

# online COLLEGE PLAN

Getting a degree can be time-consuming. Whether it's an Associates, Bachelors, Masters, or Doctorate, it can be hard for anyone who works full-time to carve out three or four consecutive hours a day, multiple days a week, to attend classes at a traditional brick-and-mortar college.

That's where the **Best Online Colleges** come into play.

Many colleges offer programs in which students can earn their degrees online while still paying the mortgage or simply putting groceries in their refrigerator. These schools were considered for this ranking of the best online colleges.

## **Methodology for The Top 100 Best Online Colleges**

In developing the ranking of the 100 Best Online Colleges, several pieces of data were collected in order to evaluate the institutions. A list of all colleges offering online programs was obtained from the [National Center for Education Statistics \(NCES\)](#) and [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System \(IPEDS\)](#). In addition, data and information were obtained from [Payscale](#), [CollegeData](#), [Niche](#), and individual school websites.

Statistics used in the ranking are as follows:

- Freshman Satisfaction or Retention Rate
- Graduation Rate
- Cost of Attendance (Residential)
- Overall Grade from Niche
- Mid-Career Average Annual Pay

For Freshman Satisfaction or Retention Rate and 6-year Graduation Rates, the % sign was dropped for the ease of scoring. For example, a Graduation or Freshman Satisfaction rate of 65% would become simply 65. All numbers are whole numbers with no decimals provided from

NCES. These statistics provide valuable insight into the overall quality of education provided by the institution.

The Cost of Attendance (Residential) is converted to an Affordability Factor using our formula shown in the chart on the right. Schools with the lowest residential COA are given the highest numbers for affordability. For many students, affordability is a huge factor. Taking on great amounts of debt in order to pursue their career is often not part of their future plan.

For the Overall Grade supplied by Niche, we use these grades which are then converted to a numerical scale so that they can be added together with the other values for an overall ranking score. The scale used is illustrated below. We find this statistic valuable as it allows students who have attended the institution a chance to voice their opinion.

AFFORDABILITY		
SCORE	MIN COA	MAX COA
100	\$0	\$10,000
95	\$10,001	\$15,000
90	\$15,001	\$20,000
85	\$20,001	\$25,000
80	\$25,001	\$30,000
75	\$30,001	\$35,000
70	\$35,001	\$40,000
65	\$40,001	\$45,000
60	\$45,001	\$50,000
55	\$50,001	\$55,000
50	\$55,001	\$60,000
45	\$60,001	\$65,000
40	\$65,001	\$70,000
35	\$70,001	\$75,000
30	\$75,001	\$80,000
25	\$80,001	\$85,000
20	\$85,001	\$90,000
15	\$90,001	\$95,000
10	\$95,001	\$100,000
5	\$100,001	\$105,000
0	\$105,001	OR MORE

NICHE	
GRADE	SCORE
A+	100
A	95
A-	90
B+	85
B	80
B-	75
C+	70
C	65
C-	60
D+	55
D	50
D-	45
F+	40
F	35
F-	30

Payscale provides the valuable statistic of Mid-Career Pay. For our purposes, this number is rounded either up or down to the nearest thousand in order to allow for an easier mathematical ranking formula. While pursuing a career that they are passionate about is important for students, it's never a bad idea to find out which schools have the largest average pay to go along with that career.

In cases where schools were tied for the same ranking score, alphabetical order was used as the tie-breaker. All schools in the ranking are excellent choices and ranking scores are disclosed so that anyone is able to see where tie scores occurred.

None of the institutions in this ranking or any other ranking on OnlineCollegePlan have been given any preferential treatment, nor have any requests for such been received. Schools included in this ranking are either public or private not-for-profit institutions. In some cases, insufficient data may have caused an institution to be excluded.

Efforts were made to ensure that methodology was fully disclosed so that anyone who desires can recreate an identical ranking using the data and figures present at the time of research. OnlineCollegePlan is not responsible for changes in data which may occur after the time of our research.

Students interested in attending online college may also enjoy checking out [The Best Online College or University by State and Location](#) or our extensive list of [FAQs](#).

### **100. University of Rochester**

The University of Rochester, UR or U of R and occasionally just Rochester, is a private nonsectarian research university located in Rochester, New York. The school was originally established in 1850 and John N. Wilder was the original benefactor, donating \$10,000 to the school which opened the path for other individuals and institutions to donate as well.

There are more than 11,000 students at the University of Rochester. The university offers more than 200 degree programs. The University of Rochester offers online and hybrid courses and programs through several of the schools including the School of Nursing, Warner School of Education, Simon School of Business, Eastman School of Music, Arts, Sciences, and Engineering, and the School of Medicine and Dentistry

University of Rochester notable alumni includes Steven Chu, Debra Jo Rupp, Robert Forster, Masatoshi Koshihara, Renée Fleming, Galway Kinnell, and many more.

The University of Rochester ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 432.

### **99. Brandeis University**

The private research university of Brandeis University is located in Waltham, Massachusetts. The university was established in 1948 and, although nonsectarian, was sponsored by the Jewish community and is named in honor of Louis Brandeis, who was the first Jewish Justice of the U.S Supreme Court.

Brandeis University enrolls more than 5,000 students, both undergraduate and graduate. The campus at Brandeis is 235 acres and there are over 100 academic and residential buildings. The College of Arts and Sciences alone offers undergraduate students more than 40 majors to

choose from and even more minors. Likewise, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences offers 40 master's programs and 17 doctoral programs and these are only a portion of the programs offered. Brandeis also offers online courses during summers and has 12 online master's programs, a professional certificate program as well as a hybrid Executive MBA for Physicians (EMBA) program.

Debra Messing, Loretta Devine, Tony Goldwyn, Angela Davis, Tom Friedman, Marta Kauffman and David Crane are some of the Brandeis University notable alumni.

The Brandeis University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 432.

### **98. New York University**

Making its home in New York City, New York University, also known as NYU, is a private research university that was founded in 1831 with the main campus in the Manhattan area.

There are more than 50,000 students enrolled at NYU which offers more than 230 areas of study, making it easier for students to find the right path to their career of choice. NYU offers students two undergraduate programs online: a BA in Social Sciences with a concentration in Organizational Behavior and Change and a BS in Leadership and Management Studies. Graduate students are offered online programs for an MS in Human Resource Management and Development, MS in Management and Systems (STEM), MS in Professional Writing, and MS in Translation.

New York University notable alumni includes Woody Allen, Martin Scorsese, Spike Lee, Alec Baldwin, Adam Sandler, Dakota Fanning, Aziz Ansari, Kristen Bell, Angelina Jolie, Lady Gaga, Jack Dorsey, and many more talented and successful people.

The New York University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 433.

### **97. Boston University**

Boston University, or BU, is a private research university that can be found in Boston, Massachusetts. Although today the university is nonsectarian, it has been historically affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Although the roots to the college go back to *Newbury Biblical*

*Institute* in Newbury, Vermont which was founded in 1839, the school was not chartered in Massachusetts as *Boston University* until 1869.

BU currently enrolls nearly 33,000 students and grants bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional degrees through its 18 schools and colleges. Boston University online offers 1 bachelor's degree program, 18 master's degree programs, 2 doctoral programs, and 23 certificate programs.

Martin Luther King Jr, Jason Alexander, Uzo Aduba, Howard Stern, Geena Davis, Bill O'Reilly, Julianne Moore, Alfre Woodard, Emily Deschanel, and Marisa Tomei are just a few Boston University notable alumni.

The Boston University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 433.

## **96. San Diego State University**

San Diego State University, or SDSU, is a public research university located in San Diego, California. The school was founded in 1897 and is the oldest and largest institution of higher learning in the county. SDSU is a member of the California State University system and is the third oldest out of the 23 member institutions.

Currently, the university serves more than 34,000 students. SDSU has 7 colleges and offers a wide variety of degree programs for both undergraduate and graduate students. San Diego State University offers BS in Business Administration degree completion program online, an Educational Leadership (MA Ed) online program, an online Masters of Public Health program and other graduate programs. In addition to these, the College of Extended Studies at SDSU offers online training programs, personal enrichment, certificate programs, and professional development.

San Diego State University notable alumni includes Fred Dryer, Marion Ross, Carl Weathers, Art Linkletter, Julie Kavner, Gregory Peck, Tony Gwynn, Marshall Faulk, Ellen Ochoa, and Kathleen Kennedy.

The San Diego State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 434.

## **95. George Mason University**

George Mason University, also called simply Mason or GMU, is a public research university located in Fairfax, Virginia named after one of the nation's founding fathers. Founded in 1949, the university was originally part of the University of Virginia. Later, in 1972, it became an independent institution.

Mason serves around 35,000 students and offers a multitude of programs through 10 schools and colleges. Mason Online offers students more than 50 popular degree programs in either a fully online or hybrid format.

Some of the talented and successful George Mason University notable alumni includes Archie Kao, Brian Blake, Rhea Seehorn, David Jolly, Anousheh Ansari, Hala Gorani, Dayton Moore, and Zainab Salbi.

The George Mason University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 434.

#### **94. California State University-Long Beach**

California State University-Long Beach — or CSU Long Beach and CSULB — located in Long Beach, California is the third largest school out of the 23 institutions in the California State University system. The public university was founded in 1949 by California Governor Earl Warren.

CSU Long Beach serves over 37,000 students through its 8 colleges: The Arts, Engineering, Education, Liberal Arts, Business Administration, Health & Human Services, Continuing & Professional Education and Natural Sciences & Mathematics. CSU Long Beach online offers students 4 graduate programs fully online, including an MBA, MS in Criminal Justice, MS in Emergency Services Administration, and an MS in Engineering Management. There are also a number of hybrid programs offered at CSULB as well as online courses.

Chris Carter, Steven Spielberg, Robert S. Woods, Dana Rohrabacher, Mark O'Meara, Jason Giambi, and Bobby Crosby are just a small example of some of the California State University-Long Beach notable alumni.

The California State University-Long Beach ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 435.

### **93. Yeshiva University**

Yeshiva University is a private Jewish research university located in New York, New York. Founded in 1886, it is the oldest, as well as most comprehensive, institution of higher education under Jewish auspices in America.

There are over 6,000 students attending Yeshiva University which offers liberal arts, sciences, medicine, business, law, social work, psychology, Jewish studies and education. Yeshiva University offers students online course options and uses the Canvas platform. There are opportunities for summer courses to be taken online. Yeshiva University also offers an open course through the Coursera platform.

A few of the Yeshiva University notable alumni are Norman Lamm, Aaron Klein, Aharon Lichtenstein, Chaim Potok, Ari L. Goldman, and Lucy Kaplansky.

The Yeshiva University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 436.

### **92. Grove City College**

Grove City, Pennsylvania is home to the Christian liberal arts college of Grove City College (GCC). The college was established in 1876 by Isaac C. Ketler. The college was originally named *Pine Grove Normal Academy* and had an enrollment of 26 its first year. In 1884, the college was renamed Grove City College.

Today, GCC serves around 2,500 students and offers at least 22 areas of study. The college has a 13:1 student-faculty ratio and most of them hold a terminal degree in their area of expertise. Grove City College offers students over 60 classes combined during May Intersession and online during summer.

A few of the Grove City College notable alumni are Edward D. Breen, Peter Boettke, Paul McNulty, Arthur J. Schwab, Gail Z Martin, and David M. Bailey.

The Grove City College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 436.

## **91. Bentley University**

Located in Waltham, Massachusetts is Bentley University, a private university which has a focus on business education. The university was founded by Harry C. Bentley in 1917 as the *Bentley School of Accounting and Finance*. The school was originally located in Boston and moved to its current location in 1968. There are more than 5,000 students enrolled at Bentley.

Today, Bentley offers undergraduate students 24 majors in both business and the arts and sciences and there are also 8 different master's programs available. Bentley University offers online degree completion program for a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree as well as online graduate courses and programs. There are also summer courses offered online.

Bentley University notable alumni includes Jay Leno, Gail Huff, Charles Taylor, Mike Mangini, Mackenzy Bernadeau, Marcelo Claure, David Pakman and more.

The Bentley University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 437.

## **90. University of Utah**

The University of Utah, also known as The U, U of U, and simply Utah, is a public research university located in Salt Lake City, Utah. The U is the flagship campus for the University of Utah system and was established in 1850 and has been in its current location since 1900.

The U offers a variety of 100+ undergraduate majors and more than 92 graduate degree programs to over 31,000 students. U Online offers undergraduate students degree options in 5 majors and 1 minor as well as 6 graduate degree programs.

University of Utah notable alumni includes Jon Huntsman, Jr., Stephen Covey, Nolan Bushnell, Edwin Catmull, and John Warnock.

The University of Utah ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 438.

## **89. University of Richmond**

The private liberal arts college of the University of Richmond, UR or U of R, is located in Richmond, Virginia. The school was established in 1830 and serves more than 4,000 students.

The University of Richmond offers select courses available online as well as hybrid learning opportunities. The university also offers online noncredit professional development programs.

Watkins Moorman Abbitt, Absalom Willis Robertson, Grant Shaud, Leland D. Melvin, Mary Sue Terry, Virgil Goode, Sean Casey, and Ward Armstrong are a few of the University of Richmond notable alumni.

The University of Richmond ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 438.

### **88. University of California, Santa Cruz**

University of California, Santa Cruz, also known as UC Santa Cruz or UCSC, is a public research university located in Santa Cruz, California. The university was founded in 1965 and is a member institution of the University of California system.

UC Santa Cruz offers more than 18,000 students who are enrolled more than 60 undergraduate majors and over 40 graduate programs. In addition to their other online courses offered at the university, UC Santa Cruz also offers several online courses through the Coursera learning platform.

University of California, Santa Cruz notable alumni includes Rebecca Romijn, Andy Samberg, Maya Rudolph, Dana Priest, Jayne Ann Krentz, Huey P. Newton, Kent Nagano, Miranda July, and Cary Fukunaga to name a few.

The University of California, Santa Cruz ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 438.

### **87. University of Massachusetts Amherst**

Located in Amherst, Massachusetts, the University of Massachusetts Amherst is also called UMass Amherst, UMass, or Massachusetts. It is a public research university which was founded in 1863. UMass Amherst is the largest public university in New England and is the flagship campus for the University of Massachusetts system.

UMass Amherst contains 9 schools and colleges and offers over 100 undergraduate programs, 75 master's, and over 45 doctoral programs to the more than 30,000 students who are enrolled. Online education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst includes not only courses but also more than 40 total programs for undergraduates and graduates, as well as certificate programs. UMass online also offers programs through multiple campuses in the University of Massachusetts system which is even more variety with hundreds of choices.

University of Massachusetts Amherst notable alumni includes Paul Theroux, Natalie Cole, Richard Gere, Bill Pullman, Bill Cosby, Julius Erving (Dr. J), Jack Welch, and Catherine Coleman to name a few.

The University of Massachusetts Amherst ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

## **86. University of Iowa**

The University of Iowa is a public research university and flagship of the University of Iowa system that is located in Iowa City, Iowa. The school is commonly known as UI, U of I, and Iowa and is the oldest university in the state, having been established in 1847.

The University of Iowa has 11 colleges which offer more than 200 areas of study as well as 7 professional degrees. UI also offers students opportunities to learn online with courses as well as programs designed for both undergraduate and graduate students.

There are many University of Iowa notable alumni which include Flannery O'Connor, Tennessee Williams, Rita Dove, Gene Wilder, Ashton Kutcher, John Irving, Tom Brokaw, Al Jarreau, and many more.

The University of Iowa ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

## **85. University of Colorado Boulder**

The University of Colorado Boulder, also known as CU or simply Colorado, is a public research university in Boulder, Colorado. The university was founded in 1876 and is about 5 months older

than the state itself, as it was prior to Colorado joining the United States. It is the flagship institution for the University of Colorado system.

There are over 33,000 students currently enrolled at CU. The university has 9 colleges and schools and offers more than 150 academic programs. CU also offers students multiple opportunities for online education with courses, programs, and on-demand MOOCs.

University of Colorado Boulder notable alumni includes Robert Redford, Matt Stone, Trey Parker, Chauncey Billups, Kalpana Chawla, Larry Linville, Lynne Cheney, and many more.

The University of Colorado Boulder ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

#### **84. University of California, Riverside**

The University of California, Riverside, or UC Riverside, is located in Riverside, California and is a public research university and part of the University of California system. The university was established in 1954 but did not become a general campus until 1959.

More than 23,000 students attend UC Riverside which offers 65 undergraduate programs and majors to choose from as well as over 50 graduate programs. UC Riverside offers access to online courses offered throughout the UC System as well as their own online Master of Science in Engineering programs.

University of California, Riverside notable alumni includes successful people such as Richard R. Schrock, Billy Collins, Elizabeth George, Tim D. White, Jamie Chung, Steve Breen, and many more.

The University of California, Riverside ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

#### **83. Indiana University-Bloomington**

Indiana University-Bloomington is also called IU Bloomington or sometimes IU or Indiana and is a public research university located in Bloomington, Indiana. The Bloomington campus is the

largest as well as the flagship institution in the Indiana University system. IU is also considered to be a *Public Ivy*.

IU-Bloomington has more than 16 colleges and schools with over 550 academic programs. There are more than 43,000 students enrolled at IU-Bloomington. Indiana online offers 9 bachelor's degree programs, 12 master's degree programs, and 3 doctoral programs.

Ernie Pyle, Hoagy Carmichael, John T. Chambers, Kevin Kline, Suzanne Collins, Jane Pauley, John Mellencamp, Mark Cuban, and many other talented, successful people are Indiana University-Bloomington notable alumni.

The Indiana University-Bloomington ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

## **82. Auburn University**

Auburn University is a public research university located in Auburn, Alabama. The school was established in 1856 as a private liberal arts college but later transitioned to a state institution in 1872. Over the years the university has changed names until in 1960 when it officially became Auburn University.

Today, Auburn has more than 25,000 students enrolled and comprises 12 colleges and schools. Auburn University offers some online undergraduate courses and a few select undergraduate programs as well. There are also around 30 graduate programs offered online at Auburn through their different colleges.

There are some phenomenally successful Auburn University notable alumni which include Jimmy Buffett, Octavia Spencer, Bo Jackson, Charles Barkley, Cam Newton, Jimmy Wales, Ken Mattingly, and many more.

The Auburn University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 439.

## **81. Wheaton College**

Located in Wheaton, Illinois, is the private Christian liberal arts college and graduate school of Wheaton College - not to be confused with the college of the same name in Massachusetts. The

college was founded in 1860 by evangelical abolitionists and it served as a stop along the underground railroad.

More than 3,800 students attend Wheaton College which offers more than 40 majors. Wheaton College Graduate School offers online courses as one of their degree formats, also there are two Summers-Only programs which are online or blended. Students also have access to 3,800 courses when they utilize ThunderCloud Training (powered by Lynda.com).

Wheaton College notable alumni includes Billy Graham, Jim Elliot, Wes Craven, Dennis Hastert, Rob Bell, Sylvia McNair, and John Piper to name a few.

The Wheaton College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 440.

### **80. Wake Forest University**

You can find Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Named for its original location in Wake Forest, the school is a private, independent, nonsectarian institution which was founded in 1834. The university moved to its current location in 1956 and since then has continued to grow and maintain a reputation for excellence in higher education.

Today, Wake Forest University serves nearly 8,000 students, has nearly 40 undergraduate and graduate departments, and offers more than 40 majors and 60 minors. In addition, WFU offers online and blended courses for undergraduates during summer sessions, 3 online master's programs offered by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Also a Master of Studies in Law (MSL) degree and certificate programs are offered part-time and fully online as well as a certificate program in Strategic Analysis and Decision-making.

Arnold Palmer, Richard Burr, Melissa Harris-Perry, Tim Duncan, Chris Paul, and Muggsy Bogues are just a few of the talented and successful people who are Wake Forest University notable alumni.

The Wake Forest University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 440.

### **79. University of Pittsburgh**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is the home to the University of Pittsburgh, often called simply Pitt. It is a state-related research institution that was founded in 1787 as Pittsburgh Academy and has since grown into the university it is now, serving more than 28,000 students.

The University of Pittsburgh comprises 17 schools and colleges which serve both their undergraduate students as well as graduate students. There are a wide variety of majors, minors, and graduate programs offered at Pitt. In addition, Pitt offers a number of online programs and courses for students who desire the flexibility that online education can provide.

University of Pittsburgh notable alumni includes Mark Cuban, Dan Marino, Larry Fitzgerald, Steven Adams, Sean Miller, Fred Rogers, Joe Manganiello, Dion Lewis, Yūji Oda and many other successful and talented people.

The University of Pittsburgh ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 440.

## **78. Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology**

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, RHIT for short, was established by the businessman, Chauncey Rose, in 1874 as Rose Polytechnic Institute. The school is located in Terre Haute, Indiana. The name of the institution was changed to the current Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in honor of the Hulman family's contributions to the school.

Today RHIT enrolls more than 2,000 students and is one of the leading STEM schools in the country and has had one of the highest ranked undergraduate engineering programs for nearly two decades straight. The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology also uses the Moodle platform in order to offer online learning opportunities to their students.

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology notable alumni includes Abe Silverstein, John Hostettler, Robert L. Wilkins, Mat Roy Thompson, Marshall Goldsmith, Tim Cindric, and many more.

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 441.

## **77. Iowa State University**

Iowa State University, located in Ames, Iowa, is a public research university established in 1859 as *Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm*. The first classes were held in Ames in 1869. In 1959, the institution was renamed *Iowa State University of Science and Technology* and has been the birthplace of many inventions and patents over the years.

Iowa State serves around 27,000 students through its 10 schools and colleges which offer 100 different majors. Iowa State University Online and Distance Learning offers undergraduate students an opportunity for degree completion in Liberal Studies. There is a variety of master's degrees available online and two hybrid Ph.D. programs. There are also programs for certificates and professional studies available.

Henry A. Wallace, John Vincent Atanasoff, George Washington Carver, Carrie Chapman Catt, Nawal El Moutawakel, Clayton Anderson, and Jack Trice are just a few of the names associated with the university and there are many more successful Iowa State University notable alumni.

The Iowa State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 441.

## **76. Boston College**

Located in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts just outside of Boston, is the private Jesuit Catholic research university known as Boston College. The school was founded in 1863 and was the second Jesuit institution of higher learning in the state. Boston College has since grown and expanded into one of the nation's finest private universities.

Boston College offers its more than 9,000 students 58 majors across its 8 schools. Boston College School of Theology and Ministry offers students opportunities to learn online, such as a hybrid M.A. in Theology and Ministry and a limited number of online for-credit course offerings each semester. There are also Crossroads online courses which are non-credit and are spiritually enlightening experiences designed for adult learners.

Boston College notable alumni includes Amy Poehler, Chris O'Donnell, Doug Flutie, Matt Hasselbeck, Matt Ryan, and John Kerry.

The Boston College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 442.

## **75. University of Connecticut**

Storrs, Connecticut is home to the public research university of the University of Connecticut, also called UConn. The university was founded in 1881 and is a flagship institution and is considered to be a *Public Ivy*.

Today, the university serves more than 26,000 students. UConn has 14 different schools and colleges and offers more than 100 undergraduate majors. UConn offers 6 master's programs online as well as 20 graduate certificate programs. There is also an online post-baccalaureate certificate program in Occupational Safety & Health.

Bobby Moynihan, Ray Allen, Meg Ryan, Rebecca Lobo, Sue Bird, Chris Murphy, and Franklin Chang Díaz are just a few of the University of Connecticut notable alumni.

The University of Connecticut ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 443.

#### **74. Stony Brook University**

The State University of New York at Stony Brook is also known as Stony Brook University and SUNY Stony Brook and is located in Stony Brook, New York on Long Island. Stony Brook was originally founded in 1957 and was in Oyster Bay and was known as *State University College on Long Island*. The school moved to Stony Brook in 1962 and has continued to grow and serve the students of its region, the US, and countries around the world.

Stony Brook University offers more than 200 majors, minors, and combined-degree programs through six undergraduate colleges. There are also nearly 50 graduate programs available through the Graduate School. Stony Brook University offers online courses during their summer and winter sessions. There are also online courses offered through the Biology department, an online Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and an online MS Program in Nutrition at Stony Brook.

There is a wide range of successful Stony Brook University notable alumni which include Jon Oringer, Christine Goerke, David Gelernter, Jef Raskin, Robert Gallucci, Diane Farr, and Sandy Pearlman.

The Stony Brook University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 443.

### **73. Emory University**

Located in Atlanta, Georgia is the private research university of Emory University. The school was founded in Oxford in 1836 and is the second-oldest institution of higher education in Georgia. Emory moved to Atlanta in 1915 and has a reputation for being one of the world's best universities.

More than 15,000 students attend Emory University. The university comprises 9 schools and offers over 70 undergraduate choices as well as dozens of options for graduate and professional studies. There are MOOCs offered through the Coursera platform which are open to all students. Emory also offers undergraduate courses online as well as a Bachelor of Medical Science in Medical Imaging (BMSc), Executive MPH, Modular Executive MBA, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Doctor of Ministry (DMin), and a Juris Master in Health Care Law or Business Law.

Emory University notable alumni includes a number of amazing, talented, and successful people, such as Alben W. Barkley, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar II, Glenda Hatchett, Newt Gingrich, Bernice King, Bobby Jones, and Robert W. Woodruff to name just a few.

The Emory University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 443.

### **72. Washington University in St Louis**

Washington University in St Louis, also known as WashU and WUSTL, is a private research university located in St. Louis, Missouri. The school was founded in 1853 and is named in honor of the United States first President and founding father.

Today, WashU serves more than 15,000 students through 7 schools and 4 colleges. There are several online courses available for study for both undergraduate and graduate students. There is a hybrid Master of Science in Biology for Science Teachers and 3 fully online certificate programs.

There are a number of amazing Washington University in St Louis notable alumni which include Marilyn vos Savant, Andrew McCabe, Harold Ramis, Tennessee Williams, Charles Eames, Peter Sarsgaard, Richa Gangopadhyay, and Pooja Kumar.

The Washington University in St Louis ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 444.

### **71. Missouri University of Science and Technology**

Missouri University of Science and Technology, or Missouri S&T, is a public university located in Rolla, Missouri and is a member of the University of Missouri system. The university was founded in 1870 and classes began the following year.

Today, Missouri S&T serves over 8,000 students with programs offered through the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business, and the College of Engineering and Computing. There are 15 different online graduate programs available online at Missouri S&T as well as over 40 online programs for professional training.

Missouri University of Science and Technology notable alumni includes Jack Dorsey, Gary D. Forsee, Thomas Akers, Sandra Magnus, Janet L. Kavandi, and many more.

The Missouri University of Science and Technology ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 444.

### **70. Johns Hopkins University**

Located in Baltimore, Maryland, Johns Hopkins University is a private research university with a prestigious reputation. The university was founded in 1876 and is named for Johns Hopkins who was the institution's first benefactor who bequest \$7 million to the university. At the time it was the largest philanthropic donation in the history of the country.

Johns Hopkins University enrolls more than 24,000 students who are able to choose their course of study from 260 programs offered by the university's 9 schools, colleges, and institute. There are also well over 100 programs in many different areas of study which are offered either online or as a hybrid program.

Johns Hopkins University notable alumni are among some of the most distinguished and successful people in history and the modern world. Woodrow Wilson, Wilder Penfield, Michael Bloomberg, Paul Rabil, Rachel Carson, Eva Chen, and John Dewey are just a few of the people associated with the university.

The Johns Hopkins University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 444.

### **69. Villanova University**

Villanova University is a private research university located in Villanova, Pennsylvania. The university was founded 1842 by the Order of Saint Augustine and is the oldest Catholic university in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

There are more than 10,000 students enrolled Villanova University. There are six schools and colleges which offer undergraduate, graduate, and law students a variety of programs. In addition to on-campus studies, there are a large number of online programs offered at Villanova, with the majority of them being designed for graduate students.

Villanova University notable alumni includes Jill Biden, Peter M. Donohue, Ed Rendell, Maria Bello, Sonia O'Sullivan, and Anthony Zinni to name a few.

The Villanova University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 445.

### **68. University of Southern California**

The University of Southern California, or USC, is a private research university located in Los Angeles, California. The school was founded in 1880 and is the oldest private research university in the state.

There are more than 42,000 students enrolled at USC. The university offers nearly 100 undergraduate majors and over 140 academic and professional minors. There are also over 100 graduate and professional degrees available. In addition, USC Online offers a vast number of graduate degree and certificate programs for online study.

University of Southern California notable alumni includes John Wayne, Neil Armstrong, John Ritter, LeVar Burton, Will Ferrell, Forest Whitaker, Clint Eastwood, George Lucas, and many other talented and successful people.

The University of Southern California ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 446.

## **67. Northwestern University**

Northwestern University is a private research university located in Evanston, Illinois. Northwestern was founded in 1851 by John Evans, for whom the city is named, alongside lawyers, businessmen and Methodist leaders. The first classes were held in 1855.

Today, Northwestern University serves more than 21,000 students and is well known for its highly ranked Kellogg School of Management, Pritzker School of Law, Feinberg School of Medicine, and Medill School of Journalism in addition to its undergraduate programs. Northwest also offers more than a dozen graduate programs online.

Northwestern University notable alumni includes Charleton Heston, Ann-Margret, Cloris Leachman, Warren Beatty, Stephen Colbert, Zach Braff, David Schwimmer, Shelley Long, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, and many more.

The Northwestern University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 446.

## **66. Miami University**

Oxford, Ohio is the home of the public research university of Miami University, also known as Miami of Ohio or simply Miami. Miami University was founded in 1809 and the first classes were held in 1824. Miami University is considered an *Public Ivy* and is the second oldest university in Ohio. The university is affiliated with the University System of Ohio.

Over 24,000 students are enrolled at Miami University which has 7 schools and offers over 120 areas of study. Miami University online offers undergraduate students online courses, graduate students have several degree programs to choose from online, and there is also an advanced course in speech pathology and audiology.

Some of the talented Miami University notable alumni includes Benjamin Harrison, Nick Lachey, Wally Szczerbiak, Rita Dove, Paul Ryan, Ron Harper, and Mojo Nixon.

The Miami University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 447.

## **65. Florida State University**

The public research university of Florida State University, or FSU, is located in Tallahassee, Florida. The school was founded in 1851 and its campus is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida.

Enrollment at Florida State University is over 41,000 students and offers 360 programs of study including professional school programs. Distance@FSU offers students 7 undergraduate programs and over 20 graduate programs online. There are also several certificate programs for both undergraduates and graduate students as well as elective courses offered online.

Florida State University notable alumni includes Deion Sanders, Burt Reynolds, Sara Blakely, Richard Simmons, Faye Dunaway, Alan Ball, Cheryl Hines, and many more.

The Florida State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 447.

#### **64. Vanderbilt University**

Vanderbilt University, also called Vanderbilt or Vandy, is a private research university that is located in Nashville, Tennessee. The school was founded in 1873 and is named for Cornelius Vanderbilt after he provided the school with a \$1 million endowment. Today, the school enrollment is more than 12,000 students.

There are 10 schools and colleges at Vanderbilt which collectively offer 68 bachelor programs, 79 master's degree programs and 59 doctoral programs. Vanderbilt University offers online courses via the Coursera platform as well as the Peabody Online offering two online programs: Doctor of Education in leadership and learning in organizations, and Master of Education in human development counseling.

Vanderbilt University notable alumni includes Al Gore, Amy Grant, Dinah Shore, Robert Penn Warren, Fred Thomson, and James Patterson just to name a few.

The Vanderbilt University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 450.

#### **63. Michigan State University**

Located in East Lansing, Michigan, Michigan State University — or MSU — is a public research university serving over 50,000 students. The school was founded in 1855 as the *Agricultural College of the State of Michigan* and was a pioneer in scientific agricultural education.

Today, MSU offers far more than agricultural education with over 200 undergraduate, graduate, and pre-professional programs. Michigan State is also leading the way with online education, offering numerous programs, online and hybrid, for master's degrees, graduate certificates, and professional certificates.

Michigan State University notable alumni includes a wide array of talented and successful people including Bubba Smith, Magic Johnson, James Caan, Tom Sizemore, Eli Broad, and Sam Raimi.

The Michigan State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 450.

## **62. Davidson College**

The private liberal arts college of Davidson College calls Davidson, North Carolina home. Davidson was founded in 1837 by The Concord Presbytery and has a 665-acre historic main campus. The college serves nearly 2,000 students, many of them living on campus.

Davidson offers 26 majors, interdisciplinary minors, and pre-professional studies. Davidson College is mostly an on-campus school, however, they are taking major steps toward online education with their Davidson Next program for AP courses as well as free open courses through the edX platform.

Woodrow Wilson, Tony Snow, Stephen Curry, Patricia Cornwell, Charles Wright, Dean Rusk and William Syron are just a few of the Davidson College notable alumni.

The Davidson College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 451.

## **61. University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**

Located in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities — often referred to as simply University of Minnesota or UMN — is a public research university. It is the

oldest and largest institution in the University of Minnesota system as well as the flagship campus.

UMN has 18 colleges and schools which serve more than 48,000 students. The University of Minnesota Online offers students a variety of programs which are completely or partially online, including certificate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs.

University of Minnesota notable alumni includes two Vice Presidents of the United States, Walter Mondale and Hubert Humphrey; Bob Dylan, Loni Anderson, Henry Fonda, Ernie Hudson, and many others.

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 452.

## **60. University of Chicago**

The University of Chicago, or UChicago, is a private research university in Chicago, Illinois. In 1890, the founders of UChicago embarked on a mission to provide a school that offered equal opportunities to students regardless of background or gender. One of the most generous benefactors, John D. Rockefeller, offered a pledge of \$600,000 — that would be about \$25 Million by today's standards. There were also contributions from the American Baptist Education Society and land from Marshall Field which helped to found the school.

Over 16,000 students attend UChicago which offers a large variety of programs across their undergraduate College, five graduate divisions, six professional schools, as well as the Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies. UChicago online offers a handful of open online courses as well as online courses quarterly through some of their divisions. There are professional certificates with online studies offered through the Graham School and online courses are offered through AlumniU free for UChicago alumni.

John Paul Stevens, Carl Sagan, Saul Bellow, Ed Asner, Roger Ebert, Susan Sontag, Mike Nichols, and Milton Friedman are just a few of the University of Chicago notable alumni.

The University of Chicago ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 452.

## **59. James Madison University**

James Madison University is a public research university located in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The school was founded in 1908 as the *State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg* and the college later changed its name in honor of President James Madison in 1938. James Madison College updated its name in order to reflect university status in 1977.

James Madison University serves over 22,000 students with 133 degree programs. Currently, JMU online offers 3 undergraduate programs as well as 7 graduate programs for students who prefer the flexibility of an online education.

There's a large number of successful and talented James Madison University notable alumni. Phil Vassar, Phoebe Sutton, Karen McCullah, Charles Haley, LeRoi Moore and Marcia Angell are just a few names associated with JMU.

The James Madison University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 452.

## **58. Clemson University**

Clemson University is a public research university located in Clemson, South Carolina. The school was founded in 1889 and named after Thomas Green Clemson who, upon passing, left most of his estate in order to form the college which bears his name.

Today, around 22,000 students attend Clemson University. The school offers 80 undergraduate programs as well as more than 100 graduate degree programs. Clemson online offers a variety of programs online varying from certificate programs, masters degree programs, and doctoral programs.

Clemson University notable alumni includes Strom Thurmond, Nikki Haley, Nancy O'Dell, William "The Refrigerator" Perry, C.J. Spiller, Jane Robelot, and Deshaun Watson to name a few.

The Clemson University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 452.

## **57. Carnegie Mellon University**

Carnegie Mellon University, or CMU, is a private research university located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Carnegie Technical Schools was founded in 1900 by Andrew Carnegie and later became the Carnegie Institute of Technology. It was in 1967 that it merged with the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research and became Carnegie Mellon University.

Today, Carnegie Mellon University serves more than 13,000 students through its 7 schools and colleges. Carnegie Mellon also offers some of the highest rated online programs which include their Master of Business Administration (MBA) program as well as their online Master of Science in Information Technology (MSIT).

Carnegie Mellon University notable alumni and those associated with the college include Andy Warhol, Randy Pausch, David Tepper, Joe Manganiello, Zachary Quinto, Hale Appleman, Sutton Foster, and Matt Bomer.

The Carnegie Mellon University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 452.

## **56. Tufts University**

The private research university of Tufts University can be found in Medford, Massachusetts. Tufts was founded in 1852 by Christian Universalists and is named for Charles Tufts who donated the land for the university which was called Walnut Hill. Another of the earliest benefactors of Tufts was P.T. Barnum.

More than 11,000 students attend Tufts University today. Tufts has three schools and more than 90 majors and minors to choose from. Tufts online includes summer session courses for students and pre-college programs.

Many brilliant and talented people have become Tufts University notable alumni. Peter Gallagher, Jennifer Biel, Hank Azaria, Tracy Chapman, Pierre Omidyar, and Jeff Kindler are some of the names which are associated with Tufts University.

The Tufts University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 453.

## **55. Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, commonly called Rutgers University or simply Rutgers, has multiple campuses, with the flagship being in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Rutgers was established in 1766 and is the 8th oldest institution of higher learning in the country and one of the nine colonial colleges chartered prior to the American Revolutionary War.

Rutgers overall serves nearly 69,000 students across multiple campuses. Rutgers University-New Brunswick contains 17 schools and colleges and offers more than 100 undergraduate majors as well as 220 graduate programs. Rutgers Online offers 2 bachelor's degree programs and 9 master's degree programs online.

Rutgers University notable alumni includes a large number of talented and successful people. Mohamed Sanu, Paul Wesley, Paul Robeson, Carli Lloyd, Sebastian Stan, and Mario Batali are just a few of the names associated with Rutgers University.

The Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 453.

#### **54. Pennsylvania State University**

Pennsylvania State University, often called simply Penn State and sometimes PSU, is located in University Park, Pennsylvania and is the Flagship Campus of the Pennsylvania State University System. It was established in 1855 and is the only public land-grant university in the state and is considered to be one of the *Public Ivies*. Pennsylvania World Campus, also in University Park, has many online offerings and is considered to be a separate campus in the same system.

Penn State University Park serves more than 47,000 students and world campus has over 18,000 students. Programs offered through World Campus are taught by the same world-class faculty as on-campus. Pennsylvania World Campus is also based at University Park and offers a large number of online courses and programs from associate's and bachelor's degrees to master's and even a DNP program online.

Pennsylvania State University notable alumni includes Saquon Barkley, Keegan-Michael Key, Johnny Devenanzio, Steve McCurry, Mark Parker, Guion Bluford, and many more.

The Pennsylvania State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 453.

### **53. Ohio State University**

Ohio State University is commonly referred to as Ohio State or OSU and is located in Columbus, Ohio. The university was founded in 1870 and was originally known as *Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College* and changed its name 8 years later.

Today, Ohio State University is the third largest school by enrollment with more than 59,000 students. OSU contains 16 different colleges and schools in order to offer students more than 200 majors and a variety of graduate programs. OSU Online offers 1 associate's degree, 3 bachelor's degree programs, 14 Master's degree programs, a DNP program, and 2 certificates programs.

Jesse Owens, Jack Nicklaus, R.L. Stine, Les Wexner, Roy Lichtenstein, James Thurber, and Woody Hayes are just a few of the talented and successful Ohio State University notable alumni.

The Ohio State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 453.

### **52. Wesleyan University**

Middletown, Connecticut is home to the private, liberal arts college of Wesleyan University. The school was founded in 1831 by Methodist leaders and the citizens of Middletown. The school began with only 3 professors, the president and 1 tutor educating 48 students.

Today, Wesleyan University has over 3,000 students and offers more than 45 majors. Wesleyan University also offers 6 open online courses through the Coursera Platform as well as a graduate Liberal Studies program featuring blended learning in the coursework to provide a more flexible experience for students.

Wesleyan University notable alumni includes Joss Whedon, Michael Bay, Dana Delany, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Bill Belichick, and Paul Weitz.

The Wesleyan University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 454.

### **51. University of Delaware**

The University of Delaware, or UD, is a public-funded and privately governed university located in Newark, Delaware. There are 4 other satellite campuses across the state as well. UD is the largest university in the state and has roots going back to a school which was founded in 1743, making it one of the oldest in the nation, however it was not officially chartered as an institution of higher learning until 1833.

Over 22,000 students attend the University of Delaware. There are 7 schools which provide more than 300 programs for both undergraduate and graduate students. UD Online offers an associate degree program, an RN-BSN program, 12 master's programs and a DNP program. In addition, there are individual online courses available online as well as professional certificate programs.

Joe Biden, Jill Biden, Louis McLane, Daniel Nathans, Chris Christie, Joe Flacco, and The Raven are just a few of the University of Delaware notable alumni.

The University of Delaware ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 454.

## **50. Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art**

Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, usually known as simply Cooper Union, is located in Manhattan, New York. Cooper Union is a private college that was established in 1859 by Peter Cooper in order to bring quality higher education to all who qualify regardless of race, sex, religion or social status. Originally the school offered free courses to students, then later admitted students with full-tuition scholarships. However, after 2014, Cooper Union had to change their policy.

Cooper Union has 3 schools, the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, the Albert Nerken School of Engineering, and the School of Art as well as the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences which serve the 900+ students. In addition to the on-campus courses, Cooper Union offers select online and hybrid courses.

There is a large number of Cooper Union notable alumni which include Thomas Edison, Daniel Libeskind, Milton Glaser, Shigeru Ban, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, John Hejduk, and many others.

The Cooper Union ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 454.

#### **49. The College of New Jersey**

Ewing, New Jersey is where you can find the public university of The College of New Jersey. TCNJ was established in 1855 and was the first normal school established in New Jersey as well as 5th in the nation. Over the years the school has had several names with the most recent prior to the current name being Trenton State College, reflecting that the school once resided in Trenton.

Currently, more than 7,000 students attend TCNJ. They offer students more than 50 liberal arts and professional programs through seven schools. The College of New Jersey also offers blended and online courses during summer and winter sessions. There are also some valuable professional training courses offered through the Udemy platform.

The College of New Jersey notable alumni includes James Florio, Chris Smith, Holly Black, Joseph A. Mussomeli, and Gene Hard to name a few.

The College of New Jersey ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 455.

#### **48. Cornell University**

Cornell University is an Ivy League institution in Ithaca, New York. While most of the institution is private, it does have 4 colleges which are statutory, meaning they do get funding from the state. The school was founded in 1865 by Ezra Cornell and Andrew Dickson White and the school motto is a quote from Ezra Cornell, "I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study."

Cornell's colleges and schools, which include 4 "contract colleges" offer more than 100 areas of study to over 23,000 students that attend. Cornell Online also offers 3 degree programs, 53 certificate programs, and over 100 courses online.

Bill Nye (The Science Guy), Mae C. Jemison, Ann Coulter, Bill Maher, Toni Morrison, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg are among a few of the Cornell University notable alumni.

The Cornell University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 456.

#### **47. Columbia University in the City of New York**

Columbia University in the City of New York is often called simply Columbia University or Columbia. Columbia is a private Ivy League university in the upper Manhattan area of New York. The university was established in 1754 and is the oldest in the state as well as the 5th to be chartered in the country, making it one of the 9 colleges established prior to the American Revolution.

Serving more than 27,000 students, Columbia University has 3 undergraduate schools and 13 graduate and professional schools. In addition, Columbia has a world-renowned medical center, over 100 research centers and institutes and 25 libraries. There are also four affiliated colleges and seminaries. In addition to on-campus learning, Columbia hosts MOOCs as well as offering online programs, some of which may have on-campus elements.

Columbia University notable alumni includes President Barack Obama, Alexander Hamilton, Warren Buffett, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Langston Hughes, Timothée Chalamet, Jake Gyllenhaal, Katie Holmes, and many more.

The Columbia University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 456.

#### **46. Stevens Institute of Technology**

Stevens Institute of Technology, or SIT, is a private research university in Hoboken, New Jersey. The school is named for a family of inventors who changed the lives of many Americans. Inventor Edwin A. Stevens passed on in 1868 and left in his will both land and funds in order to establish the university. Two years later in 1870, the new school opened its doors.

There are three schools which serve over 6,000 students at Stevens Institute of Technology: Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering & Science; School of Business; and School of Systems & Enterprises. There are 35 undergraduate majors and over 40 master's programs and more than 20 doctoral programs available. Also, StevensOnline offers 17 master's degree programs available completely online.

Stevens Institute of Technology notable alumni includes Francis Ford Coppola, Alexander Calder, Marques Brownlee, Frederick Winslow Taylor, Henry Gantt, Lawrence T. Babbio, Jr., and many more.

The Stevens Institute of Technology ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 457.

#### **45. University of Georgia**

Located in Athens, Georgia is the Public Ivy school of University of Georgia, often called UGA. In 1785, it became the first public university to be chartered and has continued forward setting the pace for excellence in higher education.

The university is composed of 17 schools and colleges and offers baccalaureate degrees in 143 fields. There are also graduate programs, including doctoral programs, in well over 100 fields as well as Professional degrees in law, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. UGA offers a strong commitment to keeping its students inspired as they not only absorb knowledge but are able to participate in global research and hands-on experiential learning. There are currently 2 undergraduate programs available online and 16 graduate programs and a number of graduate certificates. Individual courses are also taught online.

Alton Brown, Ryan Seacrest, Herschel Walker, Michael Stipe, Charlayne Hunter-Gault, and Kyle Chandler are just some of the University of Georgia notable alumni.

The University of Georgia ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 458.

#### **44. Santa Clara University**

Santa Clara University, or simply Santa Clara, is located in Santa Clara, California and is a private Jesuit university. Established in 1851, it is the oldest operating institution of higher learning in the state and has never changed locations.

Well over 8,000 students, both undergraduate and graduate attend Santa Clara. The university has 6 colleges and offers more than 50 majors in addition to its master's and doctoral programs. Online courses are offered for undergraduates during summer sessions and there are also select online courses available for some of the graduate programs offered at Santa Clara.

Santa Clara University notable alumni includes Shemar Moore, Jerry Brown, Gavin Newsom, Leon Panetta, Janet Napolitano, Khaled Hosseini, Steve Nash, and many others.

The Santa Clara University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 458.

### **43. University of California, Davis**

University of California, Davis is a public research university located in Davis, California and is a member of the University of California system. UC Davis is also considered one of the Public Ivies as its education is considered to be the equivalent to one earned through an Ivy League school. The school was established in 1905 and was originally the University Farm, but in 1959 it was decided to convert UC Davis to a general education campus.

Today, more than 36,000 students attend the University of California, Davis. The university has 11 colleges and schools and offers over 100 undergraduate majors as well as 99 graduate programs. UC Davis also offers students online course options for summer sessions as well as online programs for certificates and professional concentrations.

There's a large number of talented University of California, Davis notable alumni. Martin Yan, Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Anna Escobedo Cabral, Stephen Robinson, and Tracy Caldwell Dyson are just a few of the successful alumni of UC Davis.

The University of California, Davis ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 459.

### **42. Binghamton University**

Binghamton University, or officially the State University of New York at Binghamton or SUNY Binghamton, is a public research university with the main campus located in Binghamton. The university was originally established in 1946 as Triple Cities College in order to serve local WWII veterans who were returning home. Binghamton University is also considered to be one of the Public Ivies.

There are 6 schools at Binghamton University in order to serve its more than 17,000 students. There are over 130 programs for undergraduate students and over 80 programs for graduate students. Binghamton University also offers students opportunities for distance learning or online programs both during the summer and throughout the year.

Binghamton University notable alumni includes Hakeem Jeffries, Jenna Wolfe, Ruben Santiago-Hudson, William Baldwin, Paul Reiser, Tony Kornheiser, and many more.

The Binghamton University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 459.

#### **41. Lehigh University**

Located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania is the private research university of Lehigh University. The university was founded in 1865 by Asa Packer. Lehigh University is also considered to be one of the Hidden Ivies.

Lehigh serves nearly 7,000 students, both undergraduate and graduate. There are four colleges at Lehigh University: the College of Arts and Sciences, the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, the College of Business and Economics, and the College of Education. There are also 9 master's degree programs offered online through the Office of Distance Education as well as 3 certificate programs.

Lehigh University notable alumni includes Lee Iacocca, Roger Penske, Jesse W. Reno, Richard Hayne, Terry Hart, Joseph Parella, and Richard Harding Davis.

The Lehigh University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 460.

#### **40. Colgate University**

Colgate University is a private liberal arts university in Hamilton, New York. Colgate was founded in 1819 and opened its doors to students a year later. West Hall, the university's first building was built by students and faculty from stone acquired from Colgate's own rock quarry.

Students are able to choose from 55 undergraduate majors at Colgate. There are nearly 3,000 students enrolled at Colgate and the vast majority of them are undergraduates. Colgate University also offers open online courses through ColgateX and is a member of the edX platform.

Andy Rooney, Bob Woodruff, Monica Crowley, Jay Chandrasekhar, and Adonal Foyle are among the talented and successful Colgate University notable alumni.

The Colgate University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 460.

### **39. Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, or WPI, is a private research institution located in Worcester, Massachusetts. WPI was founded in 1865 by John Boynton and Ichabod Washburn, a self-made tinware manufacturer and owner of the world's largest wire mill, respectively.

WIP serves over 6,000 students and has 14 academic departments that offer more than 50 degree programs for both undergraduate and graduate students. Worcester Polytechnic Institute also offers programs online for master's degrees as well as graduate certificates.

Naveen Selvadurai, Robert H. Goddard, Nancy Pimental, and Dean Kamen are just a few of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute notable alumni.

The Worcester Polytechnic Institute ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 461.

### **38. Purdue University**

Purdue University often called simply Purdue, is a public research university in West Lafayette, Indiana and the flagship campus of the Purdue University system. The university was founded in 1869 and is named after benefactor John Purdue, a businessman who donated both money and land for a college of science, agriculture, and technology in exchange for the school to bear his name.

Purdue offers its more than 40,000 students over 200 majors to choose from through 10 different schools or colleges and the Purdue Polytechnic Institute. Purdue University also offers over 20 master's degree programs online as well as graduate certificate programs and an undergraduate program in Veterinary Technology.

Purdue University notable alumni includes the first man on the moon, astronaut Neil Armstrong; the last man to walk on the moon, Eugene Cernan; Orville Redenbacher, Gus Grissom, Roger B. Chaffee, and Drew Bees to name a few.

The Purdue University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 461.

### **37. North Carolina State University**

North Carolina State University, often called NC State, is a public research university located in Raleigh, North Carolina. The university was founded in 1887 and is part of the University of North Carolina system.

Today NC State serves more than 32,000 students and offers more than 300 undergraduate and graduate degree programs through its 65 departments. In addition to studies on campus, North Carolina State University 6 undergraduate programs, more than 50 master's programs, and 3 doctoral programs online.

Dennis Smith Jr., Russell Wilson, Ömer Yurtseven, Zach Galifianakis and Terry Gannon are just a few names of North Carolina State University notable alumni or are associated with NC State.

The North Carolina State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 461.

### **36. University of Wisconsin**

University of Wisconsin - Madison is often referred to as University of Wisconsin, UW, UW - Madison and sometimes simply Madison or Wisconsin. Located in Madison, Wisconsin, it is the flagship institution of the University of Wisconsin System. The school was founded in 1848 when Wisconsin became an official state and it is the oldest and largest public university in Wisconsin.

University of Wisconsin serves well over 43,000 students at the Madison campus. UW offers more than 200 majors for undergraduate students to choose from and over 250 master's, doctoral, and professional programs. There are also online courses and programs available at UW for students, including summer online courses and programs for non-traditional students through UW Continuing Studies.

A wide variety of successful people make up the University of Wisconsin notable alumni. These include Nobel laureates, public officials and politicians, astronauts and aviators, entertainers, journalists, writers and many more. Charles Lindbergh, Jim Lovell, Frank Lloyd Wright, John Muir, Lorraine Hansberry, and Joyce Carol Oates are just a few names of alumni.

The University of Wisconsin ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 462.

### **35. Swarthmore College**

Swarthmore College, located in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, is a private liberal arts institution. Swarthmore, founded in 1864, is one of the oldest coeducational institutions of higher learning. It was originally under the care of Friends, later known as Quakers, but became non-sectarian by 1906 with no religious affiliation.

Swarthmore enrolls more than 1,600 students and offers nearly 50 different courses of study. Swarthmore College also offers students access to Lynda for online training which has over 5,000 courses which are often short videos on a variety of subjects. Swarthmore has offered select open online courses as well.

Swarthmore College notable alumni includes many politicians, public officials, activists, Nobel laureates, scholars, and writers. Alice Paul, Michael Dukakis, David Baltimore, John C. Mather, James A. Michener and Jonathan Franzen are a few of the people associated with Swarthmore.

The Swarthmore College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 463.

### **34. Brown University**

Brown University is a private Ivy League research university located in Providence, Rhode Island. The school was founded in 1764 and is one of the nine original colleges chartered prior to the American Revolutionary War. Brown University was also the first institution of higher learning in the United States to accept students regardless of their religious affiliation.

In addition to the College and Graduate School, Brown University also has the School of Engineering, School of Public Health, Alpert Medical School, and the School of Professional Studies in order to serve its over 9,000 students. Brown University offers online pre-college and undergraduate courses as well as blended learning professional programs in several areas of study.

Brown University notable alumni includes many talented people with esteemed life roles. John Hay, Horace Mann, Jim Yong Kim, John D. Rockefeller Jr., Ted Turner, Daveed Diggs, and Emma Watson are just a few of the names associated with Brown University.

The Brown University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 464.

### **33. Rice University**

William Marsh Rice University, known as simply Rice University, is a private research university located in Houston, Texas. The school was established in 1912 with the help of Rice's personal lawyer and friend in Houston, James A. Baker, Sr, who had helped recover the funds from a trio of would-be thieves and seemingly conspirators to murder.

Rice University serves more than 7,000 students with six schools and offers more than 50 undergraduate majors. While Rice University does offer students online courses, at this time they do not have full programs to earn a degree online.

Rice University notable alumni includes a large number of distinguished scholars, scientists, and Nobel laureates. A few of the names associated with attending Rice University include George P. Bush, Howard Hughes, Larry McMurtry, Annise Parker, and Peggy Whitson.

The Rice University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 465.

### **32. Georgetown University**

Located in our nation's capital of Washington, D.C. is Georgetown University, a private research university. The school was established in 1789 making it the nation's oldest Catholic and Jesuit university. Classes at Georgetown began in 1792.

There are nine undergraduate and graduate schools at Georgetown University which serve more than 17,000 students. Georgetown University also offers its students courses and full programs which can be taken online.

Georgetown University notable alumni includes former President of the United States Bill Clinton, Maria Shriver, Antonin Scalia, Patrick Ewing, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Carl Reiner, and Bradley Cooper to name a few.

The Georgetown University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 465.

### **31. The University of Texas at Austin**

The University of Texas at Austin, also known as UT Austin and simply UT, is a public research institution and the flagship campus of the University of Texas system. The university was officially established in 1883, although the idea for it can trace back as far as 1827 and the original 40 acres were set aside in Austin in 1839 and some still refer to the university as "40 acres".

The University of Texas at Austin is the 8th largest single-campus enrollment institution of higher learning in the nation with well over 51,000 students. UT offers courses and programs through 18 different schools and colleges with a very large variety of areas of study for students to choose from. Self-paced, real-time, and on-demand online options are available for select courses at UT for students who are interested in taking online courses.

The University of Texas at Austin notable alumni includes a wide variety of people who have excelled in their fields such as Matthew McConaughey, Felicia Day, Owen Wilson, Farrah Fawcett, Kevin Durant, Lady Bird Johnson, Laura Bush, Michael S. Dell, Wes Anderson, and many more.

The University of Texas at Austin ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 466.

### **30. Texas A&M University**

Texas A&M University, often referred to as TAMU, is a flagship public research-intensive institution in College Station, Texas. The school opened in 1876 as the first public institution of higher learning in the state of Texas and was named the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. The letters A&M, standing for Agricultural and Mechanical, are kept as a reminder of the school's heritage.

Texas A&M University offers its more than 68,000 students well over 100 majors through its 16 colleges and schools. TAMU also offers web-based distance education which offers almost 50 degree programs and 25 certificate programs.

Texas A&M University notable alumni includes Rick Perry, Henry Cisneros, Ray Childress, Johnny Manziel, Jason Castro, Lyle Lovett, Rip Torn, and many more talented and successful people.

The Texas A&M University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 466.

## **29. University of Notre Dame**

University of Notre Dame du Lac, commonly called University of Notre Dame or simply Notre Dame, was founded in 1842. The school is located in Notre Dame, Indiana which is next to South Bend. As the school was originally an all-male college, it has a sister school, Saint Mary's College, which was built for women to attend and is across the street.

University of Notre Dame serves more than 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students through its 9 schools, colleges, and departments offering 65 majors. Notre Dame also offers students several programs which can be taken in the online format.

There are a large number and variety of University of Notre Dame notable alumni who have gone on to become extremely successful. Some of the people associated with the university include George Wendt, Regis Philbin, Condoleezza Rice, Phil Donahue, Knute Rockne, and Joe Montana.

The University of Notre Dame ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 467.

## **28. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

The public research university of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is often called UNC or UNC Chapel Hill and is located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. It is the flagship university for the University of North Carolina system which has 17 campuses. The school was chartered in 1789 but did not begin enrollment until 1795 and for this reason, UNC is one of three schools which claim the title of the oldest public university in the U.S.

Currently, there are more than 28,000 students University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The school offers over 70 bachelor's programs, and there are more than 100 master's and over 70 doctoral degree programs available for students to choose from. UNC also offers students

online classes and programs from not only the Chapel Hill campus but other schools in the UNC system.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill notable alumni are plentiful and are across many different areas of talent. They include former President James K. Polk, Vice President William R. King, author Thomas Wolfe, Michael Jordan, Andy Griffith, and Billy Crudup to name just a few.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 467.

## **27. California Polytechnic State University**

California Polytechnic State University is located in San Luis Obispo, California and is often called simply Cal Poly or sometimes Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to differentiate between the Pomona campus. The school was established in 1901 and held its first classes for 20 students in 1903.

Today, Cal Poly serves more than 21,000 students with 6 academic colleges and more than 60 majors to choose from. There are programs available for both undergraduates and graduate students. Cal Poly also offers students online learning opportunities provided at their campus as well as having access to CSU online.

California Polytechnic State University notable alumni includes John Madden, "Weird Al" Yankovic, Ozzie Smith, Robert L. Gibson, and Frederick W. Sturckow to name a few. Alumni of Cal Poly can be found at the top of many different fields.

The California Polytechnic State University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 467.

## **26. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, sometimes shortened to University of Illinois, Illinois, U of I, or UIUC, is located in Champaign, Illinois and is the flagship institution in the University of Illinois system. U of I was established in 1867 and has since earned a reputation for excellence in higher learning.

There are 16 schools and colleges at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign which offer more than 150 undergraduate and over 100 graduate and professional programs in a variety of areas of study. Illinois online offers students a variety of courses and programs for both undergraduates and graduates through a flexible online format.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign notable alumni includes a wide variety of successful people who have excelled in their chosen field. Robert L. Johnson, Dick Butkus, Jesse Jackson, and Roger Ebert are just a few names of those associated with attending the university.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 469.

## **25. University of Washington**

The University of Washington in Seattle, Washington is often referred to as UW or simply Washington. It is a public research institution that was founded in 1861 and is the flagship institution for the state universities of Washington.

University of Washington serves more than 46,000 students and is organized into 16 different schools and colleges to offer a wide variety of majors and minors. UW also offers students choices of on-campus, blended format, as well as online courses for select undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Bruce Lee, Dorothy Provine, Anna Faris, Isaiah Thomas, and Marcus Peters are among a few of the University of Washington notable alumni.

The University of Washington ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 470

## **24. Babson College**

Established in 1919 and located in Wellesley, Massachusetts, Babson College is a private business school that specializes in entrepreneurship education. The school was founded by Roger W. Babson and was initially an all-male institution, but is now coeducational.

Babson College offers students on-campus, blended, and online courses and programs as well as several MOOCs on the edX platform. Both undergraduate or graduate degrees earned from

Babson are well respected and carry prestige in the business world. The school is often called the "Entrepreneur's College" due to its business focus and the long list of successful graduates.

Babson College notable alumni includes many different talented individuals who have gone on to excel in business. Edsel Ford II, Akio Toyoda, Arthur Blank, Matt Coffin, and Gustavo Cisneros are just a few of the names associated with Babson.

The Babson College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 470.

### **23. University of Florida**

Gainesville, Florida is home to the public research university of University of Florida, commonly called UF or simply Florida. With origins that date back to 1853, the school is a senior member of the State University System of Florida and is unique in that it has continuously operated on the same Gainesville campus since 1906.

More than 55,000 students attend the University of Florida. The school has 16 different colleges in order to serve students with a wide variety of majors and minors. UF also offers online courses and degree programs for students who would prefer the flexibility of an online education and still have the same high-quality standards as on-campus education.

Many talented and successful people are University of Florida notable alumni. A few of the names associated with UF include Marco Rubio, Cam Newton, Tim Tebow, Ryan Lochte, and Laura Rutledge.

The University of Florida ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 471.

### **22. Duke University**

The private research university of Duke University, or simply Duke, calls Durham, North Carolina home. Duke was founded in what is now the town of Trinity in 1838 and later moved to Durham in 1892.

Today, nearly 15,000 students attend Duke University. There are 11 schools and institutes at Duke in order to serve both undergraduate and graduate students. Duke also has an online division which offers a myriad of courses in a wide variety of subjects.

Duke University notable alumni includes a variety of successful and talented people such as Kyrie Irving, former President Richard Nixon, Tim Cook, Stephen Miller, Ken Jeong, Melinda Gates and many more.

The Duke University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 471.

## **21. University of California, Santa Barbara**

University of California, Santa Barbara, shortened as UC Santa Barbara or UCSB, joined the University of California system in 1944, although roots can be traced as far back as an 1891 independent teacher's college. As the name suggests, the school is located in Santa Barbara, California and is considered to be a Public Ivy.

UCSB organized into five schools and colleges and offers over 80 undergraduate degrees and 55 graduate degrees to more than 24,000 students. University of California, Santa Barbara also offers select online courses for its students as well.

University of California, Santa Barbara notable alumni includes many talented people including Aja Naomi King, Jerry Trainor, Michael Douglas, Gwyneth Paltrow, Steve Aoki, and Jack Johnson, but the list goes on.

The University of California, Santa Barbara ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 472.

## **20. University of California, Irvine**

University of California, Irvine, located in Irvine, California, is a public research university and one of the 10 schools of the University of California system. The university was founded in 1965, although the city of Irvine itself was not incorporated until 1971.

University of California, Irvine offers its more than 32,000 students over 80 majors and 70 minors to choose from. UCI also offers students options for online summer courses as well as select online graduate programs.

UCI notable alumni includes a variety of talented people, such as Olympian Greg Louganis, artist Chris Burden, basketball coach Scott Brooks, author Michael Chabon, and comedian Jon Lovitz to name a few.

The University of California, Irvine ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 472.

### **19. College of William and Mary**

The College of William and Mary, often shortened to simply William and Mary or W & M, is located in Williamsburg, Virginia and is the second oldest institution of higher learning in the United States. Although planning for the school took place as far back as 1618 (before Harvard was established) but plans were delayed due to "Indian Uprising". However, by 1693, King William III and Queen Mary II of England had signed the charter for William & Mary. It is one of only 9 colonial colleges chartered before the American Revolutionary War.

The College of William and Mary offers its students nationally ranked undergraduate, graduate and professional programs through Arts & Sciences and four schools: Raymond A. Mason School of Business, William & Mary School of Education, William & Mary Law School, and William & Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). William and Mary may be one of the oldest schools in the country, but they are keeping up with the times with offering online summer courses as well as a growing number of online and hybrid programs.

As expected of a prestigious and historical institution, there is a large number of College of William and Mary notable alumni which include Presidents Thomas Jefferson, John Tyler, and James Monroe as well as John Stewart, Glenn Close, Mike Tomlin, and David M. Brown to name just a few.

The College of William and Mary ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 472.

### **18. University of Maryland, College Park**

The University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland which is located approximately 4 miles NorthEast of Washington, D.C., is often referred to as simply University of Maryland or UMD. It is the flagship institution of the University System of Maryland and was chartered as the Maryland Agricultural College in 1856.

Today, the University of Maryland serves more than 39,000 students. The university contains 13 schools and colleges in order to offer over 100 each undergraduate and graduate degrees. Also, there are many courses offered online at UMD and ELMS (Enterprise Learning Management System) is the online platform which is used at UMD for most online teaching and learning whether it is asynchronous, synchronous, or blended.

The University of Maryland notable alumni are plentiful and diverse. Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google and President of Alphabet Inc; Connie Chung, American Journalist; Jim Henson, Puppeteer famous for Muppets; Larry David, comedian, writer, actor, and producer; and many other talented people who have excelled in their chosen field are among those who have attended UMD.

The University of Maryland ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 473.

## **17. Yale University**

This private, Ivy League research university can be found in New Haven, Connecticut. The roots of Yale University, or simply Yale, can be traced as far back as the 1640s, but the school charter was not officially granted until 1701. In 1718 the school officially became Yale College, naming itself after a Welsh merchant and benefactor named Elihu Yale.

Currently, more than 12,000 students attend Yale University. In addition to on-campus courses, Yale also offers online courses through several platforms including Open Yale Courses, Coursera, iTunes U, and YouTube.

There are a large number of people who have excelled in their fields after attending Yale. Yale University notable alumni includes the U.S. Presidents William Howard Taft, Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush as well as several other heads of state outside the country in addition to public officials, writers, scholars, athletes, entertainers, and businessmen.

The Yale University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 475.

## **16. University of Pennsylvania**

Located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is the private, Ivy League school of University of Pennsylvania, often referred to as Penn or UPenn. The school was founded in 1740, then later received its collegiate charter in 1755 and is one of the 9 colonial colleges which pre-date the American Revolution. Benjamin Franklin is the founder and the red chief and dolphin on the university's coat of arms stems from the Franklin family coat of arms.

University of Pennsylvania offers courses and programs to more than 21,000 students through its 12 schools which include some of the top-rated programs for both graduate and undergraduate students. Penn Online offers students many different online options for completing courses in several different disciplines.

There are a large number of University of Pennsylvania notable alumni. Those who have attended Penn include President Donald Trump and his daughter Ivanka Trump, Elon Musk, Warren Buffett, John Legend, and Elizabeth Banks to name a small few.

The University of Pennsylvania ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 476.

## **15. Brigham Young University**

Provo, Utah is home to Brigham Young University or BYU. The private, non-profit university is owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and most students attending are members of the church. Although the origins of the school can be traced further back, 1875 is commonly considered the year in which the school was founded.

Brigham Young University offers its students 177 undergraduate majors, 107 undergraduate minors, 68 master's programs, and 26 doctoral programs. BYU also has online courses as well as independent study courses online for students who may desire the additional flexibility of online courses.

Brigham Young University notable alumni includes best-selling author Stephenie Meyer; actor Jon Heder; Ken Jennings, Jeopardy! Champion 74 times; Paul D. Boyer, Nobel Laureate; multiple public officials; and many more.

The Brigham Young University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 477.

## **14. University of Michigan**

The public research university of University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan was founded in 1817 in Detroit. The school is also referred to as U-M, U of M, and sometimes simply as Michigan. It is the state's oldest university and it moved to Ann Arbor in 1837. Today, the buildings alone on campus total more than 34 million square feet.

With 19 schools and colleges to serve its more than 44,000 students, University of Michigan offers more than 275 areas of study. Students of U-M also have opportunities to take courses online, and there are also full programs in the online format.

Some of the University of Michigan notable alumni includes 26 Rhodes Scholars; U.S. President Gerald Ford; writer Arthur Miller; actor James Earl Jones; Google co-founder Larry Page; and many more.

The University of Michigan ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 479.

### **13. Harvey Mudd College**

Harvey Mudd College, or HMC, was established in 1955 and is a private liberal arts college in Claremont, California. The institution is named for Harvey Seeley Mudd, co-founder of the Cyprus Mines Corporation who was involved with the start of the college, but passed before it was able to be completed.

There are 7 academic divisions at Harvey Mudd College: Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Mathematics; Physics; and Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts. Harvey Mudd College also offers several joint majors for students. HMC also offers select courses online through the edX platform.

Harvey Mudd College notable alumni includes Donald D. Chamberlin, the computer scientist best known for being a principal designer of SQL; George Nelson, astronaut; Stanley G. Love, astronaut; Michael G. Wilson, screenwriter and producer; and many others.

The Harvey Mudd College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 479.

### **12. Dartmouth College**

Hanover, New Hampshire is home to the private, Ivy League school of Dartmouth College. The school was established in 1769 by Eleazar Wheelock. Dartmouth is the 9th oldest institution of higher learning in the United States as well as one of the 9 colonial colleges chartered prior to the American Revolution.

Dartmouth College offers serves its more than 6,000 students through its five constituent schools: the original undergraduate college, the Geisel School of Medicine, the Thayer School of Engineering, the Tuck School of Business, and the School of Graduate and Advanced Studies. Dartmouth has also evolved with changing technology and offers select courses online.

Dartmouth College notable alumni includes Nelson Rockefeller, Robert Frost, Daniel Webster, Fred Rogers, and Theodor Geisel, most commonly known as Dr. Seuss, to name a few.

The Dartmouth College ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 479.

## **11. Harvard University**

Located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard University stands as the nation's oldest institution of higher learning as well as one of the world's most prestigious schools. This private, Ivy League school was established in 1636 and is named for the first benefactor, clergyman John Harvard. The school began with 1 master and 9 students.

Today, Harvard serves more than 20,000 students including undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. It has 12 degree-granting schools in addition to the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. Harvard also offers select world-class learning experiences online.

Harvard University notable alumni are numerous and include many of the U.S. Presidents with the most recent being George W. Bush and Barack Obama. Michelle Obama also attended Harvard. Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft's founder Bill Gates attended as well.

The Harvard University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 482.

## **10. Colorado School of Mines**

The Colorado School of Mines, also referred to as simply Mines, is located in Golden, Colorado, formerly known as Golden City which was established in 1859. By 1866, Bishop George M. Randall had arrived at the then territory of Colorado and began to plan for a university which would include the School of Mines. In 1870 the Jarvis Hall Collegiate School was opened just south of Golden with the School of mines opening in 1873 under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. One year later the school became a territorial institution and later a state institution in 1876 when Colorado became an official state.

Today the school serves more than 6,000 students and 3 colleges: College of Applied Science and Engineering (CASE), College of Earth Resource Sciences and Engineering (CERSE), and College of Engineering & Computational Sciences (CECS) with 17 departments and a number of interdisciplinary programs.

The Colorado School of Mines notable alumni includes author George Saunders; Shane Carwin, wrestler and former MMA UFC competitor; Arden L. Bement, Jr., former Director of the National Science Foundation; and many more.

The Colorado School of Mines ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 482.

## **9. University of California, San Diego**

Located in La Jolla, California, the public research university of University of California, San Diego is a valuable part of the University of California system. The institution's history dates as far back as 1903 when the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, the predecessor of Scripps Institution of Oceanography was chartered. It was not until November 18, 1960, that the University of California, San Diego is officially established and has continued to grow and excel in higher education.

UC San Diego offers students 6 residential colleges: Revelle College, John Muir College, Thurgood Marshall College, Earl Warren College, Eleanor Roosevelt College, and Sixth College. There are 9 academic departments at UCSD which are Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, Business, Engineering, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Marine Sciences, Pre-Med, and Pre-Law. There are also online programs or courses offered from UC San Diego Extension.

There is a large and diverse group of University of California, San Diego notable alumni which include Mike Judge, animation producer; Nick Woodman, founder of GoPro; actor Robert Buckley, Bill Atkinson & Bud Tribble, part of the Apple Macintosh development team; and many others.

The University of California, San Diego ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 483.

## **8. University of California, Los Angeles**

The University of California, Los Angeles, often called UCLA, is a public research university and is located in the Los Angeles, California district of Westwood. UCLA became the second oldest institution in the University of California system in 1919.

Today the university serves nearly 45,000 students. With 6 undergraduate colleges, 7 professional schools, and 4 professional health science schools, UCLA offers students a wide variety of disciplines. It's also no surprise to find that online courses are also available at UCLA, from summer sessions online to courses offered through UCLA Extension.

There's a huge number of UCLA notable alumni from scholars to celebrities. Some of the names associated with the university include Tim Robbins, Carol Burnett, George Takei, Jack Black, Ben Stiller, Lance Ito, and Arthur Ashe.

The University of California, Los Angeles ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 483.

## **7. Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Cambridge, Massachusetts is home to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, most commonly known as MIT. The school was founded in 1861 and used a European polytechnic university model with an emphasis on laboratory instruction in engineering and applied science in order to address the growing need for educated as well as skilled workers as the industrialization of the United States continued.

Today the institute serves more than 11,000 students. There are 5 schools within MIT: the School of Architecture and Planning; School of Engineering; School of Humanities, Arts, and

Social Sciences; School of Science; and the MIT Sloan School of Management. Naturally, with MIT being so technologically savvy, there are several different ways for students to participate online, from MOOCs to MicroMasters to OpenCourseWare and more.

There are plenty of Massachusetts Institute of Technology notable alumni which includes several heads of state and other public officials, astronauts, a myriad of founders or co-founders of successful companies, Nobel laureates, and leaders in education. Celebrities who have attended MIT include Dolph Lundgren and Tom Scholz of the band Boston.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 483.

## **6. California Institute of Technology**

The California Institute of Technology, or Caltech, is located in Pasadena, California and was founded in 1891 as Throop University, a preparatory and vocational school. The school was renamed the California Institute of Technology in 1920 and today it is a world-renowned science and engineering Institute.

Caltech has 6 academic divisions: Biology & Biological Engineering; Chemistry & Chemical Engineering; Engineering & Applied Science; Geological & Planetary Sciences; Humanities & Social Sciences; and Physics, Mathematics & Astronomy. The institute offers students a personalized education with a 3:1 student to faculty ratio. Caltech also offers online courses through platforms such as iTunes U, Coursera, and edX.

There are a large number of Caltech notable alumni which include a variety of scholars, scientists, inventors, engineers, astronomers, astronauts and 22 Nobel laureates including Edwin McMillan, William Shockley, and Kip Thorne. Others who have attended Caltech include Howard Hughes, Frank Capra (during the time it was Throop University), Adam D'Angelo, and many more.

The California Institute of Technology ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 484.

## **5. Princeton University**

Princeton, New Jersey is home to Princeton University, one of the nation's Ivy League colleges. Princeton is the 4th oldest institution of higher learning in the United States and was founded in Elizabeth as the College of New Jersey in 1746. This also makes the school one of the nine colonial colleges which were chartered prior to the American Revolution. Over time the school has changed locations, once to Newark before transitioning to its current campus. It was 1896 when the school took its official name as Princeton University.

Over 8,000 students attend Princeton and the university offers a generous 5:1 student to faculty ratio. Princeton University has 36 academic departments designed to serve students and offers over 50 interdisciplinary undergraduate certificate programs, 18 master's programs, 42 doctoral departments and programs, as well as 33 interdisciplinary or interdepartmental doctoral programs. Princeton also offers online courses in a dozen areas of study over four different platforms.

Princeton University notable alumni includes 2 Presidents of the United States, 16 Nobel Prize winners, 3 United States Supreme Court Justices. Princeton has also produced 22 Rhodes Scholars within the past 10 years alone.

The Princeton University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 487.

#### **4. Stanford University**

Located in Stanford, California, Stanford University was founded in 1885 as The Leland Stanford Junior University by the parents, California Senator Leland Stanford and his wife, Jane, who named the school after their son who sadly had died at the age of 15 from typhoid fever. The school is referred to often as simply Stanford and colloquially as "The Farm" because of its heritage since part of the land donated was the family's Palo Alto Stock Farm. When the school opened in 1891, it had an enrollment of 555 students.

Today the school serves more than 16,000 students and has the reputation as one of the most prestigious universities in the country. Stanford has seven different schools in order to serve both graduate and undergraduate students. These schools are Education, Engineering, Business, Law, Medicine, Humanities & Sciences, and Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences. Stanford also hosts Stanford Online for students who choose to take courses off-campus.

Stanford University notable alumni are plentiful. Among the Nobel Prize laureates, and Pulitzer Prize winners who have attended Stanford, so have Jennifer Katharine Gates, Katie Ledecky, Richard Sherman, and Mae C. Jemison to name just a few.

The Stanford University ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 487.

### **3. University of Virginia**

The University of Virginia, also known as UVA or sometimes simply as Virginia, is located in Charlottesville, Virginia. UVA is the public flagship university of the Commonwealth of Virginia and was founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819.

UVA offers more than 120 majors across their 8 undergraduate and 3 professional schools. Overall, UVA offers its students 48 bachelor's degrees, 94 master's degrees, 55 doctoral degrees, 6 educational specialist degrees, as well as 2 first-professional degrees in Medicine and Law. Also, there are undergraduate degrees and certificates as well as graduate certificate programs online through UVA. The university serves over 22,000 students from all 50 states as well as international students from 148 countries.

It should be noted that UVA has never bestowed an honorary degree to any person.

University of Virginia notable alumni includes 53 Rhodes Scholars, which is the most from any state-supported institution as well as 8th overall. 14 Governors of Virginia and 14 Governors of other U.S. states and territories are among a few of the distinguished UVA alumni who have had political careers. 8 NASA astronauts, as well as 8 Pulitzer Prize winners, are also alumni of UVA.

The UVA ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 489.

### **2. University of California, Berkeley**

University of California, Berkeley is often called UC Berkeley or simply Berkeley and was founded in 1868. As the name suggests, the school is located in Berkeley, California and it is the flagship institution out of the 10 research universities of the University of California system.

UC Berkeley is comprised of 15 different colleges, schools, and divisions which offer around 350 undergraduate and graduate programs to nearly 42,000 students. UC Berkeley Extension offers online learning opportunities for students and adult professionals in several areas of study. Among other online options, there are summer studies offered as online courses, UC Berkeley edX MOOCs and courses, and UC Berkeley class videos.

UC Berkeley notable alumni includes Earl Warren, the 14th Chief Justice of the United States; Steve Wozniak, the co-founder of Apple Inc.; award-winning actor, Gregory Peck; Haakon Magnus, Crown Prince of Norway; several Nobel laureates; and many others.

The UC Berkeley ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 496.

## **1. Georgia Institute of Technology**

Georgia Institute of Technology usually referred to as Georgia Tech, is located in Georgia's capital city of Atlanta and was founded in 1885 during the post-civil war reconstruction era. The school is part of the University System of Georgia and has multiple satellite campuses across the world.

Georgia Tech is organized into six colleges with more than 30 departments. As the school name suggests, there is a strong emphasis on science and technology and is recognized for programs in the sciences, engineering, computing, business administration, as well as design, and liberal arts. As a leader in technology, it's no surprise that Georgia Tech offers online courses as well as full programs for students who prefer the flexibility of online education.

There are a large number of Georgia Tech notable alumni which include former US President and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Jimmy Carter, Juan Carlos Varela who was elected president of Panama in 2014, the fourth CEO of Wal-mart Mike Duke, and many others.

The Georgia Tech ranking score for the Top 100 Best Online Colleges was 500.