



# Ohio University

Topic Guide for Chronicling America (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>)

## Introduction

Founded on February 18, 1804 by Manasseh Cutler, chaplain and land developer from George Washington's Continental Army, Ohio University was the first university established in Ohio and the Northwest Territory, and is the ninth oldest public university in the United States. It is located in the Appalachian foothills of southeastern Ohio, in Athens, and this site was selected as it was halfway between Chillicothe, Ohio's then capital, and Marietta. The university's first students enrolled in 1808; seven years later, in 1815, the first two bachelor degrees were conferred. By the end of the Civil War, 145 students had graduated from Ohio University. The public research institution grew steadily throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, attracting students and faculty from around the world, but it was not until after World War II that it expanded to include regional campuses and reached its present size of more than 30,000 students.

## Important Dates

- February 18, 1804: The Ohio General Assembly approves the charter for the establishment of Ohio University.
- 1828: John Newton Templeton is the first African American to graduate from Ohio University.
- 1868: Ohio University accepts its first female students.
- 1873: Margaret Boyd becomes Ohio University's first female graduate.
- 1892: Ohio University sponsors a baseball team.
- 1894: Ohio University sponsors a football team.
- 1902: The State Normal College (College of Education) is established, attracting more female students.
- 1904: Ohio University celebrates its centennial.
- 1913: The first Dean of Women, Irma Voigt, is hired.
- 1920: Ohio University's student population reaches 1,072.

## Suggested Search Strategies

- Search "Ohio University" as a phrase to eliminate results about Ohio State University in Columbus.
- Combine "Ohio University" with the following terms: Athens, athlete, sport, centennial, graduate.
- Limit search by date to find articles about specific events.
- Some results retrieved may be about an "Ohio university" instead of Ohio University specifically.
- Some results may be articles or brief notices written about Ohio University faculty and students.

## Sample Articles from Chronicling America

- ["The Ohio University"](#) *Daily Ohio Statesman* (Columbus, OH), August 4, 1864, Image 1, col. 5-6.
- ["Carries Dinner for Town"](#) *Omaha Daily Bee* (Omaha, NE), June 13, 1904, Image 3, col. 4.
- ["The Ohio University"](#) *Democrat-Sentinel* (Logan, OH), December 9, 1909, Image 8.
- ["Highland County Students"](#) *News-Herald* (Hillsboro, OH), July 21, 1910, Image 1, col. 6.
- ["Odds are Close on All Big Games"](#) *Washington Times* (Washington, DC), November 24, 1922, Image 25, col. 2.