = =

= = = Residence Life = = =

All students are required to live on campus for the entire duration of their time at Oxford . The administration justifies this policy as an aspect of their mission to encourage students to interact with each other and build a strong community . Both freshmen and sophomores are housed in one of four residential halls scattered throughout campus : Haygood Hall , Jolley Residential Center , Fleming Hall , or Elizer and Murdy . These buildings range in occupancy size from 350 (Elizer and Murdy) to 106 (Haygood) . Originally constructed in 1913 , Haygood Hall is the oldest residential hall on campus , although it had to be rebuilt after a fire broke out in 1981 . All of the residence halls house study spaces , vending machines , kitchens , and laundry rooms .

Students have a choice of two dining options for their meals , depending on the time of day : a cafeteria dining hall and a late night grill . The dining hall offers takeout options for students with classes scheduled during lunch . Some of the food that are served at these two locations are sourced from the organic farm on campus . In terms of recreation , Williams Gymnasium houses an indoor hybrid basketball , volleyball , and badminton court , an indoor track , indoor pool , weight room , and aerobic studio . There are also ten tennis courts and a regulation soccer field on campus . In addition , the nearby Fleming Woods hiking trails are commonly utilized by Oxford students .

= = = Activities = = =

= = = = Social clubs = = = =

Oxford is unique from many colleges in that it does not have traditional fraternities and sororities on campus . In their stead are " social clubs " , and instead of pledging , students " tap in " to these clubs . Historically , some of these social clubs , whose members meet regularly at social functions , were determined by geography , such as the Florida Club , South Georgia Club , and Alabama Club . Today , social clubs use the Greek alphabet system and mimic the functions of fraternities and sororities .

= = = = Student organizations = = = =

With the exception of the D.V.S. Senior Honor Society , which was founded in 1902 and remains active today , student clubs at Oxford historically did not function reliably for long periods of time because the two @-@ year structure of the school leads to high membership turnover . In order to counter this trend , the Leadership Oxford and ExCEL programs were designed in 1988 to help students enhance their leadership skills .

As of 2012 , there are over 50 registered student organizations which cover a variety of interests , including student government , intramural sports , arts , media and publications , music , political / activist , ethnic / cultural , religion , and others . Many of Oxford 's student clubs participate in community service , including specifically volunteer @-@ oriented clubs such as Volunteer Oxford , Bonner Leader Program and Circle K. Consequently , 92 percent of Oxford students participated in community service in 2012 , contributing over 10 @,@ 000 hours in one academic year . Oxford College hours helped Emory University win the 2008 Presidential Award for General Community Service , an award given to higher education institutions for their commitment to community service , service @-@ learning and civic engagement .

= = = Traditions = = =

= = = = Dooley = = = =

Lord Dooley , also known as the " Lord of Misrule " and the " Spirit of Emory " , originated in Oxford and acts as Emory University 's unofficial mascot . Dooley , who borrows his first name and middle initial from the first and last name of the sitting president of Emory University , has two manifestations : one at Emory 's Atlanta campus , and one at Oxford . At both campuses , Dooley is represented by a student in a skeleton costume with a black cape , top hat , and white gloves , flanked on all sides by similarly dressed students acting as bodyguards . However , Oxford 's Dooley differs from his more modern and lively counterpart at the Atlanta campus . Because Oxford was his original home , Dooley 's appearances there try to symbolize his advanced age , with characteristics such as a crouched stance , slow walk , and his signature bent crane topped with a brown skull . Additionally , his habit of making public appearances at Oxford by emerging out of a coffin differ from the conventions of his counterpart in the Atlanta campus .

Dooley was first mentioned in an 1899 article that was printed in the school newspaper , Phoenix , titled " Reflections of a Skeleton " . The article was purportedly written by a skeleton in a science lab who complained of his dull and silent existence observing the comings and goings of the students . In 1901 , the Dooley mythology resurfaced , this time in a second editorial where he claims to have been the son of a wealthy Virginia planter who fought in the Revolutionary War and later died of alcohol abuse . In 1941 , Dooley began appearing physically on campus , starting the tradition known as " Dooley 's Week " , when he gets free rein to let students out of classes . Today , Dooley makes frequent appearances at social functions and other Oxford events , where he passes a message for a designated student to read to the student body . These messages relate to events on campus , ranging from critical rebukes of misdeeds to praise for individual student accomplishments .

= = = = Animals = = = =

Students at Oxford historically stole local farm animals and coaxed them into classrooms as pranks . In the 1930s to 1950s , students began bringing larger four @-@ legged farm animals to the upper floors of Seney Hall . The tradition culminated in 2008 when a group of unidentified students led a local zebra to the third floor of Seney and barricaded the windows , doors , and elevator . The zebra was nicknamed " Barcode " , and a stuffed zebra overlooks the quad in Seney Hall in memorial of the event .

= = Athletics = =

Although President Warren Candler was strongly against intercollegiate sports programs , he started Emory 's first intramural sports program in 1897 . During the rest of his term , students started intramural football , baseball , and gymnastic teams . However , for most of history , Emory did not have an athletic mascot . In 1960 , The Emory Wheel sports editor thought it was time to

adopt a mascot , but the student body was not interested . Frustrated , he arbitrarily adopted the eagle as the mascot because " the name [was] simply applicable and [had] obvious decorative advantages . " Soon thereafter , Oxford followed and adopted the eagle as the mascot .

Today , Oxford 's athletic teams are members of the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association and the National Junior College Athletic Association . Oxford College sponsors men 's and women 's soccer , men 's basketball , men 's and women 's tennis , and men 's and women 's golf . The men 's tennis team won back @-@ to @-@ back NJCAA III National Championships in 2006 and 2007 and a third in 2009 , and the women 's tennis team won National Championships in 2011 . The women 's soccer team reached the national finals in 2006 .

= = Notable alumni = =

Alben W. Barkley ? A member of the Democratic Party who served as 35th United States Vice President under President Harry S. Truman . He also served as a U.S. Representative and Senate Majority Leader from Kentucky .

Yun Chi @-@ ho ? An independence activist in Korea in the early 20th century and possible author of the Korean national anthem

John B. Cobb ? A United Methodist process theologian who helped develop process theology

James Edward Dickey ? The last President of Emory College and first President of Emory University , later elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church , South

Tinsley Ellis ? An American blues and rock musician

Keri Hilson ? A singer , songwriter , actress , and R & B artist

Lee Hong @-@ koo ? Former Prime Minister of South Korea

Gordon Lee ? Served as a U.S. congressman from Georgia

Isaac Stiles Hopkins - First president of the Georgia Institute of Technology

Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar (II) ? Served as a United States Supreme Court Justice and also a Senator from Mississippi

Dumas Malone ? Pulitzer Prize @-@ winning historian , former head of Harvard University Press

Thomas M. Rivers ? Famed virologist , headed the National Science Foundation 's search for a polio vaccine

J. Roy Rowland ? Member of United States House of Representatives from Georgia 's 8th congressional district . He attended Emory College at Oxford for one year in 1943 .

Robert W. Woodruff ? Attended Oxford for one term , then served as President of the Coca @-@ Cola Company . He later donated a total of \$ 230 million to Emory University .

= = In popular culture = =

Oxford College and its facilities have served as sets for several movies and television shows . Notably , it is featured in the first episode of the television series The Dukes of Hazzard , when General Lee jumped 81 feet in front of Seney Hall . This scene remained in the opening credits for the rest of the series . This stunt was recreated by MTV for its series Your Movie Show in July 2005 on the release of The Dukes of Hazzard movie . In addition , the television show In the Heat of the Night also filmed some scenes on campus and in the town of Oxford . Scenes from the television show The Vampire Diaries were shot in the school 's library , quad , and theatre in 2009 , 2010 , and 2012 . Thereafter , the school served as the on @-@ location college set for the show 's fictional Whitmore College . Additionally , a yet unreleased installment of the National Lampoon 's Vacation series , titled Vacation , filmed scenes on campus .

Oxford College hosted the southern premiere of 8 , a verbatim theatre re @-@ enactment by Dustin Lance Black , on March 1 , 2012 . The play chronicles the district court proceedings of Perry v. Schwarzenegger .