

*Tempe: Distinct, Diverse, Dynamic*

**Tempe:**

**A College Town**

*Fifth Grade Program of the Tempe History Museum*

# A College Town

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*Arizona State University is an integral part of Tempe. Many Tempeans either work at ASU or go to school there, and many people living in Tempe have studied at ASU.*



photo credit: Robert Yeung

**Tempeans enjoy the sports, the arts and the festivals on the ASU campus.**

Many Tempe elementary school students go to campus for tours or classes, or have student teachers from ASU.

*Did your teacher get his or her college degree from ASU?*



Because of the very diverse group of people who are associated with ASU, Tempe has a remarkable number of unique shops and restaurants that college students and Tempe residents enjoy.

*Tempe is a college town.*

# What is a University?

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A university is an educational institution that gives students advanced study in many different subjects. When students graduate they get a diploma that shows they have done the work in their subject area. At ASU we can go through the alphabet listing the different subjects that can be studied: **Art, Business, Computer Technology, Dance, Ecology...** You get the idea. **Over 250 undergraduate degrees are offered.**

Many students study at ASU. There are over 68,000 students studying at the four campuses.

*The Tempe campus has 55,000 students!*



ASU is also a Research University, one of only 150 in the United States. This means that although teaching is its first goal, the faculty and students focus on the discovery of new information and knowledge, the creation of new art and design and the invention of a new devices (tools) or ways to do things.

## **Some current questions being studied:**

*Why are there many fewer girls in computer science than boys?*

*How can we turn algae into fuel to run our cars?*

*What characters should I create for my new play about Hispanic kids growing up in the US?*

*How can I program this "robot" as small as a molecule so it will tell us about our DNA?*



photo credit: Tim Trumble

**Both the faculty and students at ASU do important research, asking and finding answers to important questions.**

**But wait! ASU has not always been a university!**

**It has not always had many students and faculty from around the world.**



# How did Tempe become a College Town? 3

## How did ASU get here?

Before Arizona became a state, it needed a normal school (to teach teachers), a university, a prison, a capital – **and an insane asylum.**  
*Tucson grabbed the university.*

The Tempe representative to the Territorial Legislature, John Armstrong, thought that getting \$100,000 to build the insane asylum in Tempe was a great idea.

As the story goes, Carl Hayden quickly sent John back to Prescott to “Get the Normal School!”



Tempe turned down the \$100,000 to build the insane asylum. Then they had to raise \$500 and get a local farmer to donate his cow pasture for the school building! But, as an 1887 article in the **Arizona Gazette** declared, “We firmly believe time will work the desired change, and the Normal School will become one of the most important public institutions of the Southwest.” The **Gazette** was right.

*After 125 years we can proudly claim that ASU is an important national and international public institution!*

The students are busy studying.

Many are working to pay their tuition to go to school.

*But there is still time to play.*

ASU has great sports teams, for men and women.

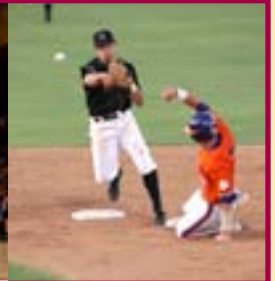


photo credit: Tom Story



photo credit: Tom Story



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Students have time to enjoy the arts.

There are places on and off campus to meet friends and have fun.



photo credit: Tom Story



When students graduate as teachers, engineers, lawyers, architects, artists, or scientists some stay in Tempe to make our lives better. Many leave to settle across the United States and around the world.

**What might you study at ASU?**

**What else do you want to know about ASU? As a good historian you should start your research with a question you want answered.**