



## St. Cloud State University

### Quick Facts

<b>Location (city, state):</b> St. Cloud, Minnesota	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.stcloudstate.edu">www.stcloudstate.edu</a>
<b>Undergraduate student enrollment:</b> 9,500	<b>Public/Private:</b> Public, Minnesota State System
<b>Graduate student enrollment:</b> 1,800	<b>Type of Institution:</b> Comprehensive Regional University, Masters' level

**Institutional Description (limit 250 words):** At St. Cloud State University, we've redefined what it means to be a state university and have made bold and innovative changes to how we serve our students, resulting in a richer, rewarding and more holistic learning experience from day one. Our Husky Experience is what truly sets St. Cloud State apart. We provide individualized support combined with a world-class education that equips graduates with the tools and skills needed to succeed in today's ever-changing world. The university primary geographical focus is Central Minnesota, however, more than half of our student population comes from the metropolitan Twin Cities area, surrounding states (WI, IA, IL, ND and SD), and 15% are international students from over 85 countries. With over 200 academic programs to choose from, our students have many options to graduate on time and to find great employment. We also boast world class ice hockey athletic facilities and have excellent record of achievement in 6 men's and 10 women's sports teams and various co-curricular activities, including music, dance, theater, and over 150 student-led clubs pertaining to the diverse interests of our community.

### Partnership Information

**Possible Academic Areas of Collaboration:** STEM (especially meteorology, earth science, hydrology, geography, geospatial science, sustainable energy and resource management, field biology and ecology, and environmental engineering), IT (especially cybersecurity and game development), higher education leadership. We are also interested in cultural exchanges for college faculty and staff and foreign language instruction for the staff and students.

**Institutional Strengths:** We are taking a new approach to higher education as we boldly redefine what it means to be a regional state university. *It's Time* is our strategic framework for the future, outlining key areas for investment and innovation as we deliver market-relevant programs, certifications, and degrees from nationally recognized programs, including accelerated and regular online only options, many hybrid and blended classes, service learning and hands on lab and fieldwork opportunities. We particularly excel in educating first-generation college students, over 25% of our students are older than 25, many are people of color, members of indigenous communities, and other under-represented groups in higher education, and we have an excellent system of support for them. Our Intensive English Center provides intensive ESL courses for foreign visitors.

**Partnership Interests:** (e.g., faculty exchanges, student exchange, dual degrees, joint research, distance learning, etc.) We are interested in exploring connections for faculty exchanges and joint research, co-teaching distance learning courses in real time and asynchronously, developing 3+2 and similar dual degree programs, education abroad and other opportunities. We have signed agreements with over 80 universities in 25 countries, including two in Kazakhstan.

**Interest in Partnership:** Why are you interested in partnering with a U.S./Kazakh institution? What do you hope to gain from such a partnership? There are many similarities between Minnesota and Kazakhstan in terms of climate, landscape and history of settlement, modern economies dependent on natural resource extraction, agriculture and forestry, but also such emerging new fields as clean energy, sustainability, biomedical research, medical device manufacturing, information security, nanotechnology and robotics, unmanned aerial vehicles, and other emerging new fields. We would be happy to see colleagues and students from Kazakhstan here, and will hope to visit and collaborate ourselves. We have a few colleagues who have visited Kazakhstan before on student recruitment trips, and some of us speak Russian language fluently and/or developing interest in learning Kazakh

language.

**Main Partnership Contact: (name, title, email):** Dr. Mikhail Blinnikov, Professor of Geography, College of Science and Engineering, SCSU, 720 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S., St. Cloud, MN 56303, USA.  
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