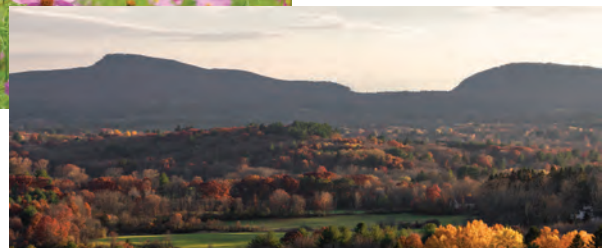


Amherst College

An inside look







So what is Amherst *really* like?

It's a small New England college that feels as big as you want it to be. It's a place of cherished traditions and steady reinvention, with a true college-town feel. It's a place with breathtaking natural beauty in a vibrant area with so much to explore. And it's a place where you'll not only get the support and backing to dive into what truly matters to you, but you'll also have the opportunity to be a part of the research and discussions that move the world forward.

There's just no place more *Amherst* than Amherst.

On the next 24 pages, you'll get a sense of what that means. Little glimpses of what goes on here. Day-in-the-life snapshots. A sense of how we teach and learn. An inside look at the amazing things to do in the area.

In short: *the Amherst vibe.*

So leaf through this booklet while you explore Amherst. We hope it will give you a feel for life here, and help you experience a side of our campus that might not fit into an ordinary brochure.*

This is a place where people come to tap into their inner fire and shine their light on the world. It's right there in Latin in our college motto:
Terras Irradiant.

But enough intro copy.

Let's go *experience* Amherst College.

*Don't worry: There's all kinds of important information in the back on applying, financial aid, class sizes and so forth.

Five seniors talk about their thesis projects: the big, moving, soul-searching, discipline-exploring, attention-earning statements of what their Amherst education has been all about.

This is my Amherst point of view.

Ryan Kyle '23

LAW, JURISPRUDENCE AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

THESIS: Dignity Jurisprudence and Supreme Court Rulings



“

In a class taught by Professor Adam Sitze, I wrote a paper responding to the prompt, ‘What do you think the relationship should be between law and morality?’ And I remember thinking to myself, ‘This could be a dissertation, right?’ And then within that, I became really interested in the discussion of whether it’s constitutional to execute individuals with intellectual disabilities.”

“

Oftentimes what a thesis looks like for a theater major is to choose or write a production and then put it on. So I've been a fan of this musical called *Myths and Hymns* for a few years now. It's a song cycle, which means that it's a musical, but with less of a plot, less of a concrete framework. What ties it all together is this idea of challenged relationships, and also the idea of faith.”



Sterling Kee '23

THEATER

THESIS: *Myths and Hymns*

Want to hear some seniors explain their theses in three minutes or less, in their own voices? Visit amherst.edu/go/3mt

Patrick Spoor '23

MUSIC

THESIS: *Einheit Wanderschaft*



“

I've called my thesis *Einheit Wanderschaft*: It means “wandering of unity.” I encountered a few songs that reminded me of getting away from home. I didn't really travel much in general. I was born in Ecuador, so I've been back and forth between Ecuador and Georgia. I just have a few spots in the world that I've encountered, and there's so much out there to see that I hadn't really been given the opportunity to see.”

“

Antitrust has been a topic of heated debate for lawmakers, economists and scholars, and I found this connection of law and economics important in terms of understanding our social order—but also to imagine a social order that could serve us better collectively.”



Haoran Tong '23

LAW, JURISPRUDENCE AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

THESIS: Rhetoric in Anti-Trust Legislation

ECONOMICS

THESIS: Economics: Algorithmic Pricing Analysis

Julissa Tello '23

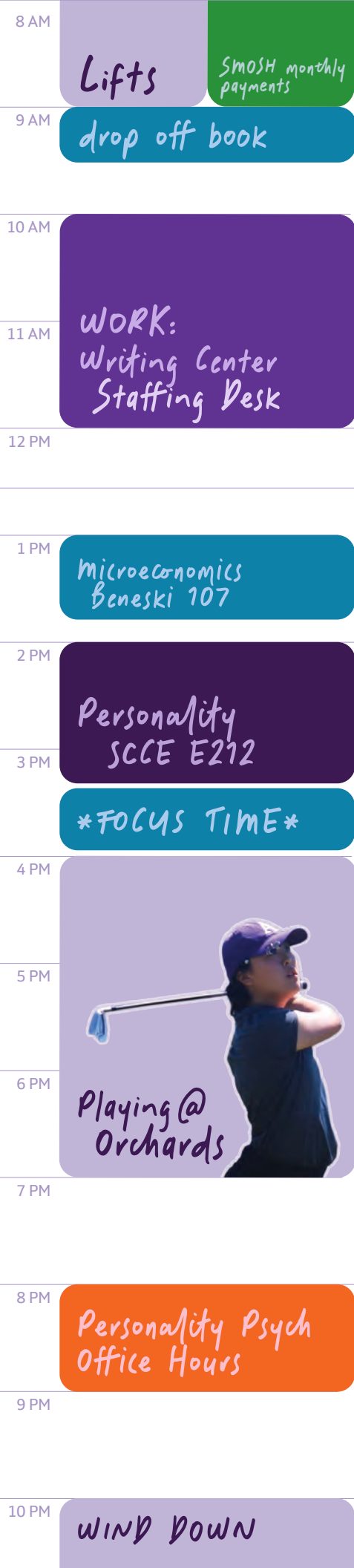
BIOLOGY AND FRENCH

THESIS: Novel Proteins in Starlet Sea Anemone Embryos



“

I'm pre-med, and I've always been interested in obstetrics and gynecology, taking care of women, prenatal care. In fifth grade, my teacher was pregnant. She had a pregnancy book on her desk. I'd flip through it, and then I'd see all the different size comparisons, and I was like, 'Wow, it starts off so small. How does that fully develop into an organism, a fully formed human?' And so that question has always astounded me. And I wanted to learn more.”



How to maximize your *you time*.

Classes. Sports. Clubs. Lindsey Huang '26 manages to manage it all. It takes solid planning, a realistic attitude, a non-negotiable sleep schedule and knowing *all* the settings on her calendar app. Here are some excerpts from her blog.

Study and Organization Tips for College

BY LINDSEY HUANG '26

Because I'm a student-athlete who is involved with multiple student organizations and has a part-time job, I have found that staying organized is an essential part of managing time and energy in college. Here are some tips for staying on top of work at college that have worked for me.

01 **KEEP AN UPDATED GOOGLE CALENDAR AND USE A PLANNER**

I prefer using Google Calendar to keep track of meetings, practice schedules and classes. I set the option for the calendar app to send me notifications 30 minutes before meetings so I never miss them. In addition, I have a physical planner that I use to keep track of upcoming assignments and deadlines.

02 **GET WORK DONE AHEAD OF TIME**

I usually try to complete work as soon as it's assigned, mainly so I have plenty of time to revise my work. Also, teachers share their syllabi at the beginning of the school year, and it sometimes contains the schedule of assignments and midterms for the entire year, which is helpful in figuring out which weeks might be busier than others.

03 **HELP YOURSELF TO PLENTY OF SLEEP**

It's really important to remember to set aside time for yourself. Even on days that I study with friends or hang out watching movies with them, I also keep track of time so I know when I should get back to my dorm so I can get enough sleep. It's common knowledge that sleep is important, and in college, it's more important than ever.

To read the full version of this blog post, and all of Lindsey's blog entries, visit amherst.edu/go/YouTime



I need a volunteer



Say "Yes, and..." to Mr. Gad's.



"*"

hahah

Self-billed as Amherst's best and worst improv troupe, Mr. Gad's House of Improv ("Gad's" for short) also happens to be Amherst's *only* long-running improv troupe, and being part of a Gad's show is an essential experience for every Mammoth.

The group takes the stage in the Friedmann Room in Keefe Campus Center every Monday evening during the school year. It pays to get there early: Attendance ranges from 100 or so during weekly shows, and up to 300 for the special "Gad's Murder Mystery" show.

Composed of eight to 14 members, Gad's dabbles in short-form and long-form improv, with scenes that last from five minutes to 25 minutes. The troupe holds auditions each semester, but even as a member of the audience, there's plenty of opportunity to get involved—shouting out prompts or, on occasion, being (willingly) absorbed into the act by the performers.

Beyond the entertainment value of it all, there are aspects of Gad's that are simply priceless: a vibrant community of creativity, a marvelous escape from the seriousness of your studies, and above all else, an opportunity to laugh yourself silly.



hehehe



Yes, and...

*Perhaps the most critical rule of improvisational comedy is known as "Yes, and..." It's what allows performers to build on each other's ideas and endlessly escalate the comedic potential of a scene.



An Amherst Approach to SUSTAINABILITY.

Sustainability transcends the expected course criteria at Amherst. And for good reason. If one of humanity's goals is to achieve a more sustainable world, shouldn't courses such as art, history and computer science make it a major thematic focus? Our faculty thought so, too—and then took it a step further. They worked with a variety of partners on campus, from the Office of Sustainability to the Mead Art Museum, to bring sustainable practices to life through various media and disciplines.



Beatrice Agbi '26, a student in "Finding the Humanity in Nature," taught by Ted Melillo and Joe Moore, presents her final course project to the class. After a semester spent immersed in the field of environmental humanities, each student was tasked with transforming a small wooden container to represent a key concept from past readings and discussions. Beatrice's project addressed animal rights issues.

Lillian Pentecost, assistant professor of computer science, teaches students in her "Modern Computing Hardware" course about the importance of sustainability in hardware development. They explore ways to create faster, more accessible technology that leaves a smaller environmental footprint.



Lucia Monge, assistant professor of art, knows plenty about collaboration. She arranged for her studio art class to team up with the Office of Sustainability to create a mural that symbolizes the importance of collaboration in achieving sustainability. She adds: "The mural represents everything we can accomplish when we work together."



ON CONCRETE AND BASKETBALL

BY CAELEN
MCQUILKIN '23

In order to break, something once had to
be whole / in a mosaic

Sharp cracked edges bring one another
to light, make themselves cohesive not
in spite of but because of the splits and
gaps and shattered spaces between, an
art form beautiful because it is broken
and put back together

The air always felt still when I grabbed
the basketball from the rim of the
hoop, brought it down, dribbled twice,
and threw it down to the court to my
teammate, who years ago had so much
to say that we'd drive around the block
as many extra times as it took for our
conversation to end, always longer
than the ten minute drive from home
to school

She'd grab the ball running—a
fast break—sprinted down the court to
the other side, and took two graceful
steps to gently toss the ball up into the
net. I can still feel the way the cheers
poured out of our crowd, yelling,
stomping on the bleachers, the PTSO
volunteers selling popcorn and hotdogs
leaning out of their booth to look at the
updated score board

In those days when we held our fists in a
circle before any game and yelled break
on three, 3,2,1, Tigers on 3,

Break / was what held us together.
Molded together, we were pieces made
haphazardly cohesive

Molded together: by things like the
concrete that artists paste between
mosaic pieces, or what it means when
you walk back into the locker room after
losing by one free throw in overtime,
side by side

Last August, I thought that the worn
asphalt streets of my town should buckle
under the pressure they hold:
the tension between staying and leaving.
What would it mean for concrete, or a
game lost by a single free throw, to span
the 2,853 miles between Lee Vining,
California and Amherst, Massachusetts?

In Western Massachusetts, red pines and
rolling hills pull in the same horizon that
stretches seamlessly for miles in every
direction in Eastern California, dusty
yellow expanse in the west, faded brown
embrace in the east.

So what about disparate horizons?
Are those

/
Untenable?

I think if basketball can be concrete,
maybe distance too can be poured
and molded

Weaving, piecing together, making break
cohesive

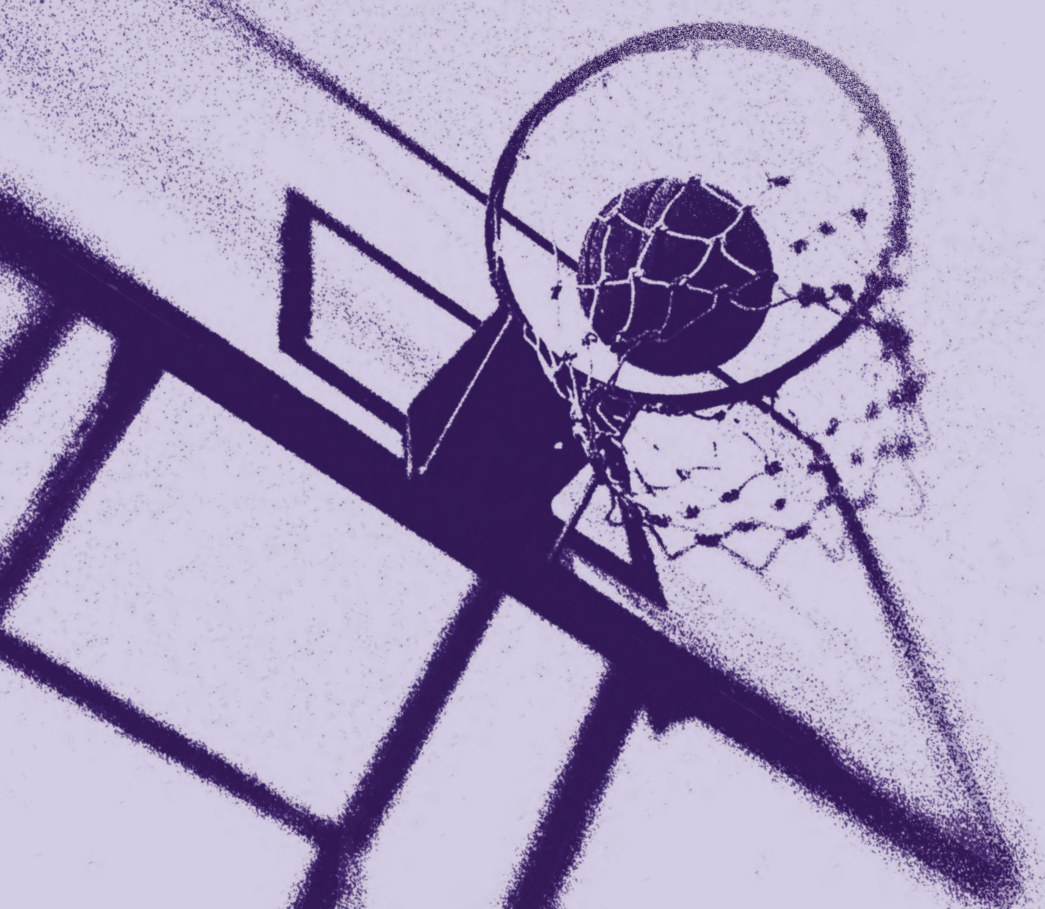
I believe that people carry places with
them, and that even broken, the line of
the horizon is still traceable

Meaning, I believe in mosaics.

The pavement of Highway 395 can carry
you from Hesperia, California to Laurier,
Washington. The last time I drove its
familiar winds back to Lee Vining, I
thought

That maybe break / is what holds me to
this place now.

*This piece originally appeared in the spring 2022
issue of The Indicator, Amherst College's student-
run literary and arts magazine. Founded in
1848—and resurrected in 1996 after a 145-year
hiatus—The Indicator currently publishes one
themed edition per semester and accepts visual
art, short prose, poetry and more.*



Meeting *of the* Mammoths

You never know when you'll round a corner on campus and find Amherst College President Michael A. Elliott '92 engaged in conversation with a fascinating student, faculty member, staffer or alum for his YouTube series, *Between 2 Mammoths*.

Example: These highlights from a Season 2 interview with Shane Dillon '26, orientation leader and vice president of the Association of Amherst Students.

“ Hi! Michael Elliott here at the Book and Plow Farm for *Between 2 Mammoths*, and today, we have Shane Dillon, sophomore, with us here. Shane, it's great to have you on *Between 2 Mammoths*.”

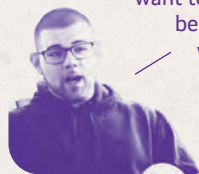


“ Thank you. I'm really appreciative that you're having me here today.”

“ We are just a few weeks away from orientation as we're filming this. And you're coming back to campus to be an orientation leader. What motivated you to do that?”



“ Orientation was a really special time for me. So, I did the Summer Bridge Program,* but coming back and having a week to settle in to really network, make friends—it can be a critical time for students in Amherst, and I want to be able to give back because the experience was such a great one.”



“ You were a senator in the Association for Amherst Students, AAS, and you are now vice president of AAS. Congratulations on your election. Tell me a little bit about your goals for AAS for the year and working with President Lori Alarcon '24.”



“ I'm super excited to be working with this year's e-board. We're really gonna approach AAS from a lens of transparency, accountability and engagement. And no idea is going to be left out of the agenda. The vice president gets to set the agenda for AAS and for our meetings.”



“ I wonder if I could pose you a question that I get sometimes from alumni and other people who haven't really been on campus very much recently. They ask me: *What is the environment like on campus in terms of really open, civic and respectful dialogue across political differences?*”



“ I think the culture at Amherst College, it's hard to pin it to one word. And I think one of the hardest things to do is to find a way to facilitate those conversations, because we see how they're facilitated in the real world today. I would like to see it happen more campus-wide, and I think we're gonna see that increase with the 2024 election being next year. I hear that the campus gets really heated during big elections like that. So, I hope to play a role in being able to facilitate it.”



“ That's great — that's something we can work on together. Let's end with a really serious question: What's the best place in Frost to study?”



“ I enjoy the café area a lot when I am in there. You get to see people walking by. You get to have short, quick conversations with people you haven't really seen in a while. I hope to get to study there more. I'm someone that likes to just study kind of by myself. I can't have distractions, but when I can, I would like to study there more.”



“ All right, I'll see you in the café at Frost. Shane, thank you for being with us, and thanks to everyone for joining us for *Between 2 Mammoths*.”



See this video and more from *Between 2 Mammoths* by scanning here:



*A three-week program before first-year orientation for first-generation and low-income students to explore the college and academic environment.



You don't have to go far to find a good time at Amherst. In fact, there's a good chance the good time will find you. And with each turn of the season throughout the school year, Mammoths find ways to showcase what's special (and tasty and fun and danceable) about life at Amherst.



Between Fall Festival, Winter Festival and City Streets Festival, students, staff, faculty, friends and family find plenty to celebrate.

FEST



FORWARD

Leaning into our New England vibes, **Fall Festival** serves up seasonal (and year-round) cuisine from local bakeries and restaurants and the College's own Book and Plow Farm. It all amounts to the perfect fuel for nonstop pumpkin carving, live music and horse-drawn wagon rides.

Come February, Mammoths mark the beginning of the new term with **Winter Festival**. Lace up your ice skates, move to live music, marvel at ice sculptures, commit to the 20-foot-tall inflatable slide, or simply dine on poutine, Belgian waffles, hot chocolate and your share of 1,000+ assorted donuts.

City Streets Festival heralds the arrival of spring with a celebration of international heritage, culture and global cuisine. Be there for the vibrant flag display,* which centers the countries, sovereign states, and Indigenous nations and tribes represented within our diverse campus community.

**Importantly, the display is not an endorsement of the beliefs, values or actions associated with any flag. For a list of the 2024 festival's flags, visit amherst.edu/go/flags.*

Amherst

A-Z

You might not see everything on this list during a traditional tour. But spend some time around here and talk to some faculty, students and staff, and you'll come to know Amherst in all its quirks, traditions and points of pride. Here are a few of them, in no particular order (other than alphabetical).



A ANTONIO'S PIZZA: Word is that this is the best pizza place in town.

B One **BASEBALL** from the first intercollegiate baseball game, which was played on July 1, 1859, between Amherst and Williams College in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

BOOK AND PLOW FARM: It's a farm about a mile away where students and staff grow a lot of the veggies served on campus.

C CONSTRUCTION on the new Student Center and Dining Commons.

CREAKY (in a pleasing way) wooden floors in some of the cool historic buildings.

D DAVENPORT SQUASH COURTS.

Squash-committed or squash-curious, this is the place to be.

E The **EMILY DICKINSON MUSEUM,**

dedicated to the amazing poet, is housed in her 19th-century home.



F FAYERWEATHER MAKERSPACES,

where people can stage a play, make a statement and generally make life more interesting.

G GLASS WALLS in the Science Center that let you see the science happening.

H HILLS that turn walks to class into free exercise.

I ICE SCULPTURES, as seen during the College's wonderful Winter Festival.

J JAMES JOYCE'S JULYSESSES

(excerpted), painted on the restroom walls in Johnson Chapel.

JURASSIC LIFE in Amherst, visualized in an exhibit in the Beneski Museum of Natural History.



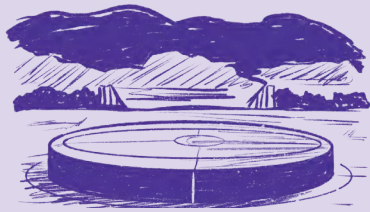
K KNICKKNACKS in the Admission Office, including

a fun Emily Dickinson plushie, and all kinds of mammoths, like one made from beads and another rendered in origami.



LITFEST: Amherst's world-famous annual celebration of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and spoken-word performance.

MEMORIAL HILL, which is just about the best place to take in the breathtaking view of the Holyoke Range.



NEUROSCIENCE: The sciences thrive at Amherst, and this program recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.



The **OCTAGON:** A unique, yellow, eight-sided building that reflects a 19th-century interest in octagonal architecture.

POWERHOUSE: The Eighmy Powerhouse is an actual old powerhouse that's been renovated as an event space for all kinds of student events.

The **Q CENTER** (a.k.a. the Moss Quantitative Center), located in the Science Center.

ROOFTOP GREENHOUSE on top of the amazing Science Center, along with a green roof, too.

STEARNS STEEPLE was part of Amherst's previous chapel, and now stands, rebuilt, as a beloved landmark.



TYPO, which stands for Take Your Professor Out: It's when a group of classmates takes their professor out to a meal or event and Amherst picks up the tab.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE, frequently played on the big lawn between the dorms. (The sport was invented by an Amherst alumnus.)

VALENTINE HALL: The big dining hall everyone goes to, at least until the new Student Center is built. It's the origin of the expression "Val-sitting," which means to hang out, people-watch and say hi to your friends.



WALL OF WOODEN TYPE BLOCKS in Frost Library. (There are so many interesting things to spot at Frost Library that it could be its own alphabetical sub-list.)

WOLFF FITNESS CENTER, where you can do workouts, weights and wellness.

X MARKS THE SPOT where the paved walkways cross at the center of campus.

YUSHIEN JAPANESE GARDEN, a place of peacefulness and beauty.



ZERO-EMISSION CLIMATE ACTION, which you can see all over campus, like the self-regulating climate system in the Science Center, and in our goal to completely decarbonize campus by 2030.

Off campus.

On point.

Sophie Goldsmith '24 runs down her favorite spots that are just off campus, but well within walking distance. Take in these highlights from a post on her blog.

1.

Every Saturday from April-ish to November-ish, there is a **farmer's market** in the Amherst town common. I like going and walking around, even if I don't buy anything—it's fun to look at the art, produce, dairy and meat products, and flowers, and to people-watch.

2.

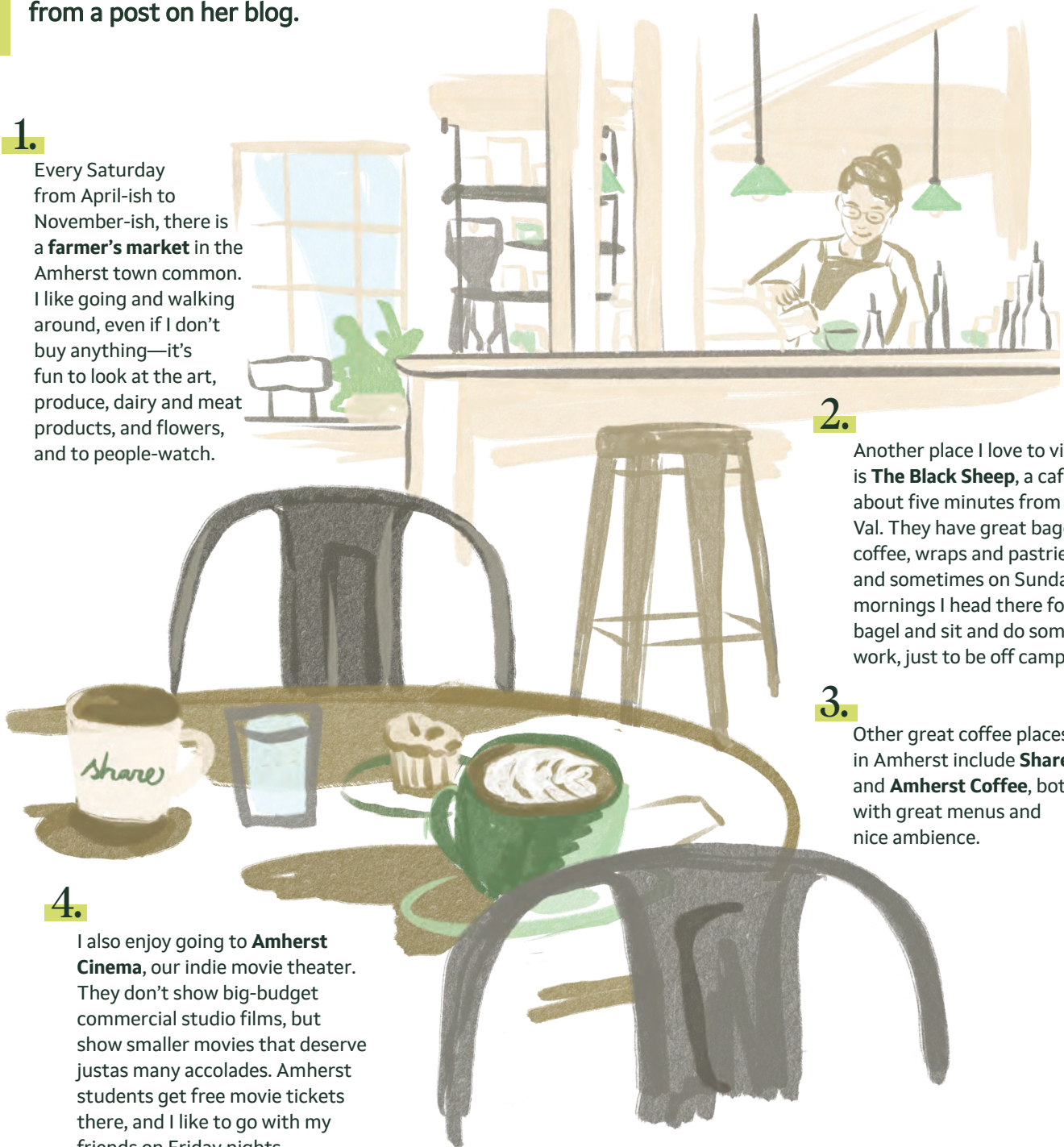
Another place I love to visit is **The Black Sheep**, a café about five minutes from Val. They have great bagels, coffee, wraps and pastries, and sometimes on Sunday mornings I head there for a bagel and sit and do some work, just to be off campus.

3.

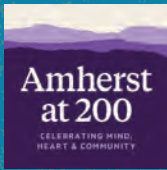
Other great coffee places in Amherst include **Share** and **Amherst Coffee**, both with great menus and nice ambience.

4.

I also enjoy going to **Amherst Cinema**, our indie movie theater. They don't show big-budget commercial studio films, but show smaller movies that deserve just as many accolades. Amherst students get free movie tickets there, and I like to go with my friends on Friday nights.



To read the full version and all of Sophie's blog posts, visit amherst.edu/go/OffCampus



Amherst at 200

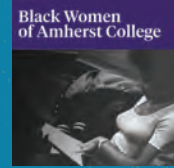
EPISODE 2: FREDDIE BRYANT '87

Hosted by actor Jeffrey Wright '87 (*American Fiction*, Marvel's *What If...?*), this podcast series celebrates Amherst's bicentennial through conversations with an array of influential and fascinating alumni. On this episode, jazz guitarist, composer, bandleader and professor Freddie Bryant '87 reflects on how his Amherst experience shaped his understanding of racial identity, as well as his musical career.



Amherst is a place of people and ideas and history and possibility, and you can experience it all from the comfort of your headphones.

These episodes are a sample of how Amherst intrigues, educates and lights up the world. Beginning with an audience of you.



Black Women of Amherst College

EPISODE 3: BLACK ALUMNAE SPEAK, PART 1

Amherst College began admitting female students in the mid-1970s, and this Webby Award-winning podcast—inspired by a book by the late Mavis C. Campbell, professor emerita of history—explores the poignant experiences and far-reaching impact of the Black women of Amherst.



Tusks Up!

SEASON 2, EPISODE 1: E.J. MILLS

Sports are pretty big at Amherst: More than a third of our students are involved in varsity athletics, and more than three-fourths play intramural or club sports. The *Tusks Up* podcast gives our athletes, coaches, staff and alumni their close-ups. This episode focuses on E.J. Mills as he reflects on the 2023 season—his 26th as head football coach at Amherst.



Office Hours

GALAXIES IN COMMUNITY WITH PROFESSOR DE LOS REYES

In this student-produced Amherst podcast series, host Priscilla Lee '25 engages in wildly organic conversations that go deep with faculty, fellow students, and people of special passions and interests. On this episode, Mia de los Reyes, assistant professor of astronomy, is on hand to discuss topics that span the behavior of galaxies and the politics of astronomy.



STEMherst

EPISODE 11: AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE SURF EXPERIENCE

This podcast shines a light on the students, staff and faculty who are bringing the Amherst approach to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. On this episode, host Ivy Haight '25 interviews two sophomores who participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program.



To listen to these podcasts and learn more about Amherst College, scan this QR code or visit amherst.edu/go/podcasts







A LEGACY OF MUSCLE AND MIND

An Abridged Timeline of Amherst Athletics

A Legendary Day *for* Baseball



In 1859, the Amherst Baseball Club challenged Williams College to a game, which would go down in history as the country's first intercollegiate baseball game. Admission was 50 cents.

1859

Running *the* Gambit

The same day Amherst made baseball history, a chess match between the two schools was also underway. The *Amherst Express* newspaper published a story called "Muscle and Mind!" to share the news of the doubleheader and report the final score of the chess match. Amherst won, 73-32.



A Rivalry Begins

Football became a new battleground for the enduring Amherst-Williams rivalry. In 1892, the team was led by William Henry Lewis, one of three Black students in the graduating class.

1884

Men vs. Mountain

The Mountain Club was formed in 1903. Every year, the club organized several outings, including the annual Mountain Day excursions. In 1927, it was renamed the Outing Club, which continues the tradition of outdoor excursions and adventures to this day.



1903

The Centennial

In 1921, Amherst celebrated its centennial. The event turned into a showcase of the College's nine athletic teams: baseball, track, football, basketball, swimming, hockey, tennis, soccer and golf.



1921

The Birth of Ultimate

When Jared Koss '69 took a job as a counselor at a Massachusetts summer camp, he taught the kids a game he and his friends at Amherst used to play: a variation on soccer and football and tossing a flying disk around. Little did he suspect that it would grow into the global sensation known today as Ultimate Frisbee.



1967

A Woman's World

Amherst is fast approaching the 50th anniversary of women's athletics at the College. And in a relatively narrow slice of Amherst history, these barrier-breaking athletes have built one of the most competitive NCAA Division III institutions in women's sports, fielding hundreds of individual champions, and capturing

Mid-1970s to now

Division III national team championships in tennis (1999) and ice hockey (2009, 2010).



2023

Welcome *to the* Green Team

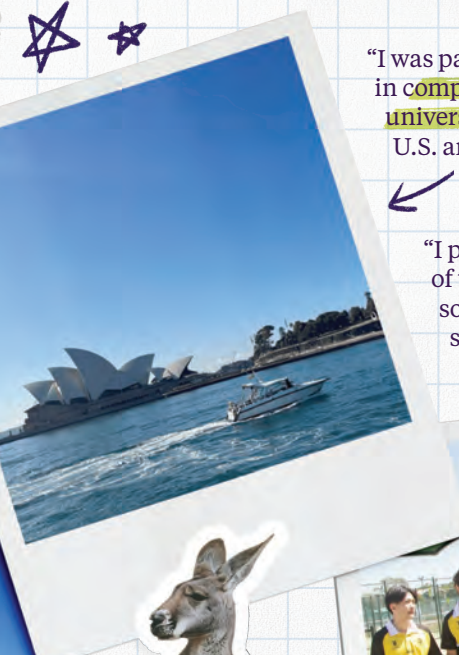
Amherst athletics is championing sustainability across the College's 27 varsity sports teams by zeroing in on zero-waste practices. Individual teams are taking their own actions, such as donating tennis balls to local elementary schools, recycling athletic shoes and keeping broken hockey sticks out of landfills. All told, Amherst is playing hard to win one for Mother Nature.

Study Away Around the World

DISPATCHES FROM DOWN UNDER

Every day at Amherst, you'll encounter people and ideas and perspectives from all over the world. But you'll also have amazing opportunities to study far away from Amherst—learning and researching and living in big cities, the wildest wilderness and all points between. Great example: Edred Opie '25 and his experiences in Australia.

"Sydney offered a range of coastal hikes with golden beaches, rugged cliffs and breathtaking views."



"Hi, everyone!"



"My name's Ed, and I'm a junior math and economics major from Chippenham, England. This semester, I studied abroad in Sydney, Australia, at the University of South Wales (UNSW Sydney)."

"I took four classes—two math classes toward my major, and two others from a wide variety of classes to choose from. I couldn't wait to live in a country I had never visited before, explore Sydney, and experience Australian culture."

"I was particularly interested in comparing the cultures and university structures in the U.S. and Australia."

"I played tennis with some of the UNSW students—some international and some domestic."

"As I delved into third-year math classes at University of New South Wales, I noticed that students pursuing a math degree at UNSW have exclusively taken math classes, a sharp contrast to my interdisciplinary journey at Amherst. Plus, UNSW's campus has a very different aesthetic to Amherst's."

You can read Edred's full blog entries, as well as those from other Mammoths who've roamed, studied and lived all over the world, at amherst.edu/go/BeyondTheBubble

"I was looking forward to reuniting with the friends, teammates and staff at Amherst that I hadn't seen for months, and was excited to set foot on Amherst's beautiful campus again. Heading into a cold and snowy New England January, I missed Sydney's warm weather!"

KNOW YOUR PROFESSOR.



At Amherst, your professor is your teacher first, your mentor second, and then—if you're up for it—your research partner, co-presenter and proud co-author. Here's a look at what makes a few of them tick, what they teach, and how they can help you take your academic journey precisely where you want it to go.

JAVIER CORRALES

Dwight W. Morrow 1895
Professor of Political Science



DEPARTMENTS

Political Science, Latinx and Latin American Studies

FAST FACTS

- I collaborate with other political scientists to rank countries on various aspects of democratic governance.
- I worked on developing the "LGBT Rights in the Americas Timeline," a digital humanities and history project.

RECENT COURSES

- Markets and Democracy in Latin America (Fall 2024)
- The State (Fall 2024)
- Democratic Backsliding (Spring 2024)

IN JAVIER'S WORDS

"I address questions in my teaching and writing that were common topics of conversations I had at home as a child in a Cuban American household: Why are some countries democratic and others less so, or not at all?"



SONYA CLARK '89

Winifred L. Arms
Professor in the Arts and Humanities; Professor of Art and the History of Art

DEPARTMENT

Art and the History of Art

FAST FACTS

- I've had over 500 exhibits in museums and galleries on every continent except Antarctica.
- Hair is one of my favorite art materials and subjects.

IN SONYA'S WORDS

"Regardless of the subject matter or material focus, at the core of my teaching, I educate ethics, empathy, community and curiosity. My artwork draws from the legacy of craft as a means to honor my ancestors. I create objects and installations, perform actions, and engage others in artistic collaborations."

RECENT COURSES

- Talking with Beads (Fall 2023)
- Color Study (Spring 2023)



SCOTT ALFELD

Associate Professor of Computer Science

DEPARTMENT

Computer Science

FAST FACTS

- For my research I develop data-manipulation attacks against (and defenses for) machine learning and automated decision-making systems.
- I am an instructor for volunteer locksport (also known as recreational lockpicking).
- I have two dogs: a 35-pound mutt and a 75-pound robot.

RECENT COURSES

- Computer Security (Fall 2024)
- Theory of Machine Learning (Spring 2024)
- Special Topics in Adversarial Learning (Spring 2024)

IN SCOTT'S WORDS

"I teach topics in AI, machine learning and security, ranging from the highly practical to purely theoretical. I often get nerd-sniped by students, which has led to my teaching courses on quantum computing and robotics."



KATE FOLLETTE

Associate Professor of Astronomy

DEPARTMENT

Physics and Astronomy

IN KATE'S WORDS

"I believe deeply that the best scientists are well-rounded and skilled at communicating their work to a range of audiences. The liberal arts approach to education is a powerful and effective way to train such scientists."

FAST FACTS

- My colleagues and I are actively working to push the limits of telescope, camera and image-processing technology so that we might eventually image and characterize an Earth-like exoplanet.
- I am the principal investigator of the Follette Lab, which has two arms: the Exoplanet Lab and the Education Lab.

RECENT COURSES

- Physics and Astronomy in Sociocultural Context (Spring 2024)
- Exploring the Cosmos (Fall 2023)



LISA BROOKS

Winthrop H. Smith 1916 Professor of American Studies and English

DEPARTMENTS

American Studies, English

FAST FACTS

- I am currently writing a book about eastern coyotes.
- I involve students directly in my research! We currently have trail cameras in the Wildlife Sanctuary on campus and are learning a great deal about our other-than-human neighbors.

RECENT COURSES

- Keystone Kin (Spring 2024)
- Reading Land, Writing Waters (Spring 2024)
- Global Valley (Fall 2024)

IN LISA'S WORDS

"For me, learning from students and colleagues and being intellectually challenged in the classroom is a highlight of teaching in a liberal arts environment. I strive to bring participatory thinking and deliberation, which I wrote about in my first book, *The Common Pot*."



SONY CORAÑEZ BOLTON

Associate Professor of Spanish and English; Chair of Latinx and Latin American Studies

DEPARTMENTS

Latinx and Latin American Studies, Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies, English, Spanish

IN SONY'S WORDS

"In their analysis of social problems or phenomena, I routinely ask students in my courses to make their own novel intellectual connections between fields of thought that, at first blush, are not seen to move together."

FAST FACTS

- I am a critical ethnic studies scholar working at the intersection of settler colonial studies, queer studies, disability studies and postcolonial theory.
- As a comparative Americanist, I seek to understand how Hispanic Filipino culture protracted into the U.S. colonial period in the Philippines before World War II (1898–1934).

RECENT COURSES

- Asian American and Pacific Poetry and Lyric (Spring 2024)
- Senior Seminar (Fall 2024)



Amherst from the ground up.



Book and Plow is a Mammoth-run farm about a mile from the center of campus.

Founded in 2013 by Amherst students, staff, faculty and alumni, Book and Plow puts sustainability, community and responsibility into action and onto plates. Today it provides tons of veggies to Valentine Dining Hall.



BRIGHTENING AMHERST'S
PLATES SINCE 2013



NOURISHING MINDS AND
GROWING COMMUNITY

Apart from supplying diners at Amherst College with fresh carrots, onions, summer squash, kale, mustard greens, tomatoes, bok choy and an ever-evolving rotation of other crops, Book and Plow builds community and delivers educational experiences.

Pitch in at the Book and Plow Farm, and you'll come away from Amherst with the powerful skill set of a farmer: creative problem-solving, resource management, real-time adaptation to climate change, determination and teamwork.

Come to think of it, that's the skill set of anybody who wants to make the world a brighter, healthier place.



Get ^{MORE} out of Amherst.

Your time at Amherst will be great. And when you get into the habit of visiting the **Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning**, your prospects afterward will be even better. Here are five ways the Loeb sets you up to thrive.



1

Get personal and specific.

You have a path all your own: All you have to do is find it. At the Loeb, you'll find career counselors who are industry experts, bringing lived experience to their advising, dedicated to helping you find answers to questions you didn't even know to ask, and helping you plot out your career journey.

Get a (great) job!

The top thing future employers look for? The real-world experience you'll get from the right internship, which is what 87% of Amherst students will get before graduation. Some even do more than one internship. And the Loeb has all the resources you need: résumé guidance, help identifying opportunities, interview practice, stipends for unpaid internships—the list goes on.

2



3

Get prepared early

Your plans for what's after Amherst shouldn't wait until senior year, and we won't let that happen. The Loeb offers programs like Sophomore Summit, where you and all your second-year classmates come back to campus three days before the start of spring semester, so you can make new alumni connections, find and line up a summer internship, and build and sharpen your professional skills.

Get the hookup

The Amherst family extends beyond the edge of campus and around the planet. And every semester, a few of these Mammoths come home for Alumni-in-Residence events to host workshops, office hours and informal networking sessions.



4



5

Get out there!

The best thing about the Loeb? It's woven into your Amherst experience, both on campus and beyond. A liberal arts degree from Amherst will prepare you for a career in any field (and likely in multiple fields over your lifetime). The Loeb works with alumni even beyond graduation, because the search for bigger, better and more fascinating career opportunities never ends.

3D: Difference for the Developmentally Disabled • A Better Chance Tutoring 🌱 AAS Budgetary Committee AC Film Society • AC Sk8ters Society 🍌 Active Minds • Advocates for Reproductive Care • African & Caribbean Students' Union • Amherst Clothing Design House • Amherst College Cricket Club • Amherst College Emergency Medical Services 🩺 Amherst College Fencing Club • Amherst College Figure Skating 🛼 Club • Amherst College Habitat for Humanity • Amherst College Mock Trial • Amherst College Moot Court • Amherst College Pickleball Club Amherst College Real Estate 🏠 Amherst College Republicans • Amherst College Women's Club Hockey • Amherst College Women's Rugby Football Club • Amherst Go Club—A place for people to learn and play the game of go • Amherst Homeless Connect • Amherst Intramurals • Amherst LEADS • Amherst Quant Club • Amherst Rock Climbing • Amherst Safe Space for Kinksters • Amherst Spikeball Club • Amherst STEM Network ⚙️ Amherst Students for Democracy • Amitim—Jewish culture and education on campus for all • Amnesty International at Amherst College • Anime Club • Archery Club 🎯 Architectural Exploration Club • Artificial Intelligence Club 🖥️ Arts@Amherst Advocates • Asian American Writers' Group • Asian Film Club • Asian Students Association • Asian and Pacific American Action Committee • Association for Computing Machinery 🖨️ Association for Women in Science • Association of Amherst Students (AAS) • Badminton Team 🏸 Bi-Semester, Hermenia Gardner Christian Service—An African-American Worship Series • Big Brothers, Big Sisters • Bioethics Society • Bird Club 🐦 Black in Business Club • Black Students Union • Blockchain Club 🪙 Board Games Club • Bolt Magazine ⚡ Brazilian Student Association • Bridge Club • Bullet Journal Club—Journaling with stickers, photos and any medium you want. • Campus Activities Board (CAB) • Campus-Wide Social Events • Center for Community Engagement • Center for International Student Engagement (CISE) 🌐 Charles Drew Health Professionals Society • Chess Club ♠️ Chinese Student Association • Christian Fellowship • Class & Action Resource Center • Club Squash • Club Tennis • Club Volleyball (ACVB) • Club Water Polo 🏊 Consulting Club • Council of Amherst College Student-Athletes of Color • Crafting Club • Culinary Club • Dance • Dance and Step at Amherst College • Data Science Club • Debate Society • Democrats • Disabled and Neurodivergent Alliance • DQ—The college's oldest a cappella group since the 1920s • Eco-Reps • Education Studies Club • Effective Altruism • Entrepreneurs Society • Environmental Justice Alliance 🌿 Equestrian • Filipino Student Association • Five-College Culture, Health and Science • Fly Fishing Club 🎣 Food Justice Alliance • Gather—A multi-denominational organization centered around gathering weekly to worship over dinner • Geologists Underrepresented at Amherst College • Ghostlight—A student-led theater group 🎭 Global Education Office • Hawaii Club • Healing Hearts with Harmony—A volunteering group for students to connect with the elderly community through music • Hillel ⚡ Historical European Martial Arts Club • International Students Association • Intersections Dance Company • InterVarsity La Fe—An interdenominational Christian organization ✝️ Investment Club • Japanese Culture Club 🍀 Jazz @ Amherst • Juggling Club • K:NETICS K-Pop Dance Club • Kidney Disease Screening Program • Korean Students Association • La Causa—A cultural, political, and service organization for students interested in Latinx issues and culture awareness • Law Review ⚖️ Liberal Arts Initiative Summer Seminars • Liyang Amherst College • Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning 🔍 Major Productions—A preprofessional organization and artist community • Mammoth Makerspace 🛠️ Mammoth Mentorship Initiative • Mammoth Week—A wide-range of events in the first week of classes • Math Club ➡️ Men's Club Soccer • Men's Ultimate Frisbee • Middle Eastern North African Association • Military Association • Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students • Model United Nations (AC) • Mr. Gad's House of Improv 🗣️ Multicultural Resource Center • Multicultural Student Union • Music @ Amherst • Muslim Students Association • Mutual Aid • Mycology Club • Native & Indigenous Students Association • Newman Catholic Student Association • Office of Campus Diversity & Student Leadership • Office of Student Activities: Event Registrations • Office of Student Activities: Summer Programs ☀️ Office of Student Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion • Our Table—An artistic collective that welcomes women, nonbinary, and trans women of color from all artistic backgrounds • Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics 🧪✖️ Outing Club • Partners for Animal Welfare • Philosophy Club 💡 Photography Club of Amherst College • Ping Pong Club • Plato's Cave—Dedicated to expanding the accessibility of student filmmaking on the Amherst campus • Poker Power Women's Poker Club ♠️ Political Union • Project SALUD—Raising funds for a Peruvian medical center • Public Health Collaborative • Quantitative/Computational Biology Club • Queer and Trans People of Color Collective • Queer Athlete Alliance • Queer Resource Center 🏳️‍🌈 QuestBridge Low-Income Community • Quiz Bowl • Religious and Spiritual Life • Remnant Black Campus Ministry • Reproductive Justice Alliance • Resurrect Gospel Choir • Roll Initiative!—The Amherst tabletop and role-playing game club • Route 9—An a cappella singing group • Rowing Association • Rugby Football Club • Running Club • Sabrinas—Amherst College's oldest all-female a cappella group • Sailing Team • Scholars of Finance • Ski and Snowboard Club ❄️ Smash Bros. Club • South Asian Students Association • Southeast Asian Students Association • Special Needs Undergraduate Swim Lessons • Spectra—For all students interested in physics, astronomy, and biophysics 🦋 Sports Business and Analytics Club • Student Engagement and Leadership • Student Health Educators • Students for Affordable Housing • Sustainable Ocean Alliance • Sustainable Solutions Lab ♻️ Terras Irradiant—A Christian a cappella group 🎵 The Amherst Contra—A semi-weekly newspaper dedicated to publishing opinions which aren't often heard on campus • The Amherst Student—Amherst College's student-run newspaper 📰 The Bluestockings—A women's a cappella group • The Green Room—A student-run theater group • The Indicator—A student-run literary and arts magazine • The Neural Network • The Poetry Club 🖋️ The Women's Network: Amherst • The Womxn of Color Collective • The Zumbyes—Amherst's oldest a cappella group • Theatrical Choreography Club • Transfer Students Association • Tread Shed—A bike co-op 🚲 Underscore Music Club • United Nations Association of the United States of America • Veggie Club 🥕 WAMH 89.3 FM • Weightlifting Club • Women in Computer Science • Women in Finance • Women's and Gender Center • Women's Club Basketball • Women's Club Soccer • Women's Ultimate Frisbee • Woolly Mammoths—A fiber arts club 🧶 Yoga Club

At Amherst, any student can create organizations that align with their interests and passions. As you can imagine, our roster of clubs and organizations is always growing and changing. See the latest list at thehub.amherst.edu.





That's the Amherst *vibe*.

These are the Amherst facts.

Chances are, you're ready to be a part of our Amherst family. On the next few pages, you'll find everything you need to know to take the next step (and the steps after that).

You'll learn more about and find links to:

- **Where, how and when to apply**
- **How we holistically evaluate all potential future Mammoths**
- **Our approach to affordability**
- **What majors we offer and how our open curriculum sets you up to study what matters most to you**
- **Who goes to Amherst**

And the facts and stats that we hope will pique your interest.

You are obviously curious. You've read this far, which frankly is quite Amherst of you.

Let's get
started.



Applying—*and applying* yourself—to Amherst.

If you're ready to pour your whole heart into exploring what matters to you, Amherst might be just the place you're looking for.

If you're an exceptional student with a shining intellect, with the focus to explore topics deeply and a curiosity that's not strictly bounded by academic discipline, you'll thrive at Amherst. And if you're a person who is ready to take advantage of extraordinary academic resources, forge close working partnerships with your professors, and contribute as part of a truly vibrant and diverse campus community, then Amherst is definitely for you.

What we'll look for in you.

You're a multi-dimensional individual, and that's how we work to see you. We look at things that aren't easily measured with grades and scores. Since every part of your story matters, we pay close attention to the aspects of you that come out in your writing, your recommendations and your life outside class.

In this context, we'll look at:

- Your secondary school transcript
- Teacher and counselor recommendations
- The quality of your writing as demonstrated in your essays, in the writing supplement and throughout your application
- Your extra- and co-curricular involvements, and your responsibilities, talents and leadership
- Your standardized test results, if you wish to submit them (Amherst is still test-optional)



To learn more about applying, visit:

amherst.edu/go/applying



How to apply as a first-year student.

As an Amherst applicant, you have three different options for applying: the Common Application, Apply Coalition powered by Scoir, and QuestBridge.

THE COMMON APPLICATION OR "COMMON APP"

Amherst is among the 900 schools who accept it, so you may have already filled it out.

APPLY COALITION POWERED BY SCOIR

Amherst is one of over 150 schools in the Coalition for College that accept this application.

QUESTBRIDGE

Amherst is proud to partner with this nonprofit, which is dedicated to putting college in reach for every high-achieving student.

FEE WAIVERS Amherst accepts the general application fee waivers issued by the Common Application or Apply Coalition Powered by Scoir, but we also have our own institutional fee waiver option—called **Quick Pass**—that has even broader criteria for waiving an application fee for Amherst.

Early Decision and Regular Decision: How and when to participate.

When you apply to Amherst as an Early Decision candidate, you're making it clear that Amherst is your first-choice college, and that, should you be admitted, you're committed to withdrawing your applications from other colleges and enrolling at Amherst in the fall.

The deadline for applying to Amherst as an Early Decision candidate is **November 8, 2024**.

10%

of applicants choose Early Decision

Should you be admitted to Amherst as a Regular Decision applicant, you're under no obligation to withdraw your offers from other schools (but we still hope you'll choose to enroll in the fall).

The deadline for applying to Amherst as a Regular Decision candidate is **January 6, 2025**.

90%

of applicants choose Regular Decision

Amherst takes diversity seriously.

Our **Access 2 Amherst (A2A)** program introduces Amherst to rising high school seniors, with programming that centers the experiences of students from marginalized communities, so that students from an array of backgrounds and life perspectives can see themselves as part of our diverse community. Learn more on our website: amherst.edu/go/a2a

For all the dates and deadlines you could want, visit:
amherst.edu/go/deadlines



Understanding what Amherst costs.

We know that the price of college is significant. That's why, at Amherst, we put in significant effort, time and attention to offering aid that meets the calculated financial need of every applicant (more on that below).

COST OF ATTENDANCE (2024–2025)

DIRECT COSTS BILLED TO STUDENTS

Tuition	\$69,820
Housing	\$9,940
Meals	\$8,450
Student Fees	\$660

INDIRECT COSTS (estimated based on a periodic survey of all students)

Personal Expenses (estimate)	\$1,800
Travel and Transportation (estimate)	
Domestic	\$640
International	\$1,220

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES (billed to all students, but waivable)

Health Insurance	\$3,203/yr
Tuition Insurance	\$250/yr

NOTES

- Student fees cover student activities.
- Health insurance may be waived, if a student has other coverage that satisfies Massachusetts insurance requirements.
- Personal expenses and travel allowances are estimated out-of-pocket expenses that can vary by student; we take them into account when determining a student's financial need.
- Optional tuition insurance is billed to all students at \$125 per semester and can be waived; it is not covered by financial aid.

Amherst's approach to financial aid.

Amherst was one of the first colleges in the country to adopt a no-loan policy. In our offers of financial aid, we replaced loans with scholarships, grants and student employment. It's part of our commitment to help students graduate with as little debt as possible.

NO LOAN No financial aid will need to be paid back.

NEED-BLIND Your family's financial circumstances will never negatively impact your consideration for admission.



FACTS*

57% of students received financial aid

80% of the class of 2024 graduated with no loan debt

21% received Pell Grants

\$68k+ is the average aid award

**For the 2023–24 academic year*

To learn more about financial aid, visit or scan:
amherst.edu/go/AmherstCosts



Making Amherst *affordable*.

The cost of college can be high. We work hard to put it in reach.

Every student admitted to Amherst will receive an offer of financial aid based on their family’s calculated financial need, regardless of their citizenship status. And our need-blind admission policy means that your financial status will never negatively affect your prospects for admission. Below are two sample scenarios, which we hope will help break down the pieces of both cost and aid, and the way that each individual family circumstances are thoughtfully considered.

Student 1

This student is the only child of a Texas family. The family has an income of \$39,000, with no assets and no home equity.

COST OF ATTENDANCE	
BILLED EXPENSES	
Tuition, housing, meals, fees	\$88,870
Unbilled expenses (estimated)	\$3,150
> Personal expenses	\$2,200
> Travel	\$950
Total Cost	\$92,020
FAMILY CONTRIBUTION	
Parental contribution	\$0
Student summer savings	+\$900
Total Family Contribution	\$900
FINANCIAL NEED	
Total cost	\$92,020
Total contribution	-\$900
Financial Need	\$91,120
AMHERST FINANCIAL OFFER	
Scholarship/grant	\$89,320
Campus job	+\$1,800
Total Aid Offer	\$91,120

Student 2

This student is the oldest of five in California. The parents pay \$12,500 yearly for a younger brother at a private high school. The family has an income of \$193,000, and \$465,000 in home equity.

COST OF ATTENDANCE	
BILLED EXPENSES	
Tuition, housing, meals, fees.....	\$88,870
Unbilled expenses (estimated)	\$3,050
> Personal expenses	\$1,800
> Travel	\$1,250
Total Cost.....	\$91,920
FAMILY CONTRIBUTION	
Parental contribution	\$31,200
Student summer savings	+\$1,800
Total Family Contribution.....	\$33,000
FINANCIAL NEED	
Total Cost	\$91,920
Total Contribution	-\$33,000
Financial Need	\$58,920
AMHERST FINANCIAL OFFER	
Scholarship/grant	\$57,120
Campus job.....	+\$1,800
Total Aid Offer	\$58,920

COST TO FAMILY	
BILLED EXPENSES	
Tuition, housing, meals, fees	\$88,870
Scholarship/grant	-\$89,320
Total Amount Billed (Credit to account)	-\$450
ESTIMATED INDIRECT COSTS	
Unbilled expenses (estimated)	\$3,150
Campus job.....	-\$1,800
Total Estimated Indirect Costs	\$1,350
Credit back to student account	-\$450
Total Family Contribution	\$900

COST TO FAMILY	
BILLED EXPENSES	
Tuition, housing, meals, fees	\$88,870
Scholarship/grant	-\$57,120
Total Amount Billed	\$31,750
ESTIMATED INDIRECT COSTS	
Unbilled expenses (estimated)	\$3,050
Campus job	-\$1,800
Total Estimated Indirect Costs ..	\$1,250
Total Family Contribution.....	\$33,000

In summary, as context: The “Total Family Contribution” in the Cost to Family square is the sum of the Total Billed Amount + Total Estimated Indirect Costs.

An Amherst way of learning.

A liberal arts education fosters intellectual curiosity and independent thinking, preparing you to be successful right out of college and anywhere your life and career may take you. And at Amherst, we build on this approach by offering an open curriculum.

Our open curriculum puts you in charge of your academic journey. You'll cross disciplines, explore research opportunities, gain hands-on experience, and craft an area of academic and intellectual focus all your own from our 42 majors.

But don't worry—you won't be on your own! Our expert faculty are leaders and scholars in their disciplines, and provide crucial mentorship and direction to each student they advise (and even to students they don't).

AMHERST COLLEGE MAJORS

American Studies
Anthropology & Sociology *†
Architectural Studies **
Art & the History of Art
Asian American & Pacific Islander Studies**
Asian Languages & Civilizations

Biochemistry & Biophysics**
Biology
Black Studies

Chemistry
Classics*
Classical Civilization*
Computer Science

Economics
Education Studies **
English

Environmental Studies
European Studies **

Film & Media Studies **
French

Geology
German
Greek*

History

Latin*
Latinx and Latin American Studies **
Law, Jurisprudence & Social Thought

Mathematics & Statistics *
Music

Neuroscience **

Philosophy
Physics & Astronomy *
Political Science
Psychology

Religion
Russian

Sexuality, Women's & Gender Studies
Spanish

Theater & Dance

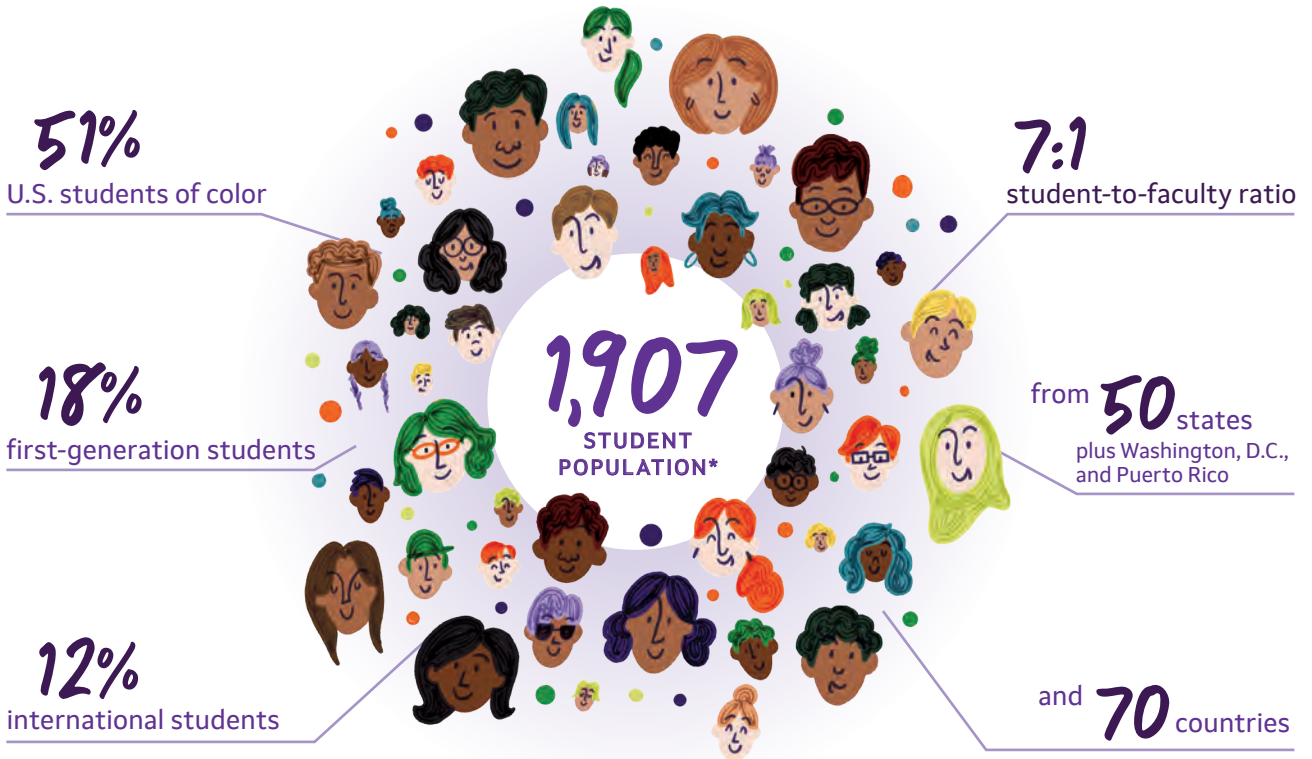


*Separate majors within a single department. ** Program major
† A student may petition to become an anthropology-sociology major.

To learn about our majors, open curriculum, and academics in Amherst, visit or scan:
amherst.edu/go/OpenCurriculum



At Amherst, everybody counts and nobody's a number.



83% of classes have fewer than 30 students

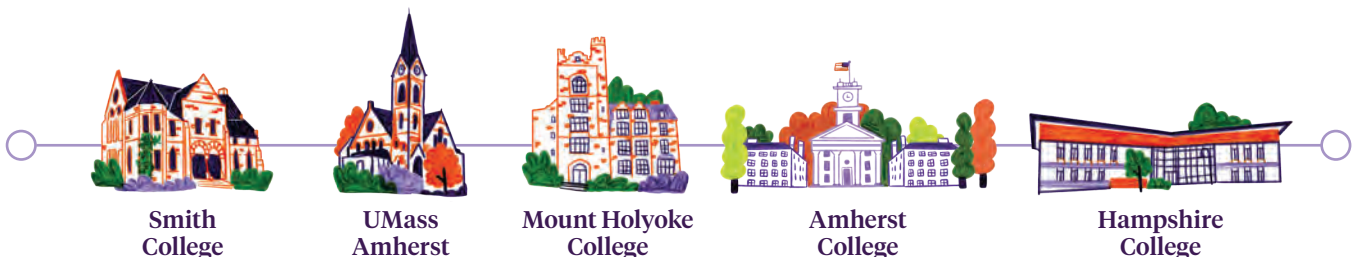
50+ Fulbrights awarded to Amherst students and alumni in the past five years

400+ courses each semester at Amherst

**For the 2023–24 academic year*

Exploring the *Five College Consortium*.

When you go to Amherst College, you have access to classes at three other colleges (Mount Holyoke, Hampshire, Smith) and one university (UMass Amherst). This consortium gives you 7,000+ courses to take and 31,000+ students to hang out with, all in a 10-mile radius and connected by a free bus system.





How will you live *a more* *Amherst life?*

If you can see yourself here,
we hope you can find yourself here.

It's a remarkable place that defies easy definition,
but one where you can make your creativity and
curiosity felt every day.

Here, you'll be surrounded, lifted up and
moved forward by your Amherst family. Your
time here will prepare you to meet and make
sense of life's many challenges. You'll be ready
to bring the liberal arts to your work, to your life,
and to all that you do, with an approach that's
altogether Amherst.

We can't wait to see if you will be a part
of Amherst.

Let's take the next step now.

Statement of Non-Discrimination: Amherst College does not discriminate in admission, employment, or administration of its programs and activities on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, sex or gender (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity), age, disability, genetic information, military service, or any other characteristic or class protected under applicable federal, state, or local law. Amherst College complies with all state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act, and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Amherst College, P.O. Box 5000, Amherst, MA 01002-5000.