

American University Security Profile

American University was established in 1893 as a private liberal arts institution affiliated with the United Methodist Church offering educational programs in liberal arts & social sciences, business, and public health. AU's network of private educational facilities offer comprehensive undergraduate, and graduate programs in several different fields including international affairs, art & sciences, business, public health, performing arts, sports management, and social work. AU prepares students for careers in the above-mentioned 5 undergraduate schools through educational, and certificate programs. The school itself is located in the northwestern community of Tenley Town in Washington D.C. in close proximity to the Vice President's Mansion and the U.S. Naval Observatory off Massachusetts Avenue.

The university is unique because it's located within a suburban neighborhood of NW Washington D.C. within commuter distance to the nations capital with it's panoramic views of the White House and federal monuments. The school is very spread out geographically for a suburban school with university facilities starting on University Ave to the north, and Nebraska Ave to the south with the eastern point of the campus footprint lies on Massachusetts Ave and continues to Rockwood Parkway to the west. As you can see, the university's footprint is large for a private urban school with 84 acres.

American University's educational landscape offers students the ability to enjoy a suburban campus with it's park like landscape while still being connected to everything in Washington D.C. American also offers professional education, capital hill, and city resources for students, while still maintaining a close-knit university community. The main AU campus has a comfortable academic and residential lifestyle within one of the city's most exclusive neighborhoods. AU has approximately 41 buildings in total including lecture, residential, performing arts, recreation centers, and dining facilities. These internal campus settings also provide students, employees, and alumni with several types of services including health, physical fitness, library, and cultural meeting places.

Campus Footprint: The design and physical setting of the university is unique because the campus is located within the suburban Washington D.C. neighborhood of Tenley Town, which is a 10-minute Metro ride to downtown, and the Capital. The campus map highlights several multi-story academic, residence, and student services buildings built around a quiet community, within a community landscape. These buildings form a perfect square around an exclusive neighborhood of privately owned residential and commercial properties. AU's physical location within an established area of Embassies, government residences, and private property allows the campus to enjoy manmade, and natural barriers in regard to public safety and security. AU students enjoy walking on local streets and taking the campus shuttle to neighborhood resources within the Tenley Town area of NW Washington D.C.

The physical design of the suburban campus seems to be enhanced by the high profile neighbors and the student's commitment to overall community safety and security. This unique community makes the campus a safer place because only the locals/ students know where the streets start, and end. This type of unintentional street design maintains the campus perimeter because the streets themselves act almost like natural barriers not to mention all the local and federal law enforcement resources in the area including the U.S. Secret Service, FBI, and Metropolitan Police.

The university is also linked together by several city streets within its massive real estate holdings with virtually all of the university's lecture halls, arts & science pavilions, residence halls, and historic buildings tied within the Tenley Town neighborhood. The footprint of the university is unique because students can retreat to their residence halls, or they can travel to other city facilities to experience real big campus living. This type of structure enhances the campus lifestyle within the schools suburban footprint because students can walk to several areas of the campus within minutes. American University has a real big campus feel to it because the area is heavily populated with students, and local residents alike.

University students also take advantage of the local commercial resources along Wisconsin Avenue that cater to college students throughout the NW Washington D.C. neighborhood. Students, and local residents can walk to local hot spots or they can take advantage of Washington D.C's Metro Transit Station located at Wisconsin Ave & Albemarle Street. Pedestrian traffic for the university is usually contained to areas around the campus in the daytime, but at night students make their way over to F Street and Pennsylvania Ave in Foggy Bottom as well as M Street and Wisconsin Avenue in Georgetown for nightlife activities.

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 between the Graydon Center and the "Quad" during my daytime visit. Students were also observed enjoying the Jacobs Fitness Center within Edna Arena and the Katzen Arts Center within the main campus. My evening visit observed almost the same level of foot traffic along these major pathways until you reach the residence halls. Parking resources at AU is also a big feature on campus due to the limited number of parking permits issued to students and employees. University students who require parking services on campus are encouraged to purchase parking decals for the parking deck under the Katzen Center. Students at AU usually walk or use mass transit because its close to the school and it runs 24-hours a day.

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 its 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.

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. Uniform officers patrol around the campus on foot, and in several different types of patrol vehicles including 4-wheel drive, bicycle, and regular police patrol vehicles. These resources help officer's patrol around the campus 24-hours a day to reduce the number of people who may not have legitimate business within AU property. Public safety also maintains visitor screening and fixed posts within several of it's high risk areas to highlight the need for formal surveillance throughout the campus footprint. AU has developed increased exterior lighting and CCTV resources as a physical security deterrent throughout the NW Washington D.C. campus.

Formal gathering areas within campus are situated in, and around the Graydon and Jacobs Fitness Centers, as well as the Bender Library and the Katzen Performing Arts Center. AU's numerous green areas including the Amphitheater can also be considered formal gathering areas because student spend a good part of the day enjoying outside activities during the fine weather months. The school has several pedestrian walkways that take you around to the above-mentioned areas. These are the main focal areas of the campus because the walkway circles the campus with several large concrete plazas between the lecture, and residence halls.

The sidewalk acts like a quad because you can access several areas of the campus in a textbook example of CPTED. American University also has a unique internal physical landscape that blends it's historic buildings with it's new facilities. An example of this is type internal city landscape is a small campus green located outside the performing arts center between Ward Circle and the entrance to the parking deck that allows students to enjoy a quiet space within a very busy campus.

The campus high-risk areas including the residence halls have a higher degree of natural and formal surveillance for students and visitors. Students who enter the residence halls must produce their AU card and swipe it through an access control reader that un-locks the exterior doors. Once inside, AU students must present their (Color Coded) I.D. cards to the RA on duty at the front desk to complete the entry activity. AU residence hall security is unique to campus public safety because the color coded student ID cards are specific to each students dorm facility, and students can't enter a different facility at night without signing a visitor log which helps with access control. AU residence hall RA's watch the entry activity and can alert campus police if someone tries to get in.

The perimeter of Tenley Town at night is still a challenge for public safety because the campus is situated in a heavily wooded suburban neighborhood with limited street light resources. I have identified the challenges with my university and community profile that highlights the diversity of the community and the campus. The university has developed "Safe Havens" with local restaurants and commercial establishments to highlight it's

commitment to overall neighborhood security. The program allows students and local residents to stay within a commercial establishment if they feel threatened until AU/GW/GU public safety, or the Metro Police Officers arrive at the scene.

The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police also supplies foot patrols in the park and local streets to enhance public safety. But the issue is this, the campus sidewalks are connected to city streets and you can't stop someone who wants to walk through. The university has developed state-of-the-art CCTC resources to maintain formal surveillance throughout this main corridor. The school has a combination of IP/ Analog/ and Motion detection cameras with DVR & Virtual Network recording systems to enhance overall security, and public safety operations.

Description of Campus Public Safety Plans & Procedures: AU's 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 AU's Annual Public Safety Report. The Emergency Plan can be found on the quick links page of this document.

Innovative Emergency Communications: American University's security network has developed reverse 911 systems that send several types of emergency notifications through e-mail and phone text message systems. Campus alerts, and weather-related information is 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.

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. AU's Clery Act info can be found on the quick link page.

Caveat: American University’s public safety officers have unique formal arrest powers; they have the authority to detain offenders on campus, but they also have to call the Washington D.C. Police to formalize the arrest process. AU Public Officers attend a formal Police Academy but not all the officers have the authority to carry firearms. The school does provide public safety resources to reduce victimization off campus.

“ 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. The following crime data for criminal offenses on campus, and in campus residence halls was reported by public safety to conform to Clery Act regulations

Criminal Offenses/On Campus	2006	2007	2008
Murder	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0
Sex Offenses/ Forcible	2	2	0
Robbery	1	6	0
Aggravated Assault	4	2	2
Burglary	15	19	43
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	1	1
Arson	0	1	2
Criminal Offenses/ Residence Halls	2006	2007	2008
Murder	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0
Sex Offenses/Forcible	2	0	0
Robbery	0	1	0
Aggravated Assault	3	0	1
Burglary	7	11	18
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0
Arson	0	1	2

The following data on arrests for illegal weapons, drug, and liquor violations for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 on campus, residence halls, and within public areas off campus were reported by American University's Public Safety Department.

Arrest Data on Campus: In the year 2006 AU reported 0 weapon violation, 0 drug violations, and 0 liquor violations on campus. In 2007, 0 weapon, 1 drug, and 0 liquor violations were reported on campus. In 2008, 0 weapon, 2 drug, and 0 liquor violations were reported by public safety

Arrest Data/ Residence Halls: In the year 2006, AU reported 0 weapon violation, 0 drug violations, and 0 liquor violations in the residence halls. In 2007, 0 weapons, 0 drugs, and 0 liquor violations were reported by public safety. In 2008, 0 weapon violations, 0, drugs, and 0 liquor violations were reported in residence halls.

Arrest Data/Public Property: In the year 2006, AU reported 0 weapon, 0 drug, and 0 liquor violations on public property (outside campus perimeter). In 2007, 0 weapon, 0 drug, and 0 liquor violations were reported. In 2008, 0 weapon, 0 drugs, and 0 liquor violations were reported by public safety.

The following data on disciplinary actions on campus for illegal weapons, drug, and liquor violations for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 on campus, residence halls, and within public areas off campus were reported by American University's Public Safety Department.

Disciplinary Action/On Campus: In the year 2006 AU reported 0 weapon violations, 51 drug violations, and 348 liquor violations on campus. In 2007, 2 weapon, 46 drug, and 280 liquor violations were reported on campus. In 2008, 0 weapon, 5 drug, and 244 liquor violations were reported by public safety

Community Profile

The Tenley Town area of Washington D.C. has been identified on maps geographically as west of the White House, and north of Constitution Ave between Rock Creek Park, and M Street. The community has been described in different ways, including a tourist heaven due to the high number of federal residences and Embassies in the general area. The Tenley Town area also borders the Georgetown, and the Friendship Heights sections of Chevy Chase within northwest Washington D.C., and Maryland which offer residents, and visitor's additional tourist, and commercial resources within commuter distance.

The area can also be considered an upscale residential community with historic brownstones, town homes, and modern apartments buildings lining several streets. The Tenley area also has several shopping areas including Wisconsin Avenue northeast of campus. And finally, the student friendly community has international restaurants and nightlife along several avenues within nearby Adams-Morgan including 18th Street in the heart of the community.

Student population and historical neighborhood architecture can be found mainly within 4 blocks of Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Wisconsin Avenues within the overall neighborhood. The greatest number of residents in this area is in fact students, and employees of AU. The Tenley Town community has a real intellectual/political/ and welcoming type feel to it because a large number of people live, work, and study within the area. Washington D.C. itself is a maze of local neighborhoods that are unique to the people who live and work in them.

The Tenley section can also be considered a mixed residential area because you have commercial, residential, cultural, and intellectual all within the same block with people walking around the AU campus on their way to work, or home. The area around Massachusetts & Wisconsin Avenues is a major pedestrian walkway in the area for residents, and commuters because it's really in the middle of the community. That's why you can find endless shopping and restaurants along these streets.

The issue of walking alone at night outside the perimeter of the AU campus should be curtailed because you're in a big city with big city crime. Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Massachusetts Avenues becomes less populated after 9:00PM due to the large commercial establishments in the area. Tenley also has several federal and community parks in the area including Glover Archbold Park to the west of the university and local police officers have told students to exercise some caution when using the parks after dark because the areas have reduced lighting resources.

Community demographics: The following demographics for Washington D.C. describe a multi-cultural community within a total population of 591,833 according to the U.S. Census Bureau. A Census Bureau community survey highlights several characteristics to describe the population including: 47% of residents are male, 53% are female. 36% of residents are white, 54% are African American, 7% are Hispanic or Latino, 3% are Asian, and finally 2.0 are two or more Races. The median age of population is 35 years old. 80% of residents are 18 years old or over, 74% age 21 and over, and finally 12% of city residents are over the age of 65. The issue of housing in Washington D.C. is also interesting. 88% of all housing units within the city are occupied. 55% of housing units are renter-occupied, while 45% of units are owner-occupied.

Public Transportation: American University has a student shuttle system that connects students with the nearby Tenley campus as well as several areas of Washington D.C. In formation about this service can be found on the quick links page of this document. The Washington D.C. Transit System (Metro Red Line) has a subway station on Wisconsin Ave & Albermarle Street in Tenley Town (The Nearest Metro Stop for American University) that offers riders the ability to access several main lines including the Orange & Blue Metro Lines. These transit lines connect with every other subway line within the system including Union Train Station on the Red line. Passengers who require one of the five metro lines can change trains at Metro Center in downtown Washington D.C. on 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. People who live, work, and visit Washington D.C. usually travel by some type of mass transit. Mass transit information can be found at: www.wmata.com

Crisis Management Plans & Procedures Local Community: The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department has developed emergency management resources to help residents to prepare, respond, and recover from a host of natural, and man made events. The police agency responsible for emergency operations is the Special Operations Division. American University has developed an emergency plan for students and employees to follow which highlights several potential manmade and weather related events. Public safety, along with the local 2nd Police District has developed a local crisis plan that can be found at: <http://mpdc/.dc.gov/mpdc/site/default.asp>

Local Crime Statistics: The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Report for 2008 has developed crime statistics for the neighborhood of Tenleytown. In 2008 the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police's 2nd District reported 517 Violent Crimes, 6 Murders, 17 Forcible Rapes, 279 Robberies, 215 Aggravated Assaults, 5,250 Property Crimes, 556 Burglaries, 4,296 Larceny Thefts, and finally 398 Motor Vehicle Thefts. The crime of Arson was un-reported.

Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department

2nd District Station House: The local police district for Tenleytown is the 2nd, which is located at 3320 Idaho Avenue NW Washington D.C. 20016

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/site/default.asp> or Phone # (202) 715-7300

The Washington D.C. Fire Department

Engine 29, and Ladder 5 are the 1st Due Engine & Truck Companies to American University located at 4811 MacArthur Blvd, NW Washington D.C. (202) 673-3229.

Emergency Medical Technicians (Ambulance Service) for Washington D.C. The Washington D.C. Fire Department handles calls for emergency medical services in the city. EMT crews are assigned to a Division and Battalion for ambulance deployment. Below is the location, and phone number to the nearest hospital to the campus.

Sibley Memorial Hospital

5255 Loughboro Road

NW Washington D.C. 20016

(202) 537-4000 or www.sibley.org

American University Quick Links Page

Public Safety: www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/index.cfm

Public Safety Plans & Procedures: www.american.edu/emergency/index.cfm

Emergency Communication:

www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/crimeprevention.cfm

Clery Act Policies & Procedures: www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/asr.cfm

Campus Shuttle Services: www.american.edu/finance/facilities/shuttle.cfm

Summary

The focus of this report was to provide the reader with specialized security and public safety assessments that provides a snapshot of the crime, culture, physical environment, and commitment to public safety on specific campuses. The overall campus profile included several traditional security functions including access control, remote surveillance, and campus patrol plans and procedures. This campus report also included a community profile that highlighted the issues of community services, activities, and student resources to evaluate and identify risks to students while off campus. The issue of community profile is a critical element for security assessments because campus environments are usually considered open spaces for students and local residents.

The issue of campus footprints was also observed to identify each college and universities unique features including formal gathering areas within the interior, and exterior of the campus. The profile continued with descriptions of student housing, transportation, parking, and high-risk areas of the campus. Finally, the profile describes each school's crime data and statistics information to evaluate each facility. When I collected the crime data it was obvious to me that each school had it's own way of collecting, and enforcing institutional policies for student conduct. That's not surprising due to each school's level of public safety training and law enforcement credentials. I have found that private schools for the most part, enjoy internal discipline while public schools with sworn police officers tend to be more stringent of the rules.

Finally, college campuses are unique places where young adults experience life, learning, and living away from home. Students come together from around the country, and sometimes the world, to meet life long friends and to experience campus life. Each college and university has it's own physical landscape and culture be it a rural, or an urban campus. Students who understand and embrace the campus culture will usually enjoy the facility and experience. The purpose of this profile was to highlight the differences between private and public schools in regard to campus resources and public safety. My campus survey also described the physical setting so families could get a hands-on look into daily activities and campus life. Each university is required to provide public safety and security information through the Clery Act and it's my hope that the profile information helps families make an educated decision about future college or university studies.

