

# University Overview

Mission Statement.....	2
Précis of University History .....	3

## **Statement of Educational Mission**

A member of the University of North Carolina, Western Carolina University offers courses in the arts, sciences, technologies, humanities, and professions. Students can elect degree programs at the bachelor's or master's level, or doctoral level study in educational leadership. As a regional comprehensive institution, it serves the people of North Carolina from its residential campus at Cullowhee and through off-campus instruction in Asheville and other locations.

Teaching and learning constitute the central mission of Western Carolina University. The University seeks to create a community of scholarship in which the activities of its members are consistent with the highest standards of knowledge and practice in their disciplines. The commitment of the community to service, research, and creative activities complements the central mission and extends the benefits of its scholarship to society. As a major public resource for western North Carolina, the university promotes regional economic development through its teaching, research and service. Western Carolina University seeks to provide an environment in which students, faculty, and staff jointly assume responsibility for learning, where free exchange of ideas, intellectual challenge, and high standards of scholarship prevail.

**Approved by Board of Governors: November 10, 2006**

Source: [http://planning.wcu.edu/SPC/Mission\\_Statement\\_2006.htm](http://planning.wcu.edu/SPC/Mission_Statement_2006.htm)

Ref: Mission Statement

## PRÉCIS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY

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### A. NAMES AND LEVELS

1889	Semi-private school
1891	Cullowhee High School
1893	First state appropriation
	Normal Department established
	First graduating class
1905	Cullowhee Normal and Industrial School
1912	Junior College rank established
	Secondary school discontinued
1913	First college-level (one-year) degree awarded
1925	Cullowhee State Normal School
1929	Western Carolina Teachers College
	Senior College rank established
1931	First Baccalaureate degree awarded
1951	Graduate degree established
1952	First Master's degree awarded
1953	Western Carolina College
1967	Western Carolina University
1972	A constituent institution of the University of North Carolina
1995	Doctoral degree established
1997	First residential Honors College in North Carolina
1998	First UNC Institutional to require computers
2000	First Doctoral degree awarded
	Named a National Merit College
2005	Obtained Highest Enrollment to Date
	Millennial Campus Land Purchase Doubled Size of Campus
2007	Campus enrolled over 9,000 students for first time

### B. PRESIDENTS

1889-1912; 1920-1923	Robert Lee Madison
1912-1920	Alonzo Carlton Reynolds
1923-1947	Hiram Tyram Hunter
1947-1949; 1956-1957	William Ernest Bird
1949-1956; 1957-1968	Paul Apperson Reid
1968-1972	Alexander Simpson Pow
1972	Frank Hamilton Brown, Jr. (Acting)

### C. CHANCELLORS

1972-1973	Jack Kenneth Carlton
1973	William Hugh McEniry (Acting)
1974	Frank Hamilton Brown, Jr. (Acting)
1974-1984	H. F. Robinson
1984-1994	Myron L. Coulter
1994-1995	John H. Wakeley (Interim)
1995-	John W. Bardo

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Source: Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Ref: University History.xls