

Hampshire College

Amherst,
Massachusetts

A group of students are gathered in a sun-dappled forest, crouching on the ground. They are focused on something in their hands, possibly a small plant or a specimen. The students are dressed in casual attire like t-shirts and jeans. The background is filled with tall trees and lush green foliage, creating a serene and natural setting.

At Hampshire, we approach learning differently.

We believe that students learn best when they progressively acquire the ability to teach themselves. We put this belief into practice through our divisional system and by engaging students in active inquiry and original work. We educate for change, equipping our students to continue their education throughout their lives—and that enables them to improve the world around them.

EVA RUESCHMANN

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF FACULTY,
PROFESSOR OF CULTURAL STUDIES

Only at *Hampshire*

Hampshire is unique among colleges for its divisional academic system, which is designed specifically to support students in creating their own concentration. Instead of completing a preset major, students pursue a personalized, integrative, and active program of study with the support and guidance of a faculty advising committee.

YEAR ONE	YEARS TWO & THREE	YEAR FOUR
Division I	Division II	Division III
Explore	Focus	Create

Division I: Explore it all

First-year courses require a breadth of academic exploration and introduce students to Hampshire's active, inquiry-based education. One course is a tutorial, taught by your advisor to ensure a firm grounding in our academic approach.

Division II: Focus your mind

During their second and third years, students build a personalized course of study, or concentration, with the guidance of faculty. Concentrations often involve combining academic disciplines and crossing intellectual boundaries by drawing from one or more study areas.

Division III: Create something new

A Hampshire education culminates in original work, comprising a major independent study and other advanced educational activities. All students complete Div III during their final year, working with their professors as collaborators and colleagues. Their projects take many forms: research papers, portfolios, exhibits, performances, products, installations, novels, films, animation, software, and beyond.

POSSIBLE AREAS OF STUDY INCLUDE

Africana Studies
Agriculture
American Studies
Animal Behavior
Animation and Digital Art
Anthropology/Archaeology
Applied Design
Architecture/Environmental Design
Art History
Asian Studies
Astronomy
Biological/Life Sciences
Business/Entrepreneurship
Chemistry
Childhood, Youth, and Learning
Cognitive Science
Communications/Media Studies
Computer Science
Creative Writing
Culture, Brain, and Development
Dance
Digital Media
Economics
Education
Environmental Studies/Sustainability
Feminist Studies
Film/Video/Photography
Game Design and Development
Geology
Globalization/Third World Studies
Health/Premedical Studies
History
International Relations
Jewish Studies
Journalism
Latin American Studies
Legal Studies
Linguistics
Literature
Marine Sciences
Mathematics
Middle Eastern Studies
Music
Native American Studies
Neuroscience
Peace and World Security Studies
Philosophy
Physics
Politics
Psychoanalytic Studies
Psychology
Queer Studies
Religion
Social Change
Sociology
Southwest Studies
Studio/Visual Arts
Theatre
Women's Studies
World Language
Writing

These areas of study are intended as samples and do not reflect all possible courses and programs; all Hampshire students design their own areas of concentration in concert with faculty committees.



Build Your Own *Education*

At Hampshire, you'll find ways to combine and expand your interests. You and your professors will work together to design your own personalized program of study based on questions that drive you. Here you'll learn to connect ideas—and to put them into action. You'll build an education that reflects your passions and your goals.

JUST A FEW OF HAMPSHIRE'S WIDE-RANGING RESOURCES

The Center for Design, a unique facility that encompasses 3D modeling, circuit design, welding, blacksmithing, and glassblowing

A 15-acre organic farm that integrates agricultural science (make friends with cows, sheep, and llamas) with alternative technologies—and helps feed our students

42-node Beowulf-style GNU/Linux computing cluster

Jerome Liebling Center for Film, Photography, and Video

An event-related potential (ERP) lab, an electrophysiological data-collection and brainwave-imaging facility (one of the few anywhere open to undergraduates)

➔ Find out more at
hampshire.edu/academics

Usha Lingappa

Hometown: San Francisco, California

Concentration: Astrobiology

"I was very much influenced by meeting and working with really wonderful professors who got me excited and inspired to study things that had never crossed my mind before."

Usha, together with fellow student Marissa Baker-Wagner, initiated a research partnership with Hampshire and Prosetta Antiviral, a biotech company in San Francisco, where both students were involved in research projects—Usha studied the rabies virus and Marissa investigated the dengue virus. They were the only undergraduates to present posters on their projects at the 23rd annual International Conference on Antiviral Research. After graduating from Hampshire, Usha joined Prosetta as an assistant research scientist.



The Power of Five



UMASS

AMHERST COLLEGE

AMHERST

HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

SMITH COLLEGE

NORTHAMPTON

Hampshire is a college of 1,400 students where you'll form close ties with both peers and faculty. Through our membership in the Five College consortium, you'll have access to all the resources of the combined schools—with more than 30,000 other students—at no extra charge. You can take advantage of some 5,300 courses; one of the largest library systems in the world; 900+ student clubs and organizations; and a myriad of social, cultural, and sporting events. Just hop on the free bus system and you're on your way.

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

SOUTH HADLEY

HOLYOKE RANGE



Hampshire's setting in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts is made for college students. It has mountains and rivers for hiking, biking, and kayaking, and its college towns offer an eclectic mix of entertainment, restaurants, and shops.



→ Find out more at www.fivecolleges.edu

Narrative Evaluations

We believe that letter grades are inadequate evaluations. Instead, at Hampshire you'll receive meaningful written and oral feedback on your academic work. The absence of traditional grades enhances collaboration and refocuses academic work on learning.

"Narrative evaluations are immeasurably better academic tools than grades. Yes they require a fair amount of work, however, reading even a single narrative evaluation of a student's progress in a course will teach you more about a student's individual strengths and weaknesses than an entire transcript from a grade-based institution. A grade is like a black hole, smashing things like effort, creativity, attendance, thoroughness, class participation and other factors of performance into a singularity that's impossible to disentangle. As a student, if you receive a low grade, the lesson is, "do better." Boy that's really giving students their money's worth! A well-written narrative evaluation will actually break down areas for improvement and offer suggestions for future learning opportunities."

CHRIS PERRY, PROFESSOR OF MEDIA ARTS AND SCIENCES

A Wide World

Global education opportunities abound at Hampshire. You can choose from established programs or we'll help you craft an experience customized to your interests — across the United States or around the world. In one recent semester, students studied in Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Israel, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Peru, Republic of Guinea, Scotland, South Africa, and Thailand.

Nadine Rea
Fiordlands National Park, NZ

Nadine participated in a field study program with the School for International Training in Queensland, Australia, and then continued her semester through the summer with an internship in New Zealand, where she focused on mycology, the study of fungus.

→ See more:
hampshire.edu/geo



Div III Projects

Projects—the actual making of things—are intrinsic to a Hampshire education. In the final year, students undertake a major independent study project with the guidance of a faculty advising committee. This project is not a report on what students have learned but rather a significant and original contribution to the fields that they have chosen to focus on within their concentration. Here are some examples of original projects created by Division III students.

- Interactive Quantum Computer Programming
- To Be Swallowed Whole: Variations on Red Riding Hood and the Wolf
- Reimagining Mathematics Education in American Public Schooling
- Navigating a Private Loss in the Public Eye: Narratives of 9/11 Family Members
- The World Romanticized Through Comedy: Writing and Producing a Television Sitcom Pilot
- 3D Character Creation for Games and Animation
- Trace Metal Contamination in Sri Lankan Rice: LA-ICP-MS and HPLC Procedures to Determine Etiology of Chronic Kidney Disease
- The Evolutionary Relationship between Speech and Music: Tonality and Emotion
- Untangling the Politics of Maternal Health: Obstetric Care and Labour Management in Dakar, Senegal
- Who is Welcome Here? An Ethnographic Analysis of Small-Scale Urban Design in Oakland & San Francisco

Prateek Rajbhandari

Hometown: Bhaktapur, Nepal

Concentration: Human-powered design and photography

"I've invested as much energy in photography and fine arts as I have in engineering."

An accomplished photographer whose work has been published in magazines and newspapers, including the *New York Times*, Prateek began to lean toward industrial design and engineering through a first-year course he took with Colin Twitchell, a Hampshire alum and Instructional Staff for Design and Innovation for Social Change. In designing his Division II concentration, Prateek fused courses from Hampshire and the Five Colleges to get the right balance of science and engineering, simultaneously creating a multidimensional, independent research project to put the core academics to the test. As a result of this experience, he says he's learned how to manage and research an extensive project independently and responsibly. He's also developed the confidence to tackle even more challenging projects. For his Div III, Prateek designed and fabricated a highly energy-efficient commuter car.

→ See Prateek's Div III at ev.entplex.org



Into the Future

Hampshire educates for a changing world, and that's not only exciting but also essential: by some estimates, 70 percent of today's students will work at jobs not yet invented. Having built their own academic programs, our students are prepared to build their own careers, exercising the creativity and flexibility they practiced at Hampshire. Our narrative evaluations provide employers and graduate programs a holistic picture, one reason why our alumni fare so well in graduate admissions and entrepreneurial ventures.

Non satis scire. To know is not enough. One must also do.

ALUMNI POINTS OF PRIDE

Forbes magazine has named Hampshire to its list of the top 20 colleges for entrepreneurs (including Harvard, MIT, and Stanford).

Top 1% of colleges in the nation whose graduates go on to earn doctorates.

65 percent of Hampshire alumni have earned advanced degrees within 10 years of graduation.

89 percent of Hampshire alumni report receiving a job offer within one year of graduation.

Top fields of employment for our alumni are business, industry, and computers (19 percent); creative/performing arts (17 percent); health professions (16 percent); and education (14 percent).

Institutions at which our graduates enroll most frequently are BU, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, MIT, NYU, Smith, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UMass, and Yale.

"A lot of my spirit was developed at Hampshire."

BETH FERGUSON

Beth is the founder of Sol Design Lab, a studio in San Francisco dedicated to creating interactive renewable energy projects that generate conversations about climate-smart communities. She studied environmental design at Hampshire, graduating in 2000. Beth went on to earn an M.F.A. in design at the University of Texas at Austin, where she invented her first solar charging station.

Life at Hampshire

Hampshire is a residential learning community, with a seamless flow of academic, social, and personal life. Students live in five “houses” on campus, each of which has a common area, along with housing directors to help with programs and events. At Hampshire, some 80% of rooms are singles. As a college with its own organic farm, Hampshire is committed to good eating—healthy, great-tasting food provided through environmentally sustainable practices. You can even purchase shares in our farm’s community-supported agriculture program and cook up your veggies (and eggs and meat) in your on-campus house.

Outdoors Program and Recreational Athletics

OPRA offers intercollegiate and club sports, on-campus recreational resources, and off-campus adventures. You can enjoy:

Instruction in areas such as yoga, outdoor leadership, SCUBA/CPR/First Aid certification, martial arts, rock climbing, backcountry navigation, kayaking, skiing, and much more!

Day and weekend trips for activities ranging from snowboarding to sea kayaking.

Far-flung and intensive January-term and spring-break adventures—rock climbing in Spain, anyone?

Intercollegiate competition in the Yankee Small College Conference, with men’s and women’s basketball, cross-country, and soccer.

Resources: 12,000-square-foot playing floor, 30-foot climbing wall, bouldering cave, competition-sized swimming pool, sauna, weight room, tennis and basketball courts (indoor and outdoor), soccer fields, bike shop, extensive nature-trail system, and, across the road from campus, 60 miles of hiking, biking, and cross country trails in the Holyoke Range.

A VERY PARTIAL, EXTREMELY RANDOM, HIGHLY ARBITRARY SELECTION OF HAMPSHIRE'S 100+ STUDENT GROUPS

Alternative Sexuality Collective
Amnesty International
Animal Behavior Club
Bart's Arm Art Collective
Blacksmiths' Guild
Circus Folk Unite!
Climbers Coalition
Contra Dance Collective
Crazy Pitches
Excalibur
Gender Identity Resource Network
Growing Farmers Collective Hampshire
College Emergency
Medical Services (HCEMS)
Hampshire College Writers' Circle
Hampshire Confucius
Jewish Student Union
Mad Science Club
NDC Improv
People of Color Telling Testimonios
Pre-Law Society
Project Teach
Queer Community Alliance
Red Scare Ultimate Frisbee
* Shake and Bake
Students of Under-Represented Cultures and Ethnicities (SOURCE)
The Climax (student newspaper)
The Yurt (media center and campus radio station)
Theater Collective
For the most up-to-date list, visit groups.hampshire.edu

900+

student groups across the Five Colleges, all of which are open to Hampshire students.

* You had to know, didn't you? This group gets together to read Shakespeare and bake pies, such as A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth by Chocolate.

➔ Learn more about co-cycle: co-cycle.coop



More about *Hampshire*

Who we are: one of the most innovative liberal arts colleges in the country, preparing students to understand and responsibly participate in a complex world.

Location: Amherst, Massachusetts—rated the best college town in the United States by two independent surveys and one of the 10 “brainiest cities” in the country by The Atlantic Cities website.

The Power of Five: our students have full access to all the courses and facilities offered by each member of the Five College consortium—Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts Amherst—at no additional cost.

Small, diverse student community: 1,400, including 24% students of color and international students.

Student-to-faculty ratio: 11:1

Average class size: 15

Faculty: 92% of Hampshire faculty hold the Ph.D. or highest degree in their field.

Campus life: more than 100 student clubs and organizations (and 900+ more through the Five Colleges); intercollegiate varsity and club sports; and an extensive outdoor recreation program that offers courses and trips.

Financial aid: annual award budget of \$28 million, comprising need-based grants and merit scholarships. 84% of students receive financial aid from the College, with financial aid packages ranging from \$5,500–\$59,082 and averaging at \$35,143.

See for *Yourself*

Visiting Hampshire is the single most important way to get to know what the College has to offer you. We hold group information sessions and tours on weekdays at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. In addition, we're open on select Saturdays throughout the year. If you're a high school senior, you can request an individual interview or an overnight visit in the spring. We also offer open houses and preview days that allow you to sit in on classes. Sign up for your visit or register for upcoming events at visit.hampshire.edu.

Admissions Office

Hampshire College
893 West Street
Amherst, MA 01002
877.937.4267 (toll-free)
413.559.5471
Fax: 413.559.5631
admissions@hampshire.edu



Hampshire College affirms publicly its moral and legal commitment to equal opportunity in education. Hampshire does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, expression/gender identification, or sexual orientation in the admission of students or administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic or other college programs. No qualified disabled person shall be excluded from participation in any activity or program of the College on the basis of his or her disability. This school is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant alien students.



Hampshire College

893 West Street
Amherst, MA 01002-3359

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hampshire College

 www.hampshire.edu