

# HOTCHKISS IN THE WORLD

2026-27 IMMERSION, LANGUAGE, AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS



**HOTCHKISS**

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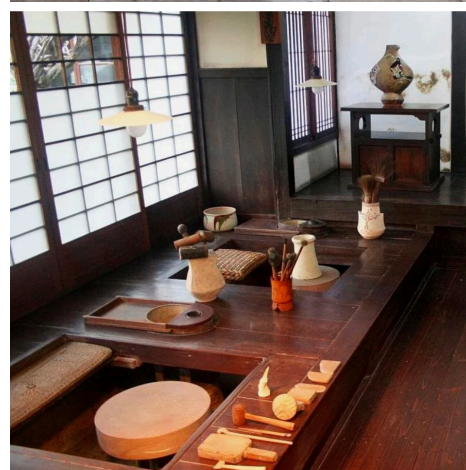
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Dear Students and Families,

The opportunities you will find in this catalog are designed 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.

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.

An electronic application for all of the programs has been made available to students. Please make note of these important deadlines:

## **IMPORTANT DEADLINES:**

### **October 1, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST**

Applications for Hotchkiss in Germany

### **October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST**

Program applications for Québec (January) and March Break programs in England, Italy, and Spain are due. 4th Marking Period and summer exchange applications are also due. Interest forms for March Break athletic travel should be completed.

### **January 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. EST**

Applications for Argentina, Iceland, Italy (music), Japan, and St. Kitts and Nevis programs. Summer Scholars Programs (Art History, Euclid to Einstein, Hersey, MacLeish, and Matthiessen) 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  
dthompso@hotchkiss.org  
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# Hotchkiss in Germany (History, cultural immersion)

December 16-23, 2026



## ESTIMATED COST

\$4,500: Includes international airfare, accommodations, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, most meals, ground transportation, and all activities.

## LEADERS

Marc Dittmer and Cooper Puls

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 1, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST



Embark on an immersive cultural and educational journey across Bavaria this December with Hotchkiss faculty members Mr. Marc Dittmer and Mr. Cooper Puls. Departing from JFK on December 16th, twelve students will experience the rich history, vibrant traditions, and festive holiday atmosphere of southern Germany.

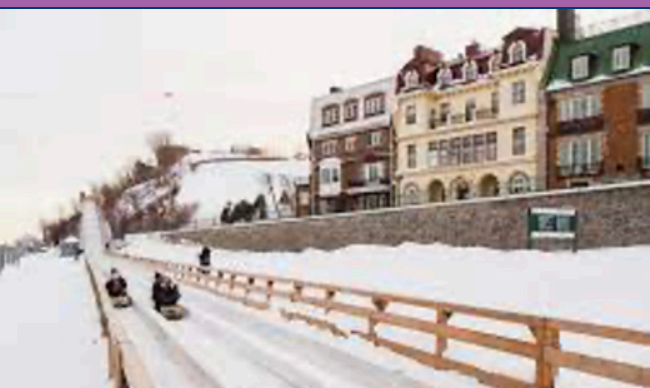
The journey begins in Munich with a walking tour of the city center and traditional dining at the world-famous Hofbräuhaus, balanced by a solemn, educational visit to the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site. Moving on to Nürnberg, students will explore the world-renowned Christkindlesmärkte (Christmas markets), take a guided tour of the Documentation Center Nazi Party Rally Grounds, and enjoy a unique culinary performance at the Alexander Herrmann Palazzo.

Regional excursions will take the group through the medieval streets of Rothenburg ob der Tauber, complemented by local entertainment at a Nürnberg Ice Tigers hockey game. The trip concludes back in Munich, showcasing German engineering and modern history with stops at the BMW Museum, Olympic Park, and opportunities to visit the Deutsches Museum or Nymphenburg Palace. Students will return to New York City on December 23rd having gained a deeper perspective on German history, culture, and language.

**Please note:** This program is designed as a language, culture, and historical immersion program. It is open to all students and does not require any proficiency in German. Depending on citizenship, visas may be required, and students should begin the application process as soon as the group is selected.

# Hotchkiss in Québec (Language immersion)

January 13-17, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$680: Includes transportation, most meals, accommodation, and program.

## LEADERS

Sarinda Parsons Wilson and  
Wendy Levithan

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST



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 spend four nights 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 gain 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 16 students.

# Hotchkiss in England (cultural immersion and universities)

March 6-14, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$7,400: Includes international airfare, accommodations, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, meals, ground transportation, and all activities.

## LEADERS

Jordana Irzyk, Sydney Minnehan,  
and Sarinda Wilson

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST



During March Break, students will visit historic landmarks, universities, and literary sites in London, England.

With United Kingdom (UK) universities seen as increasingly popular options for both U.S. and international students, this program provides the opportunity for students to visit six universities in and around London. Students will learn more about the UCAS application process for UK universities, draft academic personal statements, and receive an overview of the AP exam process.

Our travels to the Jane Austen Centre, Oxford's Bodleian Library and Blackwell's Book Shop, as well as Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey will inspire writing activities tailored to aid student reflection and creative writing.

**Please note:** that there will be significant walking. Students should also be prepared to take multiple and frequent forms of public transportation, including trains and buses. As the program aims to familiarize students with the UK university application process and system, priority will be given to upper mids and lower mids. Depending on citizenship, visas may be required, and students should begin the application process as soon as the group is selected.

# Hotchkiss in Italy (Classics)

March 5-14, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$4,000: Includes international airfare, accommodations, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, meals, ground transportation, and all activities.

## LEADERS

David Conti and Kelsie Fralick

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST



In March 2027, the Hotchkiss Classics Program will travel with students to Rome for ten days to explore the ancient, Renaissance and modern city.

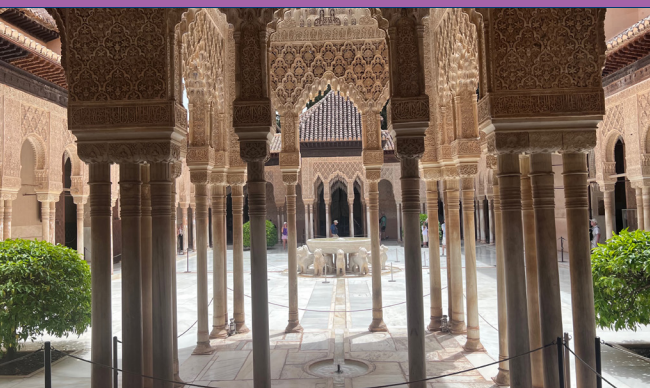
Our visit to Rome will focus on the classical past; students will explore the sites they read about in their Latin classes, including the Roman Forum, the city of Ostia, baths, temples and palaces. At the same time, we'll witness the enduring influence of the classical age in museums and churches, including the Capitoline Museums, the Vatican, St. Peter's Basilica and Santa Maria Maggiore.

Students will also enjoy the daily life of modern Rome through time in piazzas, famous shopping streets, lots of traditional food and the best gelato we can find.

**Please note:** While this program is open to all students interested in Classics, we will give priority to students taking Latin, Greek, Art History or a History course that studies the classical world. Depending on citizenship, visas may be required, and students should begin the application process as soon as the group is selected.

# Hotchkiss in Spain (Andalucia - Abrahamic religions)

March 6 - 17, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$6,350: Includes international airfare, ground transportation, tour guide, meals, accommodation, gratuities, and program.

## LEADERS

Jason Larson and Ximena Allub

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST



This program provides an experiential entry into the critical study of culture through religion, language, and historical memory.

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 20th century at the intersections of different forms of religion: Visigothic Christianity, variations of Islamic culture, Sephardic Jewishness, and monarchic Catholicism.

Join us in March 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 some international students may need to apply for a visa. The cost estimate is for a group of 12 students; a smaller group will have a higher cost and we will not be able to run this program with fewer than 10 students.

# Athletic Pre-Season Training

March Break, 2027



These opportunities allow student-athletes a chance to refine skills and get to know others interested in their sport, and also provide the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to represent Hotchkiss in their sport of choice.

Baseball (TBD)

Boys Lacrosse in Florida (March 14-19, 2027)  
J.R. Mastro, Andrew D'Ambrosio, and Cam Kewley

Girls Lacrosse in Florida (March 14-19, 2027)  
Britt Giacco, Kelsie Fralick

Rowing in Oak Ridge, TN (March 5-10, 2027)  
Phil Hodosy, Rebecca Findlay

Sailing in San Diego, CA (March 15-21, 2027)  
Richard Davis, Charlotte Sassano

**Please note:** Participation in these training programs is not a requirement for membership on any team.

**INTEREST FORM IS DUE:**  
October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST

# Fourth Marking Period and Summer Exchanges

March break + a week,  
Fourth Marking Period,  
and Summer, 2027



## APPLICATION DEADLINE

March Break and 4th marking  
period

October 20, 2026, 10:00 p.m. DST  
for Summer

Jan. 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. EST



These exchanges allow our students to explore different national, school, and academic cultures, and often involve home stays with students that have been on exchange to Hotchkiss.

Exchange programs are offered in Colombia, Germany, Peru, and South Africa. Exchanges to Australia, France, India, and Kenya might also be possible.

Students can go on a nine- to ten-week academic exchange during the fourth marking period. Students going during the fourth marking period receive a full year's credit for work done through the third marking period, and structures are in place to ensure that they are ready for their Hotchkiss courses in September.

Summer exchanges of six to seven weeks are also possible.

**Please note:** Because we have so few open beds at the school, it may be that exchanges need to be simultaneous so that the inbound student moves into the room vacated by the Hotchkiss student.

# Hotchkiss in Argentina (language immersion)

June 12-25, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$6,625 Includes international airfare, accommodations, classes, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, meals, and ground transportation.

## LEADERS

Ximena Allub and  
Chris Van Ginhoven Rey

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Jan. 25, 2027, 10 p.m. EST



Live Spanish. Discover Argentina. Explore Uruguay.

This summer, trade the classroom for the vibrant streets of Buenos Aires, Argentina and Colonia, Uruguay. Spend two weeks experiencing Buenos Aires and beyond while living with a host family and taking four hours of daily Spanish instruction.

Walk the historic streets of San Telmo and colorful La Boca, learn fileteado porteño, take an Argentine cooking class, and share mate with locals. Cruise the waterways of Tigre and enjoy a traditional Argentine asado, and one evening experience a tango show. We'll also take a day trip across the Río de la Plata for a day exploring the historic streets of Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay.

With Buenos Aires' walkable neighborhoods and easy public transportation, you'll have the freedom to explore the city and connect with its vibrant culture. More than a travel program, this is an opportunity to live the language, make new connections, and experience two countries from the inside.

**Please note:** This program is designed as a language & historical/cultural immersion program. As such it is open to students motivated to practice their Spanish who are currently enrolled in Spanish at Hotchkiss and/or who possess a level of proficiency approximately equivalent to 270 or above. Graduating seniors are not eligible.

Depending on citizenship, visas may be required, and students should begin the application process as soon as *the group is selected*.

# Hotchkiss in Iceland (outdoor ed.)

June 13 - 24, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$6,300 Includes international airfare, accommodations, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, most meals, ground transportation, and all activities.

## LEADERS

Rebecca Findlay, Sam Somera,  
Michelle Repass

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Jan. 25, 2027, 10 p.m. EST



Together we will consider Iceland's national identity as it relates to history, geography, mythology, and literature.

Iceland is unique in its location and its isolation up to the 21st century. It is also one of the early bridges of the Old World to the New, and its rapid recent development offers insight into both ecological and environmental planning and a highly engaged political system.

Students will experience many facets of Iceland from the moment we land in Keflavik. We will hike and camp on glacial plains, islands, glaciers, and volcanic fields, and visit historical sites and museums, especially in the city of Reykjavik. Locations may include the Golden Circle and Continental Divide; the West Fjords and city of Borgarnes; the black sand beaches, hot springs, and waterfalls near Vik; the puffin- and history-filled Westman Islands; and the glaciers and lagoons near Skaftafell and Vatnajökull, all leading up to the final week on the Laugavegur trail as we cover volcanoes, rivers, and mountain passes.

Students will participate in an experiential trip leadership curriculum, taking ownership of both their individual learning and their community. They will refine skills like cooking, hiking, travel logistics, navigation, and writing, and also practice skills like effective communication, problem-solving, conflict resolution, and decision-making. We'll be reading selections from sagas, eddas, mythology, history, and geological writing, and time for journaling will allow an exploration of mindfulness, self-awareness, and place-based insights. These reflections will be used to help students write their own eddas of our journey.

**Please note:** Students must be able to undertake strenuous, hilly hiking in varied terrain and carry 25+ lbs on their backs over medium-long distance (max 9 miles) days. The destination requires comfort with the outdoors, with varied weather, and close proximity to other people (tents shared with other students and bunk rooms shared with other hikers).

# Hotchkiss in Italy (Summer Music Program)

June 20 to July 4, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$4,000 per student, including food, ground transportation, lodging and program in Brescia. *Does not include* international airfare.

## LEADERS

Gisele Witkowski and  
Fabio Witkowski

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Jan. 25, 2027, 10 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. 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 Japan (Ceramics)

June 15- 26, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$7,500 Includes international airfare, accommodations, classes, events, entrance to museums, tour guides, lodging, meals, and ground transportation.

## LEADERS

Christine Owen and Jingxia Yang

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Jan. 25, 2027, 10 p.m. EST



Over 10 days students will experience the contrasts between historic and contemporary Japan. We will focus on the ceramic arts and seek to understand how Japanese history, religion, aesthetics, craftsmanship, and relationship with nature have shaped the country's culture.

In Kyoto, we will visit important historic and religious sites, experience a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, and learn about Japan's ancient ceramic traditions and the distinctive pottery produced at its historic kiln sites.

We will travel by bullet and local trains into the Kiso Valley to the historic Nakasendo Way. We will walk through rural landscapes and towns, staying in traditional Japanese inns and experiencing elements of Japanese hospitality and daily life, including a a onsen hot spring and a cultural exchange with local students. We will end our time in Japan in Tokyo, which developed from the shogun's city of Edo into one of the world's great modern cities.

**Please note:** This program will involve walking 3-5 miles daily, including several days of walking along rural trails and through mountainous areas. Students will also stay in traditional Japanese inns, where accommodations and bathing arrangements may differ from those in Western-style hotels. All students should be prepared to participate respectfully in Japanese cultural practices and customs.

Open to current ceramics students, or those with relevant experience.

# Hotchkiss in St. Kitts and Nevis (Special Olympics)

June 10 - 17, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

\$4,900 Includes international airfare, accommodations, events, tour guides, lodging, meals, and ground transportation.

## LEADERS

Keith Moon and Nate Seidenberg

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10 p.m. EST



Hotchkiss will continue its strong relationship with Special Olympics by traveling to St. Kitts & Nevis in June, 2027.

Embracing a program that has a longstanding connection to Special Olympics Connecticut, Hotchkiss will take 12-14 students to St. Kitts and Nevis to work directly with Special Olympics athletes in the Caribbean.

Staying at the St. Kitts Marriott hotel, the group will make excursions each day to meet the leadership of Special Olympics St. Kitts & Nevis, play Unified Sports at schools on the islands, and meet with the Minister of Sport for the nation. There would also be travel to various sites on the islands, including Nevis and the Brimstone Hill Fortress, which was one of the first British military forts in the Caribbean.

St. Kitts and Nevis is home to an exceptional Special Olympics organization and the program has been coordinated with the significant help of Ivor Blake, Executive Director of Special Olympics St. Kitts & Nevis, Lorna Bell, Executive Director of Special Olympics Jamaica, and David Evangelista, CEO of Special Olympics International.

# Art and Art History Scholars

June 13 - 26, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

Room, board, and program are covered by generous donations from alumni and parents. Travel to and from the program site is the responsibility of the student.

## LEADER

Sam Salazar

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10 p.m. EST



The Studio Art/Art History Scholars Program is based at the Princeton University Art Museum. Working closely with PUAM curators, students conduct research on materials of their choice in the museum's extensive collections. In conjunction, students are provided with studio space in which to create their own art portfolio with the guidance of practicing artists. This program is the first time that PUAM has welcomed a group of high-school-age students to engage in sustained research projects on their collections.

Students spend each morning in sustained close observation of art objects of their choice in PUAM's study rooms and display collections. Students will be granted privileged access to the Marquand Art Library, one of the most comprehensive collections of art books and rare art-related manuscripts in the world. Scholars will also work with and learn directly from Princeton curators and conservators about the nature of museum work and best practices in the discipline.

In the afternoons, Scholars will work on their own creative projects in a variety of media. They will be provided with lessons that support the research of mediums and techniques driven by their art historical research. For example, studying mark making in 19th-century drawings, curating a selection of exemplary works from their research, and undertaking the production of a portfolio of their own works on paper that try to capture some of the techniques they studied in the collections. Scholars will travel to Philadelphia to continue their research with the support of world class museums and cultural entities.

Students will amass a set of images, notes, sketches, and practice projects on their subjects and bring them back to campus as they enroll in a year-long Honors course during their Senior year. The goal of this course is to present a 30-page thesis on the art historical topic and curate an exhibition featuring a complete portfolio of work.

# Euclid to Einstein Scholars (Research on math and physics development history)

June 13 - 26, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

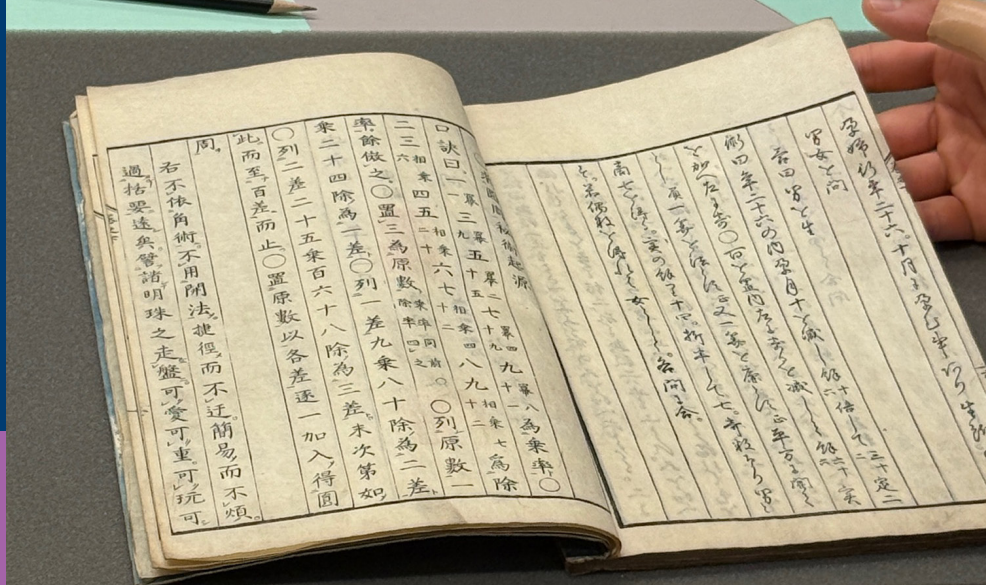
Room, board, and program are covered by a generous grant to the School. Travel to and from the program is the responsibility of the student.

## LEADER

Alex Ginzburg

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. EST



The E2E program consists of a two-week summer stay at Cornell University followed by a Spring semester course on the history of mathematics and physics (MA653).

At Cornell, guided by the teachers, scholars will be using the libraries (including the spectacular rare books and manuscripts collection) to start their research on the life and work of a leading mathematician and/or physicist of the past. Participants will also attend classes on additional topics in mathematics needed for the spring class. Some decidedly non-scientific activities are also included in the Cornell stay (swimming, volleyball, circus training, hiking, etc.).

The Spring class the following school year will cover selected highlights of mathematics and physics development throughout their joint 2,500-year history. Scholars will continue research on their selected luminary, ultimately delivering the final project of the program - a (short) scientific biography of the individual they picked. The biography is expected to concentrate on contributions to mathematics and/or physics, with a bit of historical context of the times they lived in.

**Please note:** The prerequisite for participating in this program is a completion of MA551 or MA581 Calculus courses. Students must apply to the program in their uppermid year. Preparation for the summer program begins immediately upon selection in the spring of the uppermid year.

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

June 13 - 26, 2027



### 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.

### LEADER

Dr. Thomas Fisher

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. 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 and Boston. During the day, students comb through the archives of Harvard's Houghton or Schlesinger libraries, the Boston Public Library, or the Massachusetts Historical Society. In the evening, scholars meet together with teachers 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 work from the fall into a capstone paper through seminar-style workshops and presentations.

**Please note:** Students must apply to the program in their uppermid year. Historically, between 40 and 50 students apply to the Hersey program each year. A faculty committee reviews all applications and interviews candidates. Roughly eight students are selected each year, and preparation for the summer program begins immediately upon selection in the spring of the uppermid year.

# MacLeish Scholars

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

June 13-26, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

Room, board, and program are covered by generous donations from alumni. Travel to and from Hotchkiss is the responsibility of the student.

## LEADER

Dr. Jeffrey Blevins

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. 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.

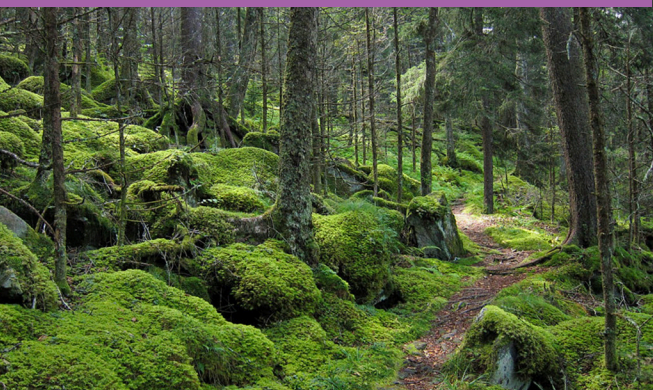
During the summer, scholars and faculty will live and eat in the dormitories at Yale. Mornings will be spent researching in the Beinecke, and many hours will be set aside for writing and workshopping as a group. Evening meetings with teachers will ensure that Scholars are gathering sufficient primary 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.

# Matthiessen Scholars Program (Environmental science)

June 12 - 27, 2027



## ESTIMATED COST

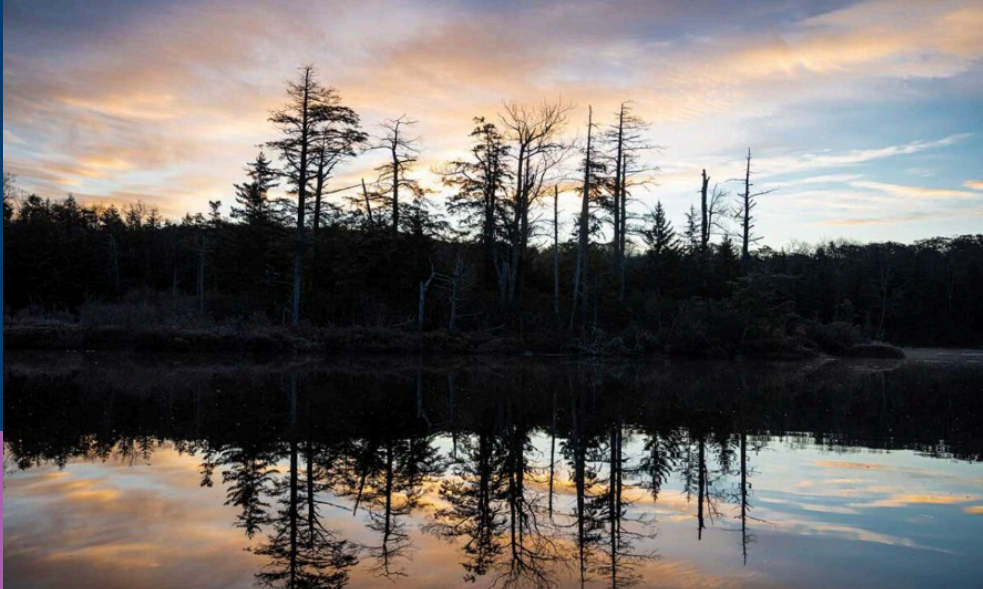
Room, board, and program are covered by generous donations from alumni. Travel to and from Hotchkiss is the responsibility of the student.

## LEADER

Contact Dr. Blevins for more information

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

January 25, 2027, 10:00 p.m. EST



Science is not a set of facts, rather it is a way of knowing, informed by our experiences and education, filtered through our curiosities into discovery. There is no better way to learn science than by doing it. Building on the Hotchkiss Science Department's mode of inquiry, the Matthiessen Scholars program provides students the opportunity to learn and work with expert ecologists to address their own questions; to become scientists.

The Matthiessen Scholars Program will support up to 14 students for an intensive two week course at Great Mountain Forest (Norfolk, CT) following their upper-mid year. The students will stay at the Yale Camp at Great Mountain Forest for the two week course. During the students' senior year they will work with a Hotchkiss faculty member to conduct independent research where they have an opportunity to both build on, and apply, the skills learned at Great Mountain Forest.

The Matthiessen program will continue the focus on forest disturbance. All forests in the northeastern U.S. are responding to multiple disturbances including: climate change, recovery from acid rain, insect infestations, storms, and in some cases, harvest. Students will learn the methods forest ecologists use to quantify and qualify the ecosystem; collecting and analyzing plant and soil data in the field and laboratory. This data will in turn be compared across disturbance gradients and to long term data (both historical and concurrent) through their individual research questions and projects during their senior year.

**Please note:** A faculty committee reviews all applications and interviews candidates. Students are selected by early spring.