Boston University's largest academic division, the College of Arts & Sciences and its Graduate School are the heart of the BU experience. CAS and GRS enroll almost a third of BU’s student population, with CAS providing the required courses that nearly all BU undergraduates take. Both schools deliver a first-class liberal education.

The mission of Arts & Sciences is to nurture the discovery, creation, transmission, and application of information across both the humanities and the sciences. This framework for exploration and discovery has practical effects on scholarship by advancing creativity, a broad vision, and the ability to participate in diverse and promising partnerships in the quest for knowledge.

It’s important to CAS that our degree programs have a transformative impact on our students’ lives by advancing their knowledge and skills as they prepare for their futures. Along with a broad range of majors, we’ve recently launched two new ones: Middle East & North African Studies, both aimed at historic and contemporary explorations. We’ve strengthen graduate admission and hired new faculty across the humanities and social, natural, and computational sciences. And we’re deepening our global mission: our brand new Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies is now open and thriving. And this is only a snapshot of all that CAS offers.
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI & FACULTY

- Helen Magill White, member of the first graduate class (1877), making her the first woman to earn a PhD in the U.S.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968), member of the graduate class of 1955
- His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Khalfan Bin Khirbash, member of the class of 1979 and graduate class of 1980, Former Minister of Finance for the United Arab Emirates (1997-2009)
- Jhumpa Lahiri, member of graduate class of 1993, Pulitzer Prize winner (2000)
- Farouk El-Baz, faculty, worked for NASA on the Apollo missions (1967–1972), National Academy of Engineering member
- Nancy Kopell, faculty, National Academy of Sciences member (since 1996), and honorary member of the London Mathematical Society, a distinction given to only one or two mathematicians worldwide each year
- Derek Walcott, faculty, Nobel Laureate (1992)
- Elie Wiesel, faculty, Nobel Laureate (1986), winner of Norman Mailer Prize for Lifetime Achievement (2011)

POINTS OF PRIDE

- In 2014, U.S. News and World Report ranked the following CAS-affiliated programs among the best in the world: Physics (30th), Psychiatry and Psychology (45th), Biology and Biochemistry (54th), Economics and Business (55th), and Environment and Ecology (76th).
- Two graduate students and two alumni playwrights won awards at the 2014 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, including Abbey Fenbert (GRS’15) for her play “Intentions” about a fictional community/urban farm on the outskirts of Chicago.
- CAS has one of the strongest undergraduate mock mediation teams in the country. Supervised by our pre-law advising staff, the team has won five national championships for their dispute resolution skills.
- A $1 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) is giving BU first-year students a huge leg up in the fields of climate change and geology. Students conduct in-depth research in the CAS Permafrost Laboratory, meet top scientists in the field, and educate middle-school students and the general public about their work.

TOTAL RESEARCH AWARDS FOR 2013/14
$63.4 MILLION

CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

COLLEGE & GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Faculty support: $50 million
- Educational & programming initiatives: $10 million
- Undergraduate support: $15 million
- Graduate support: $10 million
- Capital projects: $15 million

RESEARCH STRENGTHS/KEY PROGRAMS

- THE RAFIK B. HARIRI INSTITUTE FOR COMPUTING AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
- CENTER FOR AUTISM RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (LAUNCHED 2013 WITH $10M NIH GRANT)
- CENTER FOR SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE (LAUNCHED 2013)
- FREDERICK S. PARDEE SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES (PART OF CAS, LAUNCHED 2104 WITH $25M GIFT)
- BU'S CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

TOTAL RESEARCH AWARDS FOR 2013/14
$63.4 MILLION