

## HISTORY

- 1942** Fairfield College of St. Robert Bellarmine, Inc. purchased two adjoining estates in Fairfield  
Fairfield College-Preparatory School opened classes in a four-year program
- 1945** Fairfield University was chartered on May 29 by the State of Connecticut to grant degrees
- 1947** First class of 303 male students was admitted to the College of Arts and Sciences
- 1949** College of Arts and Sciences was accredited by the State of Connecticut  
First summer session of undergraduate courses was held
- 1950** First graduate classes in education were held on a coeducational basis  
Education Program for teacher certification was accredited by the State of Connecticut
- 1951** First graduation class
- 1953** Fairfield University fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- 1963** Graduate Department of Education became the Graduate School of Education
- 1966** Graduate School of Corporate and Political Communication opened
- 1970** Women were admitted to all undergraduate programs  
Undergraduate School of Nursing admitted its first class
- 1972** Center for Lifetime Learning offered its first courses  
Graduated first class of women
- 1975** Connecticut Center for Continuing Education became part of the University
- 1978** School of Business was established
- 1979** School of Continuing Education was established
- 1981** School of Business offered its first Master of Science degree program in Financial Management
- 1982** The Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions merged with The School of Continuing Education to form The School of Graduate and Continuing Education
- 1987** The School of Graduate and Continuing Education was separated into two schools: The School of Continuing Education and The Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions
- 1989** Acquired the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur property
- 1990** The Graduate School of Communication closed
- 1994** Acquired Bridgeport Engineering Institute  
Masters of Science in Nursing and Masters in Business Administration Program offered
- 1995** Accepted into Phi Beta Kappa
- 1997** Granted accreditation into the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International)  
Master of Arts offered in American Studies
- 1998** Master of Science offered in Management of Technology and in Software Engineering
- 1999** School of Engineering becomes a separate undergraduate school
- 2000** Master of Science offered in Mathematics  
School of Business named to honor Cablevision founder Charles F. Dolan
- 2002** School of Continuing Education was renamed to University College
- 2004** Fairfield University's eighth President was installed
- 2008** MFA in Creative Writing launched
- 2009** Master's in Communication offered
- 2010** Doctor of Nursing Practice offered  
Bellarmine Museum opened
- 2012** University College closed and part-time students matriculated into other colleges
- 2013** Master's in Public Administration
- 2015** Rafferty Stadium Complex Opens