



# University of Cincinnati

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

## Introduction

The University of Cincinnati was established by the city of Cincinnati in 1870 but has its origins in two earlier colleges: Cincinnati College and the Medical College of Ohio, which were chartered in 1819 and later absorbed by the University. Considered a premier urban research university and at one time the second oldest and second largest municipal university in the country, the institution expanded slowly in the 1800s but grew significantly in the early 1900s. Its faculty and students contributed several “firsts” to the world, including the first antihistamine, the first electronic organ and the first oral polio vaccine. The University was, in 1906, also the first in the world to establish a cooperative education program, allowing students to integrate work experience with their formal education. Today, the University enrolls just over 40,000 students in a variety of programs ranging from liberal arts to medicine to law.

## Important Dates

- 1819: Cincinnati College and the Medical College of Ohio are chartered.
- 1869: McMicken School of Drawing and Design is established by the City of Cincinnati using funds donated by Charles McMicken, a local businessman.
- 1870: University of Cincinnati is chartered and absorbs McMicken School of Drawing and Design.
- 1893: The University moves from Clifton Avenue to its current location in the Heights neighborhood.
- 1896: The University establishes a Law Department. William Howard Taft serves as its first dean.
- 1897: After a merger with Cincinnati College, the University of Cincinnati College of Law is formed.
- 1905: A Teacher’s College is added to the University.
- 1906: The University establishes a cooperative education program and a Graduate School in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- 1909: Ohio Medical College and Miami Medical College merge and are absorbed by the University.
- October 31, 1914: The University’s mascot, the Bearcat, is created during a football game against the University of Kentucky Wildcats, though it is not widely and officially used until 1919.

## Suggested Search Strategies

- Search the following terms in combination (as an “all” word search) or in proximity (do not search as phrases as the word order will vary): University Cincinnati, Cincinnati College, Ohio Medical College.
- Combine “University Cincinnati” with the terms: law, cooperative, McMicken, medical, football.
- Limit your search by date to find information about specific events.
- Some results may be articles or notices written about University of Cincinnati faculty and students.

## Sample Articles from Chronicling America

- [“A Noble Gift”](#) *Marietta Daily Leader* (Marietta, OH), November 1, 1898, Image 1, col. 2.
- [“Reception to Taft”](#) *Evening Bulletin* (Maysville, KY), May 15, 1902, Image 1, col. 3.
- [“A Wonderful Cat Tale”](#) *Day Book* (Chicago, IL), November 13, 1911, Image 12.
- [“Students Taught to be Scabs”](#) *Labor Advocate* (Cincinnati, OH), February 12, 1916, Image 3, col. 1-2.
- [“University of Cincinnati”](#) *Sun and New York Herald* (New York, NY), February 8, 1920, Image 38, col. 7.