

Introduction to Nankai University

Founded in 1919, Nankai University, located in Tianjin on the coast of the sea of Bohai, is a key multidisciplinary and research-oriented university. The University has a fully-fledged education system for producing undergraduates, postgraduates on master's and doctoral programs and post-doctoral researchers. Currently, the university has a total enrollment of 26,568 students, and has 2,046 faculty members. In 2017, the university was selected to the list of 42 universities and colleges that will participate in the country's "Double First-Class" Initiative (the construction plan of world-class universities and world-class disciplines) as one of the 36 A-level universities in China.

➤ History

Nankai University was founded in 1919 by the famous patriotic educators Zhang Boling and Yan Xiu.

During the Anti-Japanese war (1937-1945), Nankai, Peking (Beijing) and Tsinghua (Qinghua) universities united in Kunming to form the renowned Southwest Associated University. It was described as The North Star of Higher Learning. In 1946, the university moved back to Tianjin and became a public university.

In 2000, the Ministry of Education signed an agreement with Tianjin Municipal Government to jointly establish and develop Nankai University. Since then, Nankai has been listed among the universities to receive priority development in the twenty-first century.

➤ Campus

Nankai University now occupies an area of 4,551,900m². After the completion of Jinnan campus on September 2015, the university has constructed an operating pattern of "a university with three campuses"—Balitai Campus, Jinnan Campus and TEDA College.

➤ Academics

Nankai University is one of the comprehensive universities with the widest range of disciplines. It features a balance between the humanities and the sciences, a solid foundation and a combination of application and creativity.

The university has 26 academic colleges, with categories covering literature, history, philosophy, economics, management, law, science, engineering, agriculture, medicine, teaching and art. Nankai University offers 86 undergraduate specialties (including 18 national characteristic specialties), 28 Post-Doctoral research stations and 30 authorized primary Doctoral specialties. There are 6 first degree national key disciplines (covering 35 second degree disciplines), 9 second degree national key disciplines, 2 national key cultivating disciplines, and 32 first degree Tianjin municipal key disciplines. Furthermore, there are 2 national key laboratories, 7 key laboratories of the Ministry of Education, 3 engineering centers of the Ministry of Education, 1 key laboratory of the State Environmental Protection Administration, 9 national bases for basic science research and talent cultivation, 1 base for national cultural quality education and 7 national key research bases for humanities and social sciences, 8 bases for innovation and talent recruitment of the State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs, together with 14 key laboratories of Tianjin and 4 engineering centers of Tianjin.

➤ Faculty team

Equipped with top academic capability and creative spirit, Nankai University has a well-balanced faculty team in terms of age and specialty. Among the 2,046 faculty members, there are 774 doctoral supervisors, 865 master's supervisors, 782 professors and 825 associate professors, 10 members of Chinese Academy of Science and 2 members of Chinese Academy of Engineering, 6 members of The Third World Academy of Science.

There are 17 candidates selected by the National Program of Global Experts, 39 candidates selected by the Recruitment Program for Young Professionals, 18 leading talents of the National High-level Personnel of Special Support Program, 8 candidates selected by the National Youth Talent Support Program, 16 nationally accredited experts who have made outstanding contributions, 25 teachers selected by the National Excellent Talents Project, 14 members of the Subject Assessment Division of the Academic Degree Committee of the State Council, 11 chief experts and 29 key members of Marxism Theoretical Research and Development Project, 18 chief scientists of the National High-Tech Research and Development Program (863 Program) and of the National Program on Key Basic Research Project (973 Program).

There are also 7 leaders of The National Key Research and Development Program, 42 chair professors, 16 lecture professors and 10 young scholars selected by the Chang Jiang Scholars Program, 12 leaders supported by Program for Chang Jiang Scholars and Innovative Research Team, 48 recipients supported by the National Science Fund

for Distinguished Young Scholars, 28 recipients supported by the National Natural Science Fund for Excellent Young Scholars, 21 recipients supported by the Fund for Trans-Century Training Program for Talents of China by Ministry of Education, 7 teachers awarded by the Ministry of Education with the honor of Outstanding College Lecturer, and 8 recipients of Excellent Young Teachers Prizes supported by the Ministry of Education.

➤ Students

Nankai University has a fully-fledged education system for producing undergraduates, postgraduates on master's and doctoral programs and post-doctoral researchers. Currently, the university has a total enrollment of 26,568 students, including 15,120 undergraduate students, 8,065 master's candidates, 3,383 doctoral candidates. Among them, there are 3,043 international students.

➤ Achievements

Nankai University is a center for both education and academic research. A large number of academic achievements have been made and acknowledged at home and abroad. Since 2007, Nankai University has won 3 National Second Prizes in natural sciences, 1 National Second Prize for science and technology progress, 1 National Second Prize for technology invention, 9 National teaching achievements, 31 National Excellent Courses, 15 Excellent Video Demonstration Courses, and 2 China Youth Science and Technology Awards. There have been 20 doctoral dissertations being selected to the National 100 Excellent Doctoral Dissertations. Besides, 9 projects won 2017 awards for science and technology progress in Tianjin.

In 2017, Nankai University published 39 SSCI index articles, 1297 CSSCI index articles and 1,392 SCI index articles. In recent decade, the citation per paper included in SCI has reached 16.78, maintaining the top among the highly-cited universities on an accumulative basis.

Nankai University actively takes advantage of disciplines, technology, talents and information to enhance the industrialization and commercialization of research serving the national and local economies and social development. Some research institutes like the China APEC Institute, the School of Economic & Social Development, Binhai Development Research Institute, the Research Center of Education and Industry Regional Development, the Human Rights Research Center, Institute of Statistics, and Institute of Ecological Civilization, etc. have become the Think Tanks and Talents Cradles for central and local governments. According to national needs, and in pursuit of a first-class world position, Nankai comprehensively

implemented the strategy of innovation-driven development and actively promotes the construction of all kinds of collaborative innovation centers, setting up close cooperative relationships with a group of colleges and universities, enterprises, research institutes and government departments. In 2014, the Collaborative Innovation Center for China Economy led by Nankai University became the first authorized collaborative innovation center in economics.

Nankai University focuses on students' all-round capability and creativity in teaching and education. Under its educational philosophy of art to regulate the country, science to strengthen it and business to enrich it, the university leaders advocate a teaching guideline of paying attention to quality education, cultivating capability, consolidating knowledge foundations, widening disciplinary spheres, strictly administrating and ensuring high quality. It has established a complete educational system by connecting class teaching, scientific experiments, academic activities and social practice. A flexible educational system has been set up, including a system of credits, a system of major plus minor education and double degrees. The late Premier Zhou Enlai, Nankai's prominent alumnus, has been the model for all students to form a healthy disposition with high morality, the spirit of creativity and practical capability. The university is well known for its healthy environment. By attaching great importance to students' overall development in virtue, intelligence, sport and art, the university has successfully created a colorful campus cultural atmosphere of elegance and aspiration for the benefit of students' healthy growth. As a result, being equipped with strong basic knowledge, all-round capability, creativity and practical ability, graduates from Nankai University are extraordinarily popular with employers from all fields. To build Nankai's characteristics of public will in an all-round quality education system and promote the all-round development of students, Nankai University has formulated and implemented “The 13th Five-year Outline for Promoting Quality Education” and “The Guideline for Promoting Undergraduates’ Quality Development”. In addition, the innovation and entrepreneurship education has been strengthened through the establishment of entrepreneurship class and the Base for Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Practice.

➤ Internationalization

Nankai University has developed broad international communications by establishing exchange and collaborative relationships with more than 320 international universities and academic institutions. Nankai University has been contracted to establish 9 Confucius Institutes overseas including one at the University of Maryland in the US.

In both 2012 and 2015, Nankai has become an Advanced Sino-Cooperation Academy of the Confucius Institute. Nankai undertakes the task of offering Chinese language training to foreign countries.

Nankai University has launched a number of high-level study abroad programs. The university also participates in activities such as the Davos World University Leaders Forum (GULF), the secretariat of International Forum of Public Universities (IFPU), International Association of Universities (IAU), UNESCO-SAB, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), etc. Nankai University collaborates with University of Glasgow and has established the NKU-UoG Joint Graduate School.

Nankai University has awarded 10 international celebrities the title of Honorary Doctor, including the mathematician Shiing-shen Chern, the physician Ta-you Wu, the economist Myrdal, former President of the Straits Exchange Foundation Jiang Bingkun, Chairman of the World Economic Forum Klaus Schwab, former Singapore president Tan Keng Yam and President of Constitutional Council Laurent Fabius of France, etc. Nobel Laureates Chen Ning Yang, Tsung-Dao Lee, Samuel Chao Chung Ting, Robert A. Mundell, Peter Doherty, Karl Barry Sharpless, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former President of Korea Kim Dae Jung, former President of European Commission and former Prime Minister of Italy Romano Prodi, Chairman of the World Economic Forum Klaus Schwab and famous writer Jin Yong have all been conferred Honorary Professors of Nankai University. Many other world-renowned scholars and entrepreneurs have been invited as visiting professors.

In accordance with its motto of Dedication to public interests, Acquisition of all-round capability and Aspiration for daily progress, the university will continue to carry forward the character of Nankai, develop its spirit, persist in giving top priority to cultivating the integrity of students, strengthen its quality, vigorously implement the six strategies of reinvigorating the school through human resource development, building strong disciplines, improving educational quality, research and innovation, and developing towards the goal of building a world-leading university.