

HOTCHKISS IN THE WORLD

2024-25 TRAVEL, LANGUAGE, AND IMMERSION PROGRAMS



HOTCHKISS

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Dear students and families,

We have planned a number of exciting opportunities to help students learn in ways that are not possible in Lakeville. Although these sojourns – whether in the U.S. or to other countries – take us far from campus, they are rooted in the Hotchkiss academic and co-curricular programs.

To learn more about any of the programs described in this catalog, please contact the leaders listed in this brochure. More detailed itineraries, costs, and schedules for pre-departure orientation sessions will be available in the months to come.

An electronic application for all of the programs has been made available to students. Students receiving financial aid automatically qualify for grants from the Funds for Global Understanding, which exist to support travel, cultural immersion, and community-based work in the developing world.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

October 30, 2024, 10:00 p.m. EST — Program applications for March Break Hotchkiss programs (Arizona, England, Greece, and HBCU's), as well as Hotchkiss in Spain (Humanities program in June) are due. Interest forms for Hotchkiss in Québec and March Break athletic travel are also due.

December 18, 2024, 10:00 p.m. EST — Applications for the MacLeish Scholars program are due - these are available from Dr. Blevins.

January 29, 2025, 10:00 p.m. EST — Program applications for summer Hotchkiss programs and Hersey Scholars are due.

Please contact me or Jingxia Yang with any questions, and I hope that you have fun exploring these opportunities!



David L. Thompson
Director of International Programs
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Hotchkiss in Québec (French immersion)

January 15-19, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$650: Includes transportation, meals, accommodation, and program.

LEADERS

Sarinda Wilson, Wendy Levithan, and Souleman Toure

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2024 by 10:00 p.m. EST

Although only five days long, this full immersion into French-Canadian culture and language is a wonderful opportunity to improve students' French skills and see the material covered in class come alive.

We are working in partnership with l'Ecole Le Salésien, a Round Square school in Sherbrooke. Students and teachers will stay with carefully chosen host families, and a bilingual guide will lead daytime activities in Québec City.

Our itinerary will include a variety of cultural and historical visits, a day of classes with our hosts, as well as outdoor activities in the brisk winter air. Students will be prepared for the immersion aspect of the trip through readings and discussions on French-Canadian culture, all part of the French 350 and 380 curricula. Year after year, students increase their comfort with the language they study together on campus, but they also learn beyond their French classrooms, gain confidence in themselves, and build friendships.

Please note: Hats, mittens, snow boots, and French are required! This program is open to students in French 350 and 380; as it is part of the course, there is a different application process. Depending on citizenship, students may require visas, and should begin the process as soon as the group is finalized. The program will be limited to a maximum of 18 students.

Hotchkiss in Arizona (High altitude training, outdoor adventure, and service)

March 10 - 17, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$5,500: Includes RT airfare from JFK, ground transportation, meals, accommodation, and program.

LEADERS

Pierre Yoo and Sam Somera

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2025 by 10:00 p.m. EST



We hope that you will join us in this physical adventure in Arizona. The program is centered on training at high altitude in Flagstaff and day hikes to and around the Grand Canyon. Working with STRIVE trips, we will blend in components of elevation, engagement, and the environment.

Elevation: Led by two coaches of the Track & Field program, we have the opportunity to train in high altitudes. On certain days, we will have multiple sessions each day of either running and/or hiking at around 7,000 feet elevation. This training will benefit anyone who desires to be physically prepared for the upcoming spring athletic season.

Engagement: We will have the opportunity to engage with the local residents in Flagstaff. We plan to work at the Flagstaff Family Food Center on multiple days. This center has invested in the local community for more than thirty years.

Environment: Erosion by the Colorado River formed the Grand Canyon over a long period of time. We plan to camp overnight and then hike into the Grand Canyon on the morning of the last full day. We also plan (subject to change) to visit Horseshoe Bend, Montezuma's Castle, Antelope Canyon, and mystical Sedona. We will be able to not only marvel at these natural wonders but learn about the process of erosion in geological time.

Please note: The athletic component can be customized to a range of levels. We encourage anyone who desires to improve their strength and conditioning, experience the Grand Canyon, and explore the stunning southwestern part of the United States.

HBCU's in the DMV

March 8-13, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$3,500: Includes transportation, all meals, accommodation, and program.

LEADERS

Sienna Brann and Langston Ross

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2024 by 10:00 p.m. EST



This tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is an immersive six-day educational journey. Students will explore the profound contributions of African-American luminaries such as Earl Graves, Ta-nehisi Coates and Frederick Douglass through the universities that shaped them.

By visiting a range of HBCUs in Baltimore, D.C., and Northern Virginia, students will step into the rich history of these institutions, gaining firsthand insights into the courageous individuals who reshaped America's systems in their quest for a more equitable world.

Through visits to iconic campuses like Coppin State University, Morgan State University, and Howard University, participants will delve into the legacies of these remarkable figures, engaging in thought-provoking discussions to foster a deeper understanding of their enduring impact and inspire positive change in their own lives and communities.

Please note: The estimated cost includes the flight to the Baltimore / D.C. area. Families should plan to arrange their own transportation home at the end of the program. The leaders will communicate departure times with the students and families once the group is set.

The Lakes, the Peaks, and the Moors: Literary England

March 7 – 17, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$4,900: Includes international airfare, meals, accommodation, and program.

LEADERS

Katie Fleishman and
Kinyette Henderson

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2024 by 10:00 p.m. EST



Discover the historic homes, sweeping landscapes, and hidden inspirations of some of England's greatest writers on this ten-day literary walking tour of the North.

We begin in York, a 2,000 year-old city with fascinating sites from the Roman, Viking medieval, Tudor, and Victorian periods. We will visit the ruined abbey at Whitby, built over the site of the first poem ever composed in English, which later served as inspiration for Bram Stoker's *Dracula* and A.S. Byatt's *Possession*. On our final day in Yorkshire, we will explore the scenic moors, hiking out to a waterfall steeped in local folklore and gazing over the limestone pavements at Malham Cove.

Next, we journey to the Lake District, home of English Romantic poetry. Over two days, we will sample Grasmere gingerbread, take afternoon tea, visit both homes of the Wordsworths, see the lakeside residence of critic John Ruskin, and wander the picturesque home and gardens of Beatrix Potter. Finally, we will climb the spectacular path to Stickle Tarn, a mountain lake, followed by a well-earned meal at a local pub.

Our travels conclude with three days in the Peaks District, beginning with its charming Georgian towns, as well as hikes to natural rock features like Lud's Church, thought to be the inspiration for the medieval poem *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. We will also stop in Hathersage, which inspired Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, and Haworth parsonage, where the Brontë sisters spent their childhood.

Please note: This program features extensive walking and time outdoors, regardless of the weather, which can be variable in March. Depending on citizenship, students may require visas, and should begin the process *as soon as the group is finalized*.

Hotchkiss in Greece (Classics)

March 7-15, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$4,800: Includes RT airfare from JFK, lodging, meals, and entrance to museums and tours.

LEADERS

David Conti

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2024 by 10:00 p.m. EST



The Hotchkiss Classics Program is excited to provide a week-long program in Greece for all students who are interested in the ancient world and the continuing influence of Greece on the modern world.

This journey will rely on many of the texts read in the Classics classes at Hotchkiss, but translations will be provided to all students, making this accessible to any student at Hotchkiss.

We'll start in Athens, the largest city in Greece, where we'll visit the temples on the Acropolis, the Agora, and the Theater of Dionysus. While in Athens, we'll also visit the Acropolis Museum and the National Archeological Museum, home of some of the most important pieces of Greek art, from the Mask of Agamemnon to the Antikythera Mechanism. Athens is a lively, exciting city, where we'll enjoy Greek food and the city's main squares. Outside of Athens, we'll spend a day at Mycenae, the center of Mycenaean civilization, where we'll walk around the citadel and the tombs. Another excursion will take us to Delphi, high in the mountains, the site of the Delphic Oracle.

For our final days, we'll travel to Crete where we'll spend time among sites that were ancient even to the Greeks in the time of Socrates. After a short flight, we'll visit the Palace at Knossos with its labyrinthine tunnels and rooms. From there, we'll explore Minoan sites nearby and have a little time to relax on the island before the long trip back to New York.

Please note: Students pursuing the Classics Diploma will have preference, but all students interested in the ancient world are welcome to apply. Depending on citizenship, students may require visas, *and should begin the process as soon as the group is finalized*. The program ends on March 15 at JFK airport, and students need to plan travel home for the remainder of the break. We also want to recognize that it is through the generosity of Hotchkiss graduates and families that we can offer this experience at this price.

Hersey Scholars
(Research on history,
political science, culture,
and/or philosophy)

Summer 2025



ESTIMATED COST

Room, board, and program are covered by a generous grant to the School. Travel to and from the program is the responsibility of the student.

LEADERS

Dr. Thomas Fisher

APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 29, 2025, 10:00 pm EST



The Hersey Scholars Program is named in honor of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and novelist, John Hersey, Hotchkiss Class of 1932. Hersey's investigative reporting on the bombing of Hiroshima revealed the true impact of the bomb and the effects of radiation sickness that had not been disclosed to the public. His work contributed to establishing a "nuclear taboo" in war.

Hersey Scholars learn how to conduct archival research and execute a substantial research project of their own design. The program begins with a two-week summer session in Cambridge/Boston, where students comb through the archives of the Boston Public Library and Harvard's Schlesinger library during the day and meet with teachers in the evening to organize their findings and direct their searches for the next day.

In the fall, Hersey Scholars enroll in Advanced Research Methods in the Humanities, where they build on their archival work from the summer while learning about the theory and practice of contemporary academic research in the humanities. In the spring, Scholars enroll in the Hersey Seminar where they develop their proposal from the fall into a capstone paper through graduate-seminar-style workshops and presentations.

Please note: Historically, 40-50 students apply to the Hersey program each year. A faculty committee reviews all applications and interviews candidates. Eight students are selected each year, and preparation for the summer program begins immediately upon selection.

Hotchkiss in Andalucía (Humanities)

June 9-17, 2025



Using medieval Spain and the so-called Andalusian *convivencia* as our subjects, our travels throughout the country will explore the intersection of religion and power manifested in texts, language, art, architecture, and history.

Our objective is to provide an experience that demonstrates the interconnectedness of our academic disciplines (Classical and Modern Languages, H&SS, and Visual and Performing Arts), and to show how power is achieved, maintained, and even lost through culture. Students will be immersed in the waxing and waning of successive empires from the Roman period to the 20th century at the intersections of different forms of religion: Visigothic Christianity, variations of Islamic culture, Sephardic Jewishness, and monarchic Catholicism.

Join us in June as we explore this intersection of Jews, Christians, and Muslims, with visits to the Garden of Three Cultures in Madrid; St. Mary's Synagogue and Sephardic Museum in Toledo; the Sephardic Synagogue and Islamic Mezquita in Córdoba; the oldest Jewish quarters in Europe; the Cathedral in Sevilla; and the greatest of all Andalusian palaces, the Alhambra, in the heart of Granada

Please note: This program is open to all students. A valid passport is required, and depending on citizenship, some students may need to apply for a visa. The estimated cost is for a group of 10 students. If more than 10 students participate, the program cost will go down. We will not be able to run this program with fewer than 10.

ESTIMATED COST

\$6,100: Includes international airfare, ground transportation, tour guide, meals, accommodation, gratuities, and program.

LEADERS

Dr. Jason Larson and
Ms. Carmen Dockery

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 30, 2024, 10:00 pm EST

Hotchkiss in France

June 14-26, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$6,500 with international round trip airfare (New York to Paris), classes, tour guides, lodging, most meals, ground transportation, and all activities.

LEADERS

Wendy Levithan and
Sarinda Wilson

APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 29, 2025, 10:00 p.m. EST



Join us to explore two distinct parts of France, the natural landscape of the Auvergne region and the port city of Marseille on the Mediterranean Sea.

Our group will depart together on Saturday, June 14th, 2025. From Paris, we will take a train to begin our program in Vichy in partnership with *Le Cavilam /Alliance Française*.

In Vichy we'll spend a week in individual homestay families selected by *Le Cavilam* and participate in morning classes with instructors from the school. They will guide our language practice in the context of historical discovery and current events. We'll engage in cultural visits, explore Vichy's place in WWII history, and learn more about its reputation as a destination for health and wellness. Afternoons will include fun outdoor activities, learning about local traditions, and gastronomic treats.

We'll depart from Vichy by high-speed train to Marseille and spend a night in Avignon where we'll take in the annual Fête de la Musique. We'll arrive in Marseille in time for lunch and orientation to our new environs on Sunday, June 22nd. We have partnered with Envoys to learn more about this vibrant port city and our guide is an educator and professional *Marseillologue* who will lead our discovery of this geographical hub of immigration to France.

From Marseille, we'll travel by train to Paris on Thursday, June 26th, where our program will end. Students will continue on to their chosen summer destination from Paris.

Please note: This program is designed as a language & cultural immersion program, and is open to motivated students who have taken French 270 or higher. Depending on citizenship, visas may be required, and students should begin the application process *as soon as the group is selected*

Hotchkiss in Italy Summer Music Program

June 23 to July 6, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$3,800 per student, including food, ground transportation, lodging and program in Brescia. *Does not include* international airfare.

LEADERS

Gisele Witkowski,
Fabio Witkowski, and Sara Forbes

APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 29, 2025 by 10:00 p.m. EST

Students embrace the rhythms of daily life in Italy in the unique setting of Brescia, Italy.

While engaging in their chosen course of study, students will thrive in the stimulating environment of a Music Festival – daily lessons, rehearsals, concerts, and master classes. Activities will be complemented by concerts and excursions to significant points of interest in the area: museums, churches, and architectural landmarks in Brescia, Lago Maggiore, Verona, and Venice.

Hotchkiss Head of the Arts Department and Director of the Music Program Fabio Witkowski and Gisele Nacif Witkowski, both music teachers at Hotchkiss, will oversee the music program at the Brescia Music Academy, which will offer a full immersion study experience in piano and orchestra instruments.

A routine day consists of ample individual practice time, private lessons or masterclasses with guest performers, and ensemble rehearsals in addition to attending a concert or visiting a cultural site. All students will be able to enhance their technique and musical understanding. As a culminating experience, all students participate in at least one public performance.

Please note: Spaces are limited for this program. In addition, visas are required for many visitors to Italy, so it is important to begin the application process *as soon as* the group has been selected..

Hotchkiss in Tanzania

June 5-17, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

\$6,500 per person, including food, ground transportation, lodging, and program.

LEADERS

Kinyette Henderson

APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 29, 2025, 10:00 p.m. EST



Hotchkiss in Tanzania: A Journey Through Girlhood

What does it mean to be a girl in different spaces, cultures, and times?

This travel program offers a unique opportunity for 12-14 students at Hotchkiss to visit the Girls Foundation of Tanzania in Arusha, where they will explore the complexities and nuances of what it means to identify as a girl in Tanzania.

Through immersive experiences at the Girls Center, participants will create meaningful connections, exchange stories, and develop a deeper understanding of the cultural, social, and economic factors that shape the lives of young girls in this vibrant region. The students will also assist the Foundation's staff in preparing local girls for their upcoming travels to Europe and the United States, fostering a sense of global sisterhood and mutual empowerment.

The journey will begin with a pre-travel excursion to the Serengeti, offering a chance for the students to bond and reflect on the adventures ahead in one of the world's most iconic natural landscapes. As they transition to their time at the Girls Foundation, they will be challenged to step outside their comfort zones, share their own experiences, and welcome new perspectives. This program aims to build cross-cultural understanding, encourage personal growth, and inspire participants to become advocates for gender equality in their own communities.

MacLeish Scholars

(Archival research on literature, creative writing, and bookbinding)

June 7-22, 2025



ESTIMATED COST

Room, board, and program are covered by a generous grant from Richard Bernstein '64. Travel to and from the program is the responsibility of the student.

LEADERS

Dr. Jeffrey Blevins

APPLICATION DEADLINE

December 18, 2024, 10:00 pm EST



The MacLeish Scholars Program is named in honor of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Archibald MacLeish, Hotchkiss Class of 1911. MacLeish graduated from Yale and authored more than 50 works of poetry, nonfiction, and drama.

From our home in Yale's Beinecke Library, students undertake archival research on a literary subject, complete a substantial creative writing project, and practice classical forms of papermaking, bookbinding, and letterpress printing. The two week summer program is followed by a year-long honors course in which students build their summer research into a substantial senior thesis.

During the summer, scholars and faculty will live and eat in the dormitories at Yale. Mornings will be spent researching in the Beinecke, and many hours will be set aside for writing and workshopping as a group. Evening meetings with teachers will ensure that Scholars are gathering sufficient primary documents through the broad canvassing of papers related to their author or subject.

To complement their research and academic writing, Scholars will undertake a creative project during their afternoons such as a book of poems, a set of short stories, or a novella. Scholars will also work with an experienced printer towards the goal of producing an artistic, personal product to hold (and to display) their creative work. Scholars will create their own book, doing everything from designing the cover, choosing and setting the font, making the book's paper, and binding it in a manner of their choosing.

Please note: A faculty committee reviews all applications and interviews candidates. Ten students are selected by early spring, and preparation for the program begins immediately upon selection.