

CAMPUS CONTEXT RESEARCH WORKSHEET

Spend 15-20 minutes prayerfully reading through your campus website. Here are some questions to guide your research; jot down some notes as you go.

Time

One of the best ways of understanding your campus is to explore its origin story: who founded it and for what purpose. Many campuses were founded with an explicit religious or even Christian motivation. Many campuses were profoundly shaped by the events at the time of its founding. Many campuses have undergone dramatic shifts and developments over the decades and centuries of its existence. Understanding the major events in the timeline of your campus will help you understand your campus culture.

Take a look at your campus history page and fill out the questions below.

1. What year was your campus founded? What major events were happening in our nation at the time?
2. What year was your campus first integrated? What year were women allowed to enroll at the school?

For Reference: The Supreme Court declared segregation in schools unconstitutional in 1954 (Brown v. Board of Education).

People

The makeup of the student body contributes to the campus climate. College itself is overwhelming, but the added layer of being a minority on campus can make students feel isolated and make it challenging to experience authentic community. Learning the overall demographics of your student body can give you a bird's eye view of your campus and how God might be calling your ministry to serve.

1. Take a look at the diversity and enrollment statistics on the campus website. What can you learn about the student population? Write down the general breakdown.
2. What are the graduation, retention and transfer rates? Write down any disparities you see.

Place

In our country, the history of the first inhabitants of the land has been rewritten and often ignored. Their current realities and the injustice many tribes have experienced for generations rarely breaks into our newsfeed. We can never truly right the wrongs that have been done against the Native community but seeing and honoring them is a small step of retrospective justice.

1. Who were the first inhabitants of the land? Have those tribes been displaced? If so, where are they now? This map may help: <https://native-land.ca>.
2. What is the relationship between the campus and the surrounding/ nearby town?

INTERPRET

Step back and OIA your research.

- Where is your heart breaking? Where are you getting inspired?
- How is the Lord leading you to pray for your campus, the students, and the faculty based on what you researched?
- Spend 10 minutes in prayer, and write down any scripture, words, or images that come to mind.