

Seton Hall University Profile

Seton Hall University was established in 1856 as part of a Roman Catholic educational complex that includes a liberal arts and sciences school as well as a theological education program. Seton Hall University is unique because it offers students the ability to enjoy a park like setting within an hour from New York City. I think this issue is important to students who want an exciting cultural experience without having to live in a city. The university is located within the City of South Orange New Jersey. The footprint of the site is normal for a large private school located within a small city. The school's footprint is approximately 58 acres in size, which extends through South Orange.

The campus has approximately 33 buildings including lecture, sports, performing arts, and student housing facilities. Seton Hall is a beautiful tree lined campus that offers students excellent academic resources while still providing a modest amount of student housing. The issue of student housing on campus is a challenge for Seton Hall due to its relatively large student population. The university does not provide guaranteed housing for undergraduate students according to school officials. The challenge to provide housing on college campuses isn't a unique situation for institutions across the country but the need for resources within city areas are obviously more difficult.

Seton Hall University Demographics: Seton Hall is home to approximately 2243 male, and 2558 female full time undergrad students. The university also has approximately 229 male, and 305 female part-time students enrolled. The graduate school has 1986 male, and 2316 female students on the Seton Hall campus. The average age of a freshman is 18 years old; all undergraduates are 22 years old. 73% of students are state residents with the rest coming from 44 other states, and 53 foreign countries. 51% of students are white, 9% are Hispanic, and 12% are African American, and 7% are Asian. The university reported 20% of student demographic was unknown. The total number of students on campus is 9,637 according to published handouts.

Seton Hall University offers a Liberal Arts and Sciences programs for undergraduate students. Below is a list of specific admission requirements for admission.

Seton Hall University: Freshman Class: 4982 applied, 4160 accepted, and 1120 enrolled to the school. SAT Verbal 550, SAT Math 560. Application Deadline March 1.

Faculty/ Classroom: 54% of faculty is male, 46% female. 70% percent teach Undergraduates. Graduate Assistants teach 3% introductory courses. The average size is Introductory lecture is 30; Lab 10 and 20 in a regular course.

Student / Faculty Ratio: 17 to 1

Retention Rate: 17% do not continue beyond 1st year, 57% remain to graduate.

Campus Footprint: The overall physical layout of the campus is typical of a college setting with wide sidewalks, grass field meeting places, and park like benches. The pedestrian flow of traffic within the facility was centered in the middle of campus due to the time of day. . The buildings and open spaces of the facility were reasonably clean and maintained during my observations. The social climate was very relaxed with students moving through their daily schedules without any type of security concerns.

An observation of the internal campus setting provides students and employees with several types of student services including physical fitness, residence, library services, and cultural meeting places and dining halls. I observed heavy pedestrian traffic from this area of the campus due to the location of the dining hall, and the time of day. The internal footprint of the school is shaped like a big square with students reading, eating, and talking to each other in the middle of the quad. This an interesting point to make in regard to the school's location within a small city in New Jersey. When you walk onto the Seton Hall campus you forget where you are for the moment, the campus green is beautiful.

The university's observed focal point of reference during the campus tour was the "School Seal" which is the center of the campus. Student pedestrian sidewalks all converge at the seal from several locations around the campus including the academic, and residence halls. When you look at the campus map you can easily observe the main focal point. My tour guide told us that students come to the grassy area around the seal to relax and talk about school and life.

The design and physical setting of Seton Hall University is unique because the campus is located within a small urban setting. The physical security footprint is also unique because the entire university has metal fencing giving it gated community feel to it. This physical barrier provides access control to several vehicle, and pedestrian entrances, which requires I.D. card scanning for access control in the day, and night as well. The internal campus footprint is unique because the school is split into 3 parts with upper classman, and freshman residence halls on opposite ends with academic, performing arts, and recreation buildings in the middle.

The footprint of the college allows students to get away from classes to retreat to their residence halls. This type of structure enhances the campus lifestyle within the schools sprawling footprint. The buildings geographical design features form a large oval in which students can enter, and leave the campus from several locations. Parking resources is also a big feature on campus due to the large number of parking permits issued to students and employees. The university also has a large graduate school population who require parking services on campus, not to mention the daily academic, and sports activities that visitors enjoy while on the campus. Parking is a big challenge for public safety at Seton Hall. The university has approximately 6 large parking lots including a multi-level parking deck for students, employees, and visitors. These parking lots maintain the campus perimeter because they act almost like a second natural barrier for safety and security.

Local weather: Weather is also an issue to consider for students preparing for a college experience. New Jersey enjoys all four seasons of weather including rain and snow. Northeast weather patterns sometimes allow for temperatures to drop below 32 degrees for a considerable amount of time during the winter. New Jersey also gets its share of rain during the spring and summer months as well. A strong indicator of pedestrian traffic around the university can be identified by the northeast weather patterns. Student parking within close proximity to university buildings and student services help reduce the exposure literally and figuratively.

Community Profile

South Orange New Jersey is a suburban town that feels like a small city with 16,994 residents in Essex County. The town has been described as a working class, family centered residential community within striking distance to New York City. South Orange also has an intellectual side due to its historical neighborhood architecture and close physical relationship with Seton Hall University. The town has a local pedestrian walkway on South Orange Avenue, which links local residents to a large number of restaurants and local shops within the eastern edge of town. South Orange Avenue is a main thoroughfare that travels East to West connecting several local towns to the university.

The community has a real small town feel to it when you are walking to neighborhood eateries on the eastern edge of town. Residents and students enjoy several social destinations when walking east on South Orange Avenue including coffee shops, bars, restaurants, and the South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC), which is adjacent to the town train station. The walk is approximately 15 minutes from the campus. Students and residents who walk off the campus and make a right turn to the western edge of South Orange Avenue will find less shopping and gated communities including Tuxedo Park which is 2 blocks from the campus. This section of real estate becomes the City of Newark after 3 blocks west of Seton Hall on South Orange Avenue. This area is more of a challenge in regard to social and economic resources but local residents revere the area due to its affordable housing. This area is called the Vailsburg Section of Newark.

The city itself is located within the northeastern area of the state, which makes it convenient to several suburban communities and highway networks. New Jersey Transit provides local rail service in the area with the Montclair-Boonton Line. This rail corridor links to Newark Airport, and N.J. Penn Station for Amtrak northeast rail service, and connecting trains to New York City. The main airport to Seton Hall is Newark International airport. The City of South Orange also has several main roadways that connect the community to major state highways including Route 280 that links to the Garden State Parkway, and several western roadways including Route 80. Shopping, restaurants, and hotel chains can be found within these major transportation networks after a short drive from the campus. Appendix #1 on the back page of this profile lists several of observed resources in close proximity to the school.

Community demographics: The following demographics for South Orange New Jersey describe a multi-cultural community within a total population of 16,994 according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The survey highlights several characteristics to describe the population including: 8,142 residents are male, 8,822 are female. 60% of residents are white, 31% are African American, 5% are Hispanic or Latino, and 4% are Asian. The median age of population is 34.7 years old. 78% of residents are 18 years old, 67% of residents are over 21 and 12 % of city residents is over the age of 65. The issue of housing in South Orange is also interesting. 97 % of all housing units within the town are occupied. 28 % of housing units are renter-occupied, while 72 % were owner-occupied.

Campus Life

Seton Hall is an active private university environment that provides students with an outstanding social, cultural and educational atmosphere. The school itself could be considered a religious community due to it's education requirements but the overall campus culture seems to be neutral because some students go to mass on a regular basis, and some don't. The admissions demographics paint a picture of a local educational community with a mixed number of in state residents on campus as full time students. The local community of South Orange is a short distance away from the school by car or foot and is very supportive of the schools mission to provide educational opportunities to local residents and on-campus students. The town itself has a main street feel to it due to the restaurants and shops along South Orange Avenue.

The physical environment is reasonably clean and well maintained and the economic conditions are favorable to students and local residents due to the available services in driving distance to the school. The emotional climate of the entire community is also positive because students have the opportunity to volunteer with organizations on the weekends or to get involved with local community groups through the division of student development and campus life programs during the week. Seton Hall also requires students to give back to the community by requiring students to perform service hours each semester.

This issue of school culture is also a very important part of campus life because everyone wants to have a connection and emotional fit to their new school and community. Seton Hall has done a great job developing positive social systems with it's students by providing a series of coordinated programs including workshops and seminars for freshman students. The universities new student experience program provides an excellent example of programs and services that help first year students by offering professional counselors that advise students on ways to explore their educational options to achieve personal academic goals. The residence assistants also do a great job motivating students to enjoy the college campus experience.

Seton Hall's school culture is also enhanced by the wide variety of sports events, university sponsored clubs, trips, student government organizations, Greek Life, 24-Hour Library Services, and a state of the art recreation center. These types of programs, facilities, and organizations help build a foundation for learning and personal growth by providing students with educational resources as well as fun activities to help bridge the gap from new student to an independent learner. I observed several students enjoying the recreation center during my afternoon visit, which highlights the level of student involvement because the afternoon is historically slow at universities.

The emotional climate of the entire community is very relaxed for a large private school in my opinion. Seton Hall is an attractive institution because it offers students a communal education experience within commuter distance to New York City. SHU students also enjoy watching sports activities within the campus, and the Rock Center in Newark, which improves student culture. These campus life resources add to the social fabric of the campus on a daily basis. The university culture is also very social in my opinion because I observed several fraternal organizations, and clubs interacting with fellow students in several areas of the campus including the recreation, and student centers.

Finally, the university has a radio station (WSOU 89.5) to broadcast on, and off campus activities for students to participate in. Seton Hall University participates in the Big East NCAA Division I Varsity Sports for Women and Men. Information about clubs and student activities can be found at: www.shu.edu/campus-life/index.cfm

Student Housing: The purpose of student housing is to provide safe and reasonable accommodations for students living away from home. The issue of housing and dormitory life is a critical element of overall campus life because students spend a large amount of time in their rooms. Student housing units historically come in 3 different styles including traditional corridor, suite, and apartment style units.

Seton Hall University does not guarantee housing for all undergraduate students. Students who have filed their intent to reside on campus by March 1st, and who have continuously registered as full time students normally can receive student-housing resources according to university officials.

Off Campus Housing: The City of South Orange has been described as a small urban residential community within driving, and commuter distance to New York City. The reason I have mentioned the overall community of South Orange is to re-assert the point that SHU is situated in an urban setting with a high number of homes that are privately owned. The city does have a good number of multi-family residences and apartment buildings within commuter distance to the school but the issue of renting to students is a challenge because working families who want the South Orange school system for their children are competing for the available housing.

Public Transportation: University transportation resources for Seton Hall are available through (SHU-FLY) which is the school's shuttle program. Students who are campus residents can use this service by swiping their Pirate Card on the shuttle bus. Students who live off campus or commute can use this service by purchasing a monthly metro card. This valuable service links students to several important areas including the South Orange Train Station, off campus housing, town shopping, and local malls. This service is great for students who don't have parking privileges. Parking is not readily available at SHU and public transportation is limited.

Another issue for public transportation is the students themselves. The university does have a good number of in-state students who know the streets and highways very well. Knowing the area is key because students who come from other states and countries may not know the area as well and might opt to take a bus or train to their destination because they don't want to risk getting lost on local roads.

The public transportation for the university is served by The New Jersey Transit's Morris & Essex line, which serves the residents of South Orange. This specific line connects with several other transit lines within the overall system including the Northeast Corridor, and it makes one stop near the university at South Orange station. New Jersey Transit has bus service called the Essex County Metro Line that travels past the university on South Orange Avenue. The issue for public transportation with the bus and train is local commuter timetables, and walking distance to the physical campus.

Description of Campus Public Safety Plans & Procedures: SHU's general public safety plans and procedures can be found in the emergency plan which gives students and employees lists of instructions, procedures, codes of conduct, and response strategies to follow while on campus. The university also provides Clery Act safety tips and procedures to help educate students to potential risks on, and off campus. This information can be found in Seton Hall's Annual Public Safety Report.

<http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/emergencyprocedures/index.html>

Emergency Management Plans & Procedures Local Community: The State of New Jersey has developed emergency management resources to help residents to prepare, respond, and recover from a host of natural, and man made events. The state agency responsible for emergency operations is the Office of Emergency Management. Seton Hall University has also developed an emergency plan for students and employees to follow which highlights several potential manmade and weather related events.

Innovative Emergency Communications: Seton Hall University has developed reverse 911 systems that sends several types of emergency notifications through e-mail and phone text message systems. Campus alerts, and weather related information is also sent through this system. The university also has active shooter protocols for students to follow during an emergency including lock-down, and lockout procedures. These messages are usually received within 1-2 minutes of emergency broadcast and allow university officials to adhere to Clery Act requirements for timely warnings of emergency events.

Campus Access Control & Security Systems: The design, and physical setting of a particular institution has elements relating to the overall culture and social system on campus. Since college and university campuses are designed to offer (open) movement of people through it's borders, the issue of design, along with effective use of space can reduce both the incidence, and fear of crime. This design feature is called "Crime Prevention through Environmental Control." The proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and an improvement in the quality of life. The issues of identifying formal gathering and high-risk areas within a campus footprint are also critical to public safety resources because manpower must be observed in these areas.

Seton Hall University is a large private university with 58 acres of property situated within the urban community of South Orange New Jersey. The campus footprint highlights several community based buildings including communication, performing arts, and the main gymnasium within it's sprawling footprint. The buildings geographical design form a large oval in which students can enter, and leave the campus from several locations. Parking resources are a big feature on campus due to the number of regular, and commuter students. The school also provides parking facilities for faculty and service employees. The college has approximately 6 parking lots including 1 large parking deck adjacent to the school's public safety headquarters. These parking lots maintain the campus perimeter because they act almost like natural barriers.

The campus has a main gate that provides access control for a large number of daily students, visitors, and employees. The university also has an additional 4 entrances and exits for service vehicles to maximize the flow of vehicular traffic within the facility. The issue of pedestrian traffic on the perimeter of the campus is minimal due to the fencing and access control features. Students who wish to use alternate pedestrian walkways to access the campus must scan their student I.D. cards to open the gates.

Formal gathering areas within Seton Hall's campus are usually determined by the time of day. Students gather at several different areas of the campus during the day, including the academic buildings, administrative offices, the library, and the campus gym. At night students move to more convenient locations on, and off campus including Big East sporting events at "The Rock" in Newark. The daytime focal area of the campus lies between a large grassy area in the middle of the campus by "The School Seal" in and around the lecture, and residence halls. The residence hall quads are a textbook example of CPTED design because it allows for natural surveillance and open space for people to enjoy while still providing some type of ownership within the property.

The issue of high-risk areas on campus has been identified during annual risk assessments by security, and feedback by all intuitional stakeholders including public safety officials. The SHU public safety department, and private security officers maintain uniform patrol and high tech remote resources to highlight formal surveillance throughout the campus. The department also has security officers posted in several high-risk areas including the main gate, residence halls, and the library. Public safety also patrols the interior and exterior of the university by foot and patrol vehicles.

Seton Hall Public safety has also identified the high-risk areas within the campus including the residence halls, which require a higher degree of natural and formal surveillance for students and visitors. Students who enter the residence halls produce an access card (Student I.D. Card) that unlocks the exterior doors by swiping into card reader. The device also allows access control to specified residence floors after hours for added protection. The freshman residence halls have additional security measures with on duty resident assistant to authenticate the person standing in front of them. The RA hits a control button from behind a glass partition that allows entry to the building from the common area. The system works like a “man trap” because you may be able to piggyback into the building, but you get trapped inside without proper I.D.

These access control systems also records the activity with the help of a digital CCTV camera. The security system also records the activity as a redundant feature. The residence halls also have a backup residence employee on duty to help the RA’s manage visitor requests for entry; the procedure requires a visitor to produce I.D. and to sign a formal register. These design features constitute a real commitment to campus safety and security.

Types and Descriptions of Published Policies and Procedures to Comply with the Clery Act on Campus

The Clery Act. The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires all postsecondary institutions participating in the Title IV student financial aid programs to disclose campus crime statistics, university violations and disciplinary data, and finally security information to the U.S. Department of Education on an annual basis. The legislation also describes several required policy statements that address public safety and security issues. Below is a sample list of Clery Act Policy Statements for colleges and universities to publish each year within their prospective crime report/audits.

Required policy statements include: addressing timely warnings, disclosure of crime statistics, reporting criminal offenses, confidential reporting, security and access control, arrest authority, security awareness programs, crime prevention programs, sex offenses, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, substance abuse programs, and general codes of conduct. Seton Hall University Clery Act info can be found on the quick links page.

Caveat: Seton Hall University Public Safety officers don’t have arrest powers; they call the South Orange Police for crime issues on campus. The university does provide security resources on campus but the following statement from the department education offers this advice. “ The department data reported by the institutions have not been subjected to independent verification by the U.S. Department of Education. Therefore, the department cannot vouch for the accuracy of the data reported. SHU Clery Act crime data can be found at: <http://ope.ed.gov/security/Index.aspx>

Local Crime Statistics: The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Report for 2007 has developed crime statistics for South Orange New Jersey in 2007. South Orange reported no murders, and no acts of manslaughter, 0 Forcible Rape, 31 Robberies, 25 Aggravated Assaults, 69 Burglaries, 241 Larceny Thefts, and finally 83 Motor Vehicle Thefts. The crime of Arson had 0 reported crime in 2007.

The City of South Orange Quick Links

South Orange Police Department
Village Hall
101 South Orange Ave, South Orange, N.J. 07079
Phone # (973) 763-3000 Email www.southorange.org/police.asp

South Orange Fire Department
56 Sloan Street
South Orange, N.J. 07079
Phone (973) 762-3200
Town Web-site: <http://www.southorange.org/>

Saint Barnabas Medical Center
94 Old Short Hills Road, Livingston, N.J. 07039
Phone Number: General Number (973) 971-5000
E-Mail www.sbhcs.com/hospitals/saint_barnabas/

Seton Hall University Quick Links Page

Home Page: www.shu.edu/

Maps & Directions: www.shu.edu/visiting/

Admissions: www.shu.edu/applying/undergraduate/

Financial Aid: financialaid@shu.edu

Student Activities: at: www.shu.edu/campus-life/index.cfm

Student Clubs & Organizations: <http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/SGA/clubsorgs.html>

Fraternity & Sorority Life: www.shu.edu/offices/community-development-greek-life-standard.cfm

Student Center: www.shu.edu/offices/community-development-university-center.cfm

Public Transportation Services: www.shu.edu/offices/services/parking-services-shufly.cfm

Information Technology Center: www.shu.edu/campus-life/laptop-program.cfm

Health Insurance: <http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/health/insurance.html>

Medical Services: <http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/health/hcservicesprovided.html>

Student Housing: www.shu.edu/offices/housing-residence-life-about.cfm

University Meal Plan: Information on Locations/ Menus/ Hours contact Gourmet Dining LLC. (973) 761-9559 or E-mail gourdini@shu.edu
<http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/campusid/shucard.htm>

Off Campus Housing: <http://law.shu.edu/students/housing/off-campus-classifieds.cfm>

Campus Parking: Information about parking services can be found by calling (973) 275-2445, visiting Duffy Hall Room # 63, or E-mail: www.parkingservices@shu.edu

Public Safety Plans & Procedures: www.shu.edu/offices/public-safety-emergency-procedures.cfm

Clery Act Policies & Procedures: <http://studentaffairs.shu.edu/security/>

Seton Hall University Hotel Quick Links Page

Ramada Inn East Orange
120 Evergreen Place
East Orange N.J. 07018

Hilton Newark Penn Station
1 Gateway Center/Raymond Blvd
Newark N.J. 07102

Best Western Robert Treat Hotel
50 Park Place (Downtown)
Newark N.J. 07102

Below is a list of hotel accommodations within a 20-minute drive to the campus.

Holiday Inn Newark Airport
160 Frontage Road
Newark N.J. 07114

Wyndham Garden Airport Hotel
550 Route 1 South
Newark N.J. 07114

Marriott Newark Airport
Newark International Airport
Newark N.J. 07114

Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel
901 Spring Street
Elizabeth N.J. 07201

Sheraton Newark Airport
128 Frontage Road
Newark N.J. 07114

Hampton Inn Newark Airport
1128-38 Spring Street
Newark N.J. 07207

Below is a sample list of local restaurants in South Orange & Newark N.J. National restaurant chains & shopping resources can be found on Route 1 & 9 in, and around Newark Liberty Airport along with the Jersey Gardens Mall in nearby Elizabeth N.J.

Gas Light Brewery & Rest: 15 South Orange Ave, South Orange N.J. (973) 762-7077
Blue Moon Diner: 1 Sloan Street, South Orange N.J. (973) 761-6666
Café Arugula: 59 South Orange Ave, South Orange N.J. (973) 378-9099
Ariyoshi Japanese Rest: 56 West South Orange Ave, South Orange N.J. (973) 378-8818
Fernandez Steakhouse: 158 Fleming Ave, Newark N.J. (973) 589-4344
Applebee's Neighborhood Grill (National Chain) 383 Springfield Ave (973) 242-3600
River Bank Restaurant: 618 Market Street, Newark N.J. (973) 589-5081
Beijian Chef: 59 Halsey Street, Newark N.J. (973) 643-1883

Below is a sample list of entertainment venues within the City of Newark

New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ PAC) One Center Street Newark N.J.
www.njpac.org or (973) 642-8989

Prudential Center in Newark (The Rock) N.J. Devils NHL Hockey & Sporting Venue
Edison & Mulberry Streets in downtown Newark N.J. www.devils.nhl.com

Newark Bears (Minor League Baseball team) 450 Broad Street, Newark N.J.
www.newarkbears.com or (888) 852-3277

The Your College Profile web site also contains an “Everything in New York City” document for families who wish to explore the NYC while visiting Seton Hall University. This site contains a full list of hotels, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, and tourism resources for families enjoying the region.

