

# SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

## OVERVIEW

Located amid the lakes and mountains of central New Hampshire, Holderness School is a traditional co-ed independent secondary school, serving grades 9-12. Holderness strives to create a balance in fostering the resources of the mind, body, and spirit: the mind through a challenging college preparatory curriculum, the body through outdoor activities and required interscholastic athletics, and the spirit through school and community service, ongoing anti-racism work, and affiliation with the Episcopal Church. Holderness remains, by choice, a small school where everyone plays an important role, and where students and faculty maintain close personal relationships.

### HOLDERNESS AT A GLANCE

- **Enrollment:** 301 students
- **Grades:** 9-12
- **Boarding/Day Distribution:** 264 boarding/37 day
- **Geographic Distribution:** Students hail from 24 states and 10 countries, including Bermuda, Canada, China, The Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and Thailand
- **Teaching Faculty:** 52
- **Student/Faculty Ratio:** 6:1
- **Average Class Size:** 10
- **Faculty Average Years of Experience:** 16
- **Faculty Tenure at Holderness >10 years:** 37%
- **Faculty Holding Advanced Degrees:** 71%

## ACADEMIC STATEMENT

At Holderness School, we are guided by an academic mission which seeks to develop students who:

- Can articulate and understand *how* they learn as well as what they learn
- Find a sustaining fuel in learning and not simply in earning good grades
- Recognize that effective learning happens both inside and outside the classroom
- Embrace the premise that all learning starts with asking good questions
- Exhibit a growth mindset in all things
- Are defined by curiosity, resilience, compassion and a sense of humor
- Actively work to build an equitable and inclusive culture in their community

## ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19

**Spring 2020:** Holderness quickly shifted to distance learning after spring break in March 2020. Students learned both synchronously and asynchronously. **There was no change to our grading system.**

**2020-2021 Academic Year:** Students received in-person instruction from the start of the school year through Thanksgiving break, then completed the final two weeks of the semester via distance learning. Instruction was in-person throughout the spring semester. Courses ran Monday-Friday with new healthiness, social justice, service, and other grade-specific programming on Saturdays. Any students who were not able to join us for in-person instruction were accommodated with a similar and equally rigorous distance learning program, enhanced by improved technology infrastructure across campus. **There was no change to our grading system.**

**Fall 2021:** We have been able to return to our regular pre-Covid schedule with full in-person instruction, family style meals, and chapels. **There continues to be no change to our grading system.**

## COLLEGE OFFICE CONTACTS

**R. Phillip Peck**, *Head of School*

**Bruce Barton**, *Director of College Counseling* (603)779-5311

**Sarah Barton**, *Associate Director of College Counseling* (603)779-5302

**Pam Mulcahy**, *Associate Director of College Counseling* (603)779-5332

**Peter Durnan**, *Dean of Academic Affairs* (603)779-5305

**Stephen Uhlman**, *Assistant to the Director of College Counseling* (603)779-5207

## MAILING ADDRESS

**Holderness School**  
PO Box 1879  
Plymouth, NH 03264

## PHYSICAL ADDRESS

**Holderness School**  
33 Chapel Lane  
Holderness, NH 03245

## ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

(603)536-1257  
(603)536-2125 fax  
[www.holderness.org](http://www.holderness.org)

## JOB PROGRAM AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Students at Holderness play an active role in the daily management of the school. In a unique balloting system, student leaders are elected by all members of the community (including adults) on the basis of dependability, initiative, fairness, and empathy. Every student at Holderness participates daily in the Job Program, serving in myriad support capacities and learning important lessons of individual responsibility.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Each March, the school begins its two-week period of Special Programs. Students, grouped by graduating class, engage in activities that address lessons of mind, body, and spirit through hands-on experience:

- **PROJECT OUTREACH:** Leadership begins by knowing how to serve others, so in March, the ninth graders travel to Massachusetts where they stay at Christ Church United in Downtown Lowell and work with a variety of non-profit organizations.
- **ARTWARD BOUND:** Artward Bound is a nationally-recognized program during which we invite working artists from all over the country to work closely with and perform alongside our tenth-grade students and faculty.
- **OUT BACK:** In March, the junior class disperses into the White Mountains for a ten-day hike, three days of which are spent alone. Generations of Holderness students have discovered endurance, resilience, and self-confidence through Out Back.
- **SENIOR THESIS:** In this year-long course, students practice research and presentation skills with guidance from a class advisor and mentoring from adults with expertise within the student's field of interest. In March, they embark on self-designed, hands-on learning opportunities and in May present their theses to the school community.

## CURRICULUM

All courses are advanced/college preparatory, seeking to prepare students for success at the highest levels in college. Honors courses are offered in Chemistry, Physics, Algebra 2, and Precalculus.

Many new courses have been added for the 2021-22 academic year; here are a few highlights:

*Adv. English Seminar: The Novella:* In this writing focused advanced seminar, students will complete a rough draft of their own novella over the course of a semester. In this process they will learn how to structure narratives, create plots, develop characters, and produce sustained creative writing habits.

*US History 2: A History of Native Americans in Northern New England:* This survey course will focus on the Abenaki and consider the sophisticated culture and society they had developed as First Peoples, the immediate impact of European invasion, the genocide that followed, and the struggle to reclaim sovereignty that continues to this day.

*Live Mic:* In this course, students will explore finding their voice to tell a story through various styles and methods of articulation including a Moth Radio Hour inspired approach to storytelling, spoken word poetry, and the more metered and energetic genre of Slam.

## AP COURSES (18) INCLUDE:

- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Statistics
- Biology
- Environmental Science
- Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
- Physics C: Mechanics
- Computer Science
- Comparative Government and Politics
- European History
- Economics
- US/European History: Advanced History of the West
- French Language and Culture
- Spanish Language and Culture
- Spanish Literature and Culture
- 2D Art and Design

## GPA AND CLASS RANK

Holderness does not report GPA on transcripts or rank its students.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT RESULTS: ALL STUDENTS, 2019-21

COURSE	# TAKING EXAM	% SCORING 3+
2-D Art and Design	5	100%
Biology	30	77%
Calculus AB	64	78%
Calculus BC	36	78%
Chemistry	2	50%
Comparative Government	39	77%
Computer Science A	25	84%
Drawing	1	100%
English Language	122	70%
English Literature	49	53%
Environmental Science	86	42%
European History	82	54%
French Language and Culture	7	100%
Human Geography	1	100%
Macroeconomics	76	32%
Microeconomics	46	50%
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	14	86%
Physics C: Mechanics	41	83%
Psychology	3	100%
Spanish Language	20	85%
Spanish Literature	6	83%
Statistics	40	88%
US History	59	59%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>64%</b>

## COLLEGE DESTINATIONS, CLASSES OF 2019-21

Adrian College  
American University  
The American University of Paris  
Babson College  
Bard College  
Bates College  
Bentley University  
Berklee College of Music  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bryant University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bucknell University  
University of California - Irvine  
University of California - Los Angeles  
University of California - San Diego  
Carleton College  
Case Western Reserve University  
Castleton University  
Chapman University  
Clark University  
Clarkson University  
Colby College  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Colorado College  
Colorado School of Mines  
Columbia University  
Concordia University - Montreal  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
University of Delaware  
Denison University  
University of Denver  
Dickinson College  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University -  
Daytona Beach  
Emmanuel College  
Endicott College  
Fairfield University  
University of Florida  
Fordham University  
Franklin and Marshall College  
Gettysburg College  
Hamilton College  
Hobart William Smith Colleges  
College of the Holy Cross  
CUNY Hunter College  
Indiana University - Bloomington  
Ithaca College  
Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson & Wales University - Providence  
Lafayette College  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Maine College of Art  
University of Maine  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
University of Massachusetts - Amherst  
Merrimack College  
University of Michigan  
Middlebury College  
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
University of New Hampshire - Durham  
New York University  
University of North Carolina at Chapel  
Hill  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College  
Occidental College  
Paul Smiths College  
University of Pennsylvania  
Pepperdine University  
University of Pittsburgh  
Plymouth State University  
Providence College  
Reed College  
University of Richmond  
Saint Joseph's College of Maine  
Saint Michael's College  
Salve Regina University  
Santa Clara University  
Seattle University  
Sierra Nevada College  
Skidmore College  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
Southern Methodist University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
St Bonaventure University  
St. Lawrence University  
The College of Saint Scholastica  
Stanford University  
Stonehill College  
Suffolk University  
Swarthmore College  
Syracuse University  
Texas Christian University  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Trinity College  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
University of Glasgow  
University of St Andrews  
University of Utah  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College  
University of Vermont  
Villanova University  
Virginia Military Institute  
University of Virginia  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Wheaton College  
College of William and Mary  
Williams College  
University of Wisconsin - Madison



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Chapel Lane

Post Office Box 1879

Plymouth, NH 03264-1879

Telephone: 603-536-1257

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