

Life at The Bloustein School From a Student's Perspective

The Rutgers – New Brunswick campus is Rutgers' flagship campus, centrally located in the state of New Jersey. The Bloustein School building is in downtown New Brunswick, and is within walking distance from the train station. Using the train, students can easily get to New York City (50 minutes), Trenton (30 minutes), or Philadelphia (90 minutes). Rutgers has two other smaller campuses across the state: a northern New Jersey campus in Newark, and a southern New Jersey campus in Camden.

As students, the location of the Bloustein School makes all the difference to us. It gives us unique opportunities to travel to, work in, and learn from some of the biggest and most thrilling cities in the country. Aside of New York City and Philadelphia, we are also close to Washington DC (3 hours), Baltimore (2.5 hours) and Boston (4 hours).

Outside of the classroom, Bloustein students take advantage of our close proximity to these large metropolitan areas, as well as more local destinations. We take the train for day trips to New York City, Philadelphia, or short drives to Princeton for dinner. In the warm months we head over to the Jersey Shore for a day at the beach to enjoy the sunshine and some relaxation.



Image 1. Friendsgiving with Bloustein Friends

Located in the heart of downtown New Brunswick, the Bloustein School is within walking distance of numerous bars, restaurants, and entertainment venues. George Street, one of the main thoroughfares in the city, provides many options for dining and other forms of entertainment.



Image 2: Outdoor Dining on George Street during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Bloustein School is close to two stops on the free Rutgers bus system. These bus lines bring students and New Brunswick residents around the city and between the four areas of the Rutgers New Brunswick campus. Bloustein students have full access to any of the libraries, study spaces, or gyms located on these campuses.



Image 3: Fall 2019 Biking Studio for Anchorage, Alaska

Students are also active participants in civic, educational and recreational activities within the school and university communities. Students can join Bloustein Graduate Student Association (BGSA), which has subgroups like EJB Designs, the International Development Interest Group (IDIG), The Women's Leadership Conference Committee and the Bloustein Enthusiasts and Advocates for Transportation (BEAT).

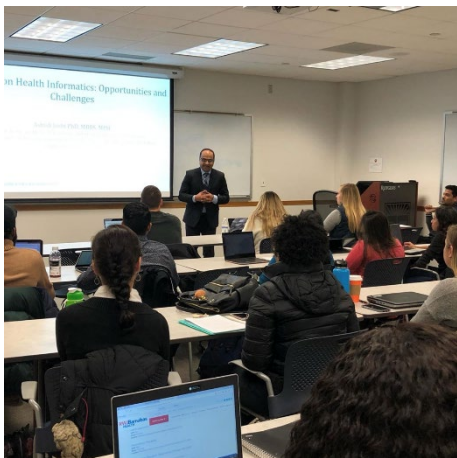


Image 2: Students Listening to a Presentation on Population Health Informatics

A great example of our participation in local events is Rutgers Day. This is a day that focuses on the many programs and activities that Rutgers offers. Activities range from events that showcase the animals and farms at Rutgers, to theater performances, to our own table to represent the Bloustein School. We also try to get outside and take advantage of all the fantastic nature all around us! The Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park offers hiking trails that our students head to when the weather is nice. Many students also run along the Raritan River in Johnson and Donaldson Parks, as well as using the Rutgers gym facilities,

which are included in your student fees. Some students even teach classes at these centers during their free time.

Our student community here at the Bloustein School is very close. We are not only classmates and colleagues but are also friends and many times, roommates.

Image 5: Community Development Class Visiting Paterson Falls



Many Bloustein students choose to live within walking distance of the Bloustein School in New Brunswick or across the river in the nearby town of Highland Park. Having the majority of the graduate student population live nearby has strengthened the Bloustein School's community and adds to the incredible experience you will have during your time here. It's a welcoming and collaborative environment that provides you with more than a learning experience.

This community extends beyond the 2 to 3 years that students are at Bloustein. The friends you will make in graduate school will ultimately form the basis of your future professional networks. As a school we are proud to have a strong alumni network that is supported by our full time on-site Career Services department that works solely with Bloustein's graduate students. After students graduate they continue to provide feedback to the school which has created an ongoing series of professional development soft skills workshops. The Bloustein School has alumni chapters in New York City, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Chicago, San Francisco, Minneapolis and Seattle, with new chapters added each year. Students can spend a couple hours a week participating in mock interviews, learning graphic and design techniques or strengthening their Excel skills. The on-site Career Services office at Bloustein is also available to current students for resume, cover letter reviews, interview support as well as salary negotiation coaching. Students can avail of these resources while they are in school but also as alumni down the road.