Welcome to CHC!

University of Massachusetts Amherst

UMass Amherst offers all the choices of a top-ranked university, with all the charm of a New England college. We're a big campus with a small college feel. Here, the faculty won't just throw information at you; they'll collaborate with you to facilitate your learning. You'll study and conduct research in the classroom and the lab, as well as in the community. You'll live and learn with your peers in residence halls, follow your interests and passion in student organizations, and build leadership experience in preparation for a meaningful career.

Commonwealth Honors College

Commonwealth Honors College creates a close-knit community of UMass Amherst scholars who, like you, want to excel academically. We offer personalized advising to help you take advantage of a rich and engaging honors curriculum. Small honors courses present opportunities for you to develop broad knowledge of multiple subject areas and encourage deep study of topics of personal interest. Honors students come together regularly for a variety of workshops, discussions with our renowned faculty and alumni, and professional development opportunities. We also offer independent study opportunities, paid fellowships to advance your academic career, and "Gateway" seminars focused on leadership and professional development.

Commonwealth Honors College Introduction

Honors Residential Community

UMass Amherst is a residential campus—all first-year students and 60% of undergrads live on campus. The newly constructed Commonwealth Honors College Residential Community brings together many elements, including classrooms, an events hall, a dedicated Honors Advising Center and a café to create a home base for all
Commonwealth Honors College students. This community will also be the residential home for about half of the College's 3,000 students. These residents will find themselves in the heart of campus, close to the Student Union, the main library and the Recreation Center.

**Majors**

With more than 80 undergraduate majors, including the option to design your own, UMass Amherst has an academic program for you. Being an honors student brings opportunities and won’t get in the way as you complete your degree. Honors courses fit into all major and university requirements.

**Five College Consortium**

You will be able to enjoy and explore the Five College consortium, which provides opportunities to take classes at four other prestigious colleges in the area (Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, and Smith College). Course registration is easy and covered by UMass tuition. Coordinated academic calendars, open library borrowing, and faculty collaboration make for a vibrant learning community. And there is free bus and van service to local communities and the Five Colleges.

**About the Amherst Area**

Amherst, Massachusetts, offers the perfect blend of New England beauty and cosmopolitan culture—that's why it's been named one of the “top college towns in North America.” Downtown Amherst and the nearby town of Northampton flourish with galleries, boutiques, coffee shops, fine dining and bookstores. You will benefit from the array of lectures, films, arts and entertainment, concerts, and other events throughout the Pioneer Valley. Hiking and bike trails lace the Amherst countryside, and the fall foliage attracts visitors from all over the country. But when it's time to get away, Bradley International Airport, New York City, and Boston are all within easy reach.

**Amherst, #1 College Town**