ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Mount Holyoke students are expected to be fully acquainted with the policies affecting their academic and nonacademic lives on campus. Policies are published in this Bulletin, the Student Handbook, and in Faculty Legislation. New policies are published on the registrar’s website.

Registration and Class Attendance

Students register for the next semester following academic advising periods. Courses may be added only during the first ten days of classes.

Students may withdraw from courses through the first ten weeks of classes. Through the fifteenth day of classes, courses from which the student has withdrawn will not appear on the student’s academic record. After the fifteenth day of classes, withdrawals from courses require the approval of the instructor and will appear on the student’s record, with the notation “W.” After the fiftieth day of classes, students may withdraw from courses only with the authorization of the director of health services, the director of the counseling service, or the dean of the College and with the approval of the instructor. Courses recorded with the notation “W” will not affect a student’s grade average.

Regular class attendance is expected of all students unless an individual instructor suspends this expectation.

Deadlines for adding and withdrawing from courses that begin midsemester, such as half-semester physical education courses, fall midway through the term and are listed on the academic calendar on the registrar’s website.

Course Load and Credits

The normal program for undergraduates is 16 academic credits per semester. Students carrying fewer than 12 credits are considered part-time. Students are expected to accumulate 128 credits in eight semesters of work. Physical education units are not counted in this total. Credit is not awarded for a course in which a student is not formally registered or in which she is an auditor, even if she has completed the full work of the course.

Students wishing to carry more than 20 credits in a semester must obtain approval from an academic dean. A reduced course load may be authorized by the director of AccessAbility Services when that is determined to be an appropriate accommodation for a student with a disability. Non-resident Frances Perkins Scholars may elect a part-time course load of no fewer than 8 credits in a semester. Other undergraduate students who wish to carry fewer than 12 credits must obtain advance approval from the dean of studies; eligibility in these cases is restricted to those who have exceeded the College’s eight-semester funding limitation, who will take no fewer than 8 credits (or 1–2 physical education units, if required) and who receive the dean’s approval.

The normal program for graduate students is 8 academic credits each semester. With approval of the department, a student working on a graduate thesis is not required to enroll in courses. The 28 graduate credits required for the Master of Arts degree must be completed within five years.

Mount Holyoke College complies with federal regulations defining a credit hour. For Mount Holyoke, a four-credit course involves twelve hours per week of academic engaged time over the course of the semester. Academic engaged time is generally three class or contact hours per week plus nine additional hours of academic work for the course. For courses carrying more or less than four credits, the federal requirement and Mount Holyoke expectation is one contact hour and two hours of outside work for each credit.

Course Repeats

A student who has received credit for a course may not elect the course for a second time, unless the course is fundamentally different in subject matter or method.

Nonmatriculated Students and Auditors

Qualified nonmatriculated students may register for undergraduate courses, with the approval of the registrar and the instructors of those courses. Nonmatriculated students are subject to the academic regulations governing undergraduate students. An official transcript of their course work is maintained. They participate fully in the courses they were approved to take and qualify for student privileges related to their course enrollment. However, they do not share all campus privileges. For example, they are not eligible for on-campus housing or for advising services.

A degree student at Mount Holyoke or at one of our partner institutions in the Five College Consortium may audit a Mount Holyoke course (outside of Mount Holyoke’s PaGE program), if space is available and the student has the instructor’s verbal permission to audit. The student and faculty member should agree on what level of participation is expected and allowed. In any case, no record will be kept of the audit and it will not appear on the student’s transcript. Because no record will be kept, degree students don’t need to complete any registration procedures for audits at Mount Holyoke. Students may not switch between audit and for-credit participation in a class after the usual deadline for Adding courses.

Qualifying employees of the College, their qualifying dependents, and Mount Holyoke retirees and emeriti are eligible to audit one course per semester. They must qualify by submitting an employee course registration form to the Human Resources Office. The form is available from the HR Office and requires the signature of the course instructor to confirm his/her approval of the audit and that space is available.

Mount Holyoke Alumnae and residents of South Hadley who have earned a high school diploma may be approved by the registrar to audit one or more courses at the College. They must submit a completed Application for Auditing to the Registrar’s Office by the end of the second week of classes. Any course(s), other than those offered by Mount Holyoke Professional and Graduate Education, may be approved for audit but only if there is space available and the auditor has the instructor’s signed permission.

Auditors may be assessed fees for beginning language courses, dance courses, physical education courses, and studio art courses. These fees are due at the time of registration. (See also the Tuition and Fees [http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/tuition-fees-financial-aid-fellowships/tuition-fees] chapter.)

Auditing Privileges

- There is no record kept of audited courses at Mount Holyoke, no grade given, and no credits earned. Auditors will not be counted in the official enrollment of the course.
- Attendance is restricted to the meetings of the approved course. Auditors do not participate in other aspects of College life and do not qualify for other student privileges.

Academic Regulations
• Permission to audit authorizes class observance only. Beyond that, the character of an auditor's participation in a course rest with the instructor(s) of the course. Instructors are not required to review or grade any work completed by auditors.

Auditing privileges may be denied or revoked at any time. The College reserves the right to limit the number of courses audited by any one person, to limit the total number of auditors on campus in a particular term, and to change this policy.

Class Standing and Academic Deficiencies

To enter the sophomore class, students must pass at least 24 credits within two semesters; to enter the junior class, at least 56 credits within four semesters; and to enter the senior class, at least 92 credits within six semesters. Students with fewer than the required credits will ordinarily receive a warning on credits and be reclassified.

At the end of each semester, the Academic Administrative Board reviews the records of all undergraduate students who do not meet these credit standards, those who complete substantially fewer than normal credits in one or more semesters, those whose cumulative or semester grade averages fall below 2.00, and those who are already on academic probation. The records of postbaccalaureate and certificate students are included in the review. Students found to have academic deficiencies may be issued a warning, be placed on academic probation, be suspended for a semester or year, or be required to withdraw. Students will not be placed on probation or warned for insufficient semester credits when credit standards are not met solely on the basis of a reduced course load approved by AccessAbility Services.

Probation. A student placed on academic probation must meet with her academic dean for an evaluation conference in order to plan a program of support to bring the quality of her work up to graduation level. Probation is not recorded on the transcript.

Suspension. A student who has been suspended for a semester or a year shall be on academic probation for one semester after her return. During the suspension, her transcript shall bear the notation “Suspended for (period) for academic deficiencies.” This notation will be removed when the student returns or after one year, whichever is sooner. However, the notation will be retained on the internal record.

Required Withdrawal. A student who has been required to withdraw may apply for readmission to the Academic Administrative Board, but she may not return before one academic year has passed. Her transcript shall bear the notation “Required to withdraw for academic deficiencies on (date). Eligible for readmission after one academic year.” This notation will be removed when the student returns or after one year, whichever is sooner. However, the notation will be retained on the internal record.

Questions about the reapplication process should be directed to the dean of studies.

Leave of Absence

Students may apply for a leave of absence for a variety of reasons, such as to work, travel, deal with a family situation, or study at another institution of higher education.

Students wishing to take an academic leave must receive approval from the dean of international studies who coordinates study abroad or the Office of Academic Deans for study in the U.S. Academic leaves are ordinarily granted to students in good academic standing, with a cumulative average of at least 2.70, who present a plan of full-time study suitable for credit transfer, and who will meet the residence requirements of the College before graduation. Students who plan to be on leave during their junior or senior year must have the approval of their major department concerning completion of major requirements. See “Special Programs and Resources” for information about Mount Holyoke programs and exchanges abroad and in the U.S.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors in good academic standing may apply for leaves of absence to work away from campus on independent projects related to the degree provided that the projects are fundamentally academic in character; that is, they require disciplined work in recognized fields of study such as those listed in the catalog. For more information, consult the dean of studies.

A student may earn a limited number of credits toward a Mount Holyoke degree by studying at another institution of higher education in the United States or abroad, or by studying independently. A maximum of 32 credits for an academic year's study at another institution may be counted toward the total required for the degree. 16 credits is the usual limit for a single-semester leave, but upon pre-approval of the Academic Priorities Committee, a Mount Holyoke Program may have an alternate credit limit.

Students wishing to take a nonacademic leave for personal reasons or to work or travel should apply to the Office of the Academic Deans. Students wishing to take a nonacademic leave for reasons of health should apply to the director of health services or the director of the counseling service. Students on nonacademic leave who wish to earn credits while abroad must receive advance approval from the Academic Administrative Board; approval will be limited to part-time study only. During a non-academic leave, a student may earn a limited number of credits to transfer toward a Mount Holyoke degree by studying at another institution of higher education in the United States. 16 credits per semester is the maximum number of credits which may be transferred for approved course work.

When a leave is effective the first day of classes or later, withdrawn courses may remain on the transcript with a "W" notation.

Five College Interchange Enrollment

Only students in good academic standing may enroll in a course at Amherst College, Hampshire College, Smith College, or the University of Massachusetts at Amherst through the Five College Interchange. The Interchange operates during the fall and spring semesters. Students in the first semester of their first year need permission from the first-year class dean to enroll. Normally, students may not register for more than two courses at any one institution. They are limited to requesting a total of two courses in advance of the semester.

During the fall and spring semesters for courses taken through the Interchange, course credit is generally awarded according to the value awarded by the host institution. Full credit academic courses at Hampshire College and the University of Massachusetts taken through the Interchange are awarded the equivalent value of similar courses at Mount Holyoke, normally 4 credits. Courses that involve labs will grant credit according to the value of equivalent Mount Holyoke courses. Credits may vary for courses of unusual format or duration.

Students taking a course through the Five College Interchange are, in that course, subject to the academic regulations, including the calendar, deadlines, and academic honor system, of the host institution. It is the responsibility of the student to be familiar with the pertinent regulations of the host institution, including those for attendance, academic...
honesty, grading options, and deadlines for completing course work and
taking examinations. The exception is that students follow their home
institution’s deadlines for adding and dropping courses.

Courses offered through the UMass Continuing Education division are not
available through the Five College Interchange. Some of these courses may
be transferable to Mount Holyoke if taken during the summer or
January intersession outside of the Interchange. They are subject to
Mount Holyoke’s usual transfer credit policies. For Intersession January
courses, the maximum credit awarded for a class is two credits, with the
exception of some approved intensive language courses. Courses taken
at UMass through Continuing Education during the summer or at other
points are generally transferred at face value — e.g. a 3 credit summer or
January UMass course is generally awarded 3 transfer credits at Mount
Holyoke. Courses of unusual format or offered on compressed schedules
may be awarded even fewer credits.

Transfer Credit and Other Advance
Placement Credit

Students are advised to consult the registrar’s website for further
information and specifics on earning credit through transfer work or other
advance placement study.

Credit is awarded only when official documentation (official transcript,
oficial test score report) is submitted to the Registrar from the external
institution.

During their post-matriculation fall and spring semesters, students:

• may not earn transfer credit unless they are on an approved Leave of
  Absence.

• may not simultaneously enroll for credit at another institution while
  registered at Mount Holyoke.

Once posted, transfer course work will not be removed from the student’s
academic record.

Credit Limits

• No more than 64 credits will be awarded to students for external
  work, whether taken pre- or post-matriculation, from eligible college-
level courses, from Advance Placement work, from study abroad,
summer or January study, study while on leaves, and/or work
transferred from Mount Holyoke’s PaGE program.

• Within the 64 limit, no more than 32 credits will be granted for
  all advance placement work such as A-levels, the International
Baccalaureate, the AP program of the College Board, etc. No more
than 16 credits may be transferred from each semester of study
abroad, academic leave, or non-academic leave including medical
leave.

• No more than 12 credits may be transferred from all of the summers
  and January interessions between the student’s matriculation at the
College and her graduation.
  • Within this 12-credit allowance, the limit is a maximum of 8
    credits per summer and 3 credits per January.
  • Students admitted as first-year Spring entrants may transfer as
    many as 8 additional summer school credits during their years
    at Mount Holyoke, provided the total of these additional credits
    and any transferred credits earned elsewhere in the Fall semester
    before their matriculation does not exceed 16.

Advance Placement Work

Within the maximum allowance of 32 credits for all advance placement
work and as long as the student does not earn credit in the corresponding
courses at Mount Holyoke, credit will be granted as follows:

• Advanced Placement program of the College Board: 4 credits per exam
  graded 4 or 5.

• Caribbean Advanced Examinations: 8 credits per eligible exam for liberal
  arts subject units with a score 1, 2, or 3. One non-liberal arts subject
  may be awarded 4 credits.

• French Baccalaureate: 4 credits per eligible exam (score of 10 or above
  and coefficient of 4 or higher), up to a maximum of 16 credits total.

• General Certificate of Education (A-Levels): A maximum of 32 credits
  will be granted if a student completes four or more exams with
grades of C or better in liberal arts subjects. Credit is not awarded for
O-Levels, AS-Levels, nor for the General Paper, nor for "Project Work",
nor for "Knowledge and Inquiry".

• German Abitur: A maximum of 16 credits for receipt of this degree.

• International Baccalaureate: Credit may be granted only for higher level
  exams awarded a grade of 6 or 7. If the points total is below 36 or any
grades are below a 6, the College may grant 8 credits per higher-level
exam graded 6 or 7. If three higher levels and grades in all exams
  taken (including subsidiary) are 6 or 7, and 36 or more total points
  were earned, 32 credits may be granted.

Advance placement credit cannot be applied to fulfill College
requirements, such as distribution requirements, the foreign language
requirement, the first-year seminar requirement nor the multicultural
perspectives requirement.

Transfer Work

Transfer credit, unless the student was granted an academic leave
of absence from the College to study elsewhere, is generally granted
on a semester credit-for-credit basis. That is, a 3-credit course taken
on a typical semester schedule will usually be awarded 3 credits at
Mount Holyoke College. Credits earned at schools not on the semester
calendar will be converted to semester credits (e.g., a quarter credit will
be awarded 6.66 semester credits at Mount Holyoke). Credits earned in
course taught in condensed, intensive, or alternative formats often
transfer to Mount Holyoke at less than full credit-for-credit value.

Academic credit is generally granted for liberal arts courses completed
with grades of C- or better. Students who entered the College in fall 2008
or later may be granted up to 12 credits total of non-liberal arts and
Mount Holyoke curricular support course work. Students who entered
earlier are limited to one non-liberal arts course.

Academic credit is never granted for: physical education courses,
internships; courses with a pass/fail grade; courses taken at U.S. schools
without regional accreditation or international institutions without
comparable Ministry of Education recognition; CLEP or placement exams
given by other institutions; courses that are not of college level (such
as algebra courses); and courses not granted academic credit by the
institution or which do not appear on their official transcript.

Academic credit is not usually granted for: independent study
coursework’ computer science courses (without written permission
of the Mount Holyoke computer science department chair); nor for music
performance courses without written permission of the Mount Holyoke
music department chair No credits is awarded for music performance
studies, including individual instrument study, choir, orchestra or other ensemble study.

In general, transferability of credit is determined by the registrar, while the applicability of transfer work to degree requirements of all kinds falls in the purview of the applicable Mount Holyoke department.

Online courses are eligible to transfer, as long as they meet all other conditions for transfer and the following eligibility restrictions:

- Students whose first term at the College was Fall 2013 or later are eligible to transfer online courses taken before or after their matriculation at the College.
- Students who entered the College before Fall 2013 are eligible to transfer online courses taken post-matriculation, but not any pre-matriculation coursework.

Students who are granted an academic leave of absence to study at another accredited college or university in the U.S., or with an approved program abroad, may earn a full year (32 credit hours) or semester (16 credit hours) if they satisfactorily complete (grades of C- or better) a standard full-time degree course load of liberal arts courses. Students should note that the minimum required to meet that standard varies from institution to institution. Normally, a full year’s credits equal one-quarter of the total needed to graduate from an institution with a four-year undergraduate degree program. For institutions on the quarter system (quarter credits transfer as two-thirds of a semester credit), a student may have to complete three quarters to earn a full year of Mount Holyoke College credit. The semester limit for Mount Holyoke’s program in Shanghai through the Alliance for Global Education is 18 credits.

If planning summer study at another institution, a student should, in advance, review the particular terms of her plan with the registrar’s office and seek preapproval for specific nonelective courses from the departments concerned.

Grades for transferred courses will not appear on the Mount Holyoke College transcript, nor will they affect the Mount Holyoke GPA. Work exceeding transfer limits will not be evaluated nor posted to a student’s record. Per-course credit values are assigned to the internal record but do not appear on the official transcript. The official transcript displays only the name of the originating institution, the total credits transferred to Mount Holyoke for a given period and, in the case of study abroad only, the titles of courses transferred.

Prescheduled and Self-Scheduled Examinations

There are two kinds of final exams at Mount Holyoke—prescheduled and self-scheduled. For a few courses, particularly when audiovisual materials are needed, there is one prescheduled session that all students in the course must attend. Prescheduled examinations are held during the first nine examination sessions. The majority of exams are “self-scheduled,” giving a student the flexibility to decide during which session she wants to take each exam. Students report at the beginning of a session, complete an examination, and turn it in by the end of that session.

All final exams must be taken during the official examination period, which is published in the College’s academic calendar. There are no early exams. Students should make their travel arrangements accordingly. All students expecting a degree or certificate at commencement must complete all course work, including examinations, no later than the ninth session of the spring examination period in the year of their graduation.

Honor Code: Academic Responsibility

Mount Holyoke students take great pride in and responsibility for upholding the College’s honor code, which has been articulated by the Mount Holyoke College Student Government Association.

I will honor myself, my fellow students, and Mount Holyoke College by acting responsibly, honestly, and respectfully in both my words and my deeds.

The honor code plays a role in both academic and social life at the College. While allowing for a significant degree of individual freedom, it relies on students to conduct themselves with maturity and concern for the welfare of other members of the College community.

Both students and faculty members assume a commitment to the academic community that implies teaching and learning in an open environment based on mutual trust, respect, and concern. This mutual trust is the foundation for Mount Holyoke’s unusual system of self-scheduled examinations.

Each member of the academic community has the right to benefit from its collective knowledge and resources as well as the responsibility to contribute to them. All members of the community have the right to careful and constructive analysis of their work, and they have the responsibility to provide a serious response to the work of others. Plagiarism or other forms of scholarly misconduct can have no purpose or place in the academic life of the College. Each student is responsible for observing established procedures in the preparation of assignments and the writing of papers and examinations, and for submitting as one’s own, only that work that she or he has originated. Each instructor is responsible for making clear what procedures are acceptable in the work of a course and for guiding students toward appropriate methods and standards of research for production of student work.

Additional information on the honor code (http://www.mtholyoke.edu/deanofstudents/honorcode.html).

Grading System

A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 is required for graduation. The grading system and conversion equivalents used at Mount Holyoke are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Other notations appearing on student records are:

- IP (in progress) for a course sequence continuing for more than one semester
- I (incomplete) for courses in which an incomplete extension has been granted
- W (withdrawal from a course)
• CR (credit)
• NC (no credit)

To receive credit for a course, the course grade must be either a CR or a grade of D- or higher. Prior to fall 2007, DR (dropped) was noted for courses dropped after 15 days of classes; and W (withdrawn) was noted for withdrawals approved by the College.

Recognizing that any system of grading is a cryptic form of evaluation, the faculty (for the work within courses) interprets a grade on individual pieces of work with detailed commentary aimed at assisting the student in evaluating that work.

Physical education courses do not earn academic credit; satisfactory completion is noted on the official record by S followed by the number of physical education units earned, such as: S1, S2.

Ungraded Option
Each undergraduate student may elect to take a total of four courses (or 16 credits) on an ungraded basis under the following conditions:

• The election for MHC courses must be recorded in the Registrar’s Office no later than the fiftieth academic day of classes. No changes in the option may be made after that date.
• Students taking Five College courses must follow the procedures and deadline of the school offering the course to elect the equivalent of the Ungraded Option at those schools. These deadlines are usually much earlier than Mount Holyoke’s, and the option may not be available in some courses. Also the standards for qualifying for a passing grade may be different.
• The Ungraded Option cannot be elected in any course applying to the requirements of a student’s minor.
• Any course for which the Ungraded Option is elected (or equivalent pass/fail etc. at one of the other Five College Institutions) may not be used for distribution credit, to fulfill the language requirement, to fulfill the Multicultural Perspectives requirement, or to fulfill the requirements of a student’s major.
• If passed, a first-year seminar in which the Ungraded Option was elected may be used to satisfy the First-Year Seminar requirement.
• No more than one course may be elected on an ungraded basis per semester.
• The instructor’s class list will not indicate who has elected the ungraded option.
• An ungraded course shall not be counted in the cumulative average, whether or not the student receives credit. CR (Credit) shall be recorded for a course taken under the ungraded option in which a student receives a grade of A through D-. If a student does not receive credit for an ungraded course, NC (No Credit) will appear on her transcript.
• Exception: Courses graded on a pass/fail basis only (i.e. MHC or Five College courses graded on a mandatory pass/fail or Credit/No Credit basis only with no option of letter grading) shall not be counted in the quota.

Grading System for Five College Courses
Through the Interchange, Mount Holyoke students may register for courses at any of the institutions in the Five College Consortium. Students are graded according to the system in effect at the host institution.

Courses given by Five College faculty appointees will be graded A through F including pluses and minuses. This policy permits Five College faculty to use a single grading system at all institutions.

Incomplete Work
“Incomplete” indicates that a student did not complete all of the work of a course by the end of the semester for reasons of a health or other emergency that occurs at the end of the semester and could not have been anticipated. No later than the last day of the exam period, students must request the incomplete from, as appropriate, the director of Health Services or of the Counseling Service, or from an academic dean, or from the Director of AccessAbility Services.

If the incomplete is authorized and is then approved by the instructor, the student will be given a date by which to complete the course work. This date should be as early as possible and should only rarely extend beyond the first day of classes of the following semester. The instructor may provide the student with a “guaranteed” grade that is a letter grade based only on the work the student has already completed in the course.

If a student does not complete the course work by the assigned date (unless the student has applied to and been granted an additional extension by the dean of studies), the registrar will record the guaranteed grade, if one was provided, a failure for the course, or, if the extension has been authorized by the director of Health Services, the Counseling Service, or AccessAbility Services, a “W.”

Course Evaluation
As the semester draws to a close, students are required to submit an online course evaluation for each of their courses. This requirement is a reflection of the importance the College places on students and faculty supplying each other with timely, thoughtful feedback. Students who do not submit their evaluations on time will be blocked from access to their degree audit, unofficial transcript, and grades until they have submitted the overdue evaluations or, at minimum, until they record a “decline to evaluate” response.

Withdrawal and Readmission
A student wishing to withdraw from the College must, if she is on campus, meet with one of the academic deans. The academic dean will assist her in completing the required withdrawal form available for download (http://www.mtholyoke.edu/academicdeans/withdrawal.html). If the student is off campus, she should contact the Office of Academic Deans before submitting the withdrawal form. Any refund for the semester’s tuition and board charges will be based on the date when the withdrawal request is approved by the Office of Academic Deans. For information on refunds, see the Tuition and Fees (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/tuition-fees-financial-aid-fellowships/tuition-fees) chapter.) When a withdrawal is effective the first day of classes or later, withdrawn courses will remain on the transcript with a “W” notation.

The College reserves the right to require a student to withdraw for academic deficiency, nonpayment, nonattendance, illness, or disciplinary infraction.

A student who has withdrawn from the College and wishes to return should complete a readmission application (http://www.mtholyoke.edu/academicdeans/docs/academicdeans/readmission_app.pdf), which is available for download. Deadlines are March 15 for fall admission and
Academic Regulations

October 15 for spring admission. A nonrefundable $75 application fee is required.

Privacy of Student Records

Mount Holyoke College policy with respect to confidentiality of student records complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended (PL 93-380, Section 438, the General Education Provisions Act), which gives students certain rights, consistent with the privacy of others, to review their own official records, files, and data, and to challenge the accuracy of the contents of such records. The act also generally prohibits the release of personally identifiable information (other than “directory information” defined below) about students without their written consent other than to teachers and other College officials who have legitimate educational interests; to officials of other institutions in which the student intends to enroll; to certain authorized state and federal officials; to appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to the student; to organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the College; to accrediting organizations; to comply with a judicial order or lawfully ordered subpoena; and to appropriate officials in the case of health and safety emergency.

A school official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research or support staff position (including law enforcement personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the College has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using College employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, IT specialist, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student or appointed volunteer serving on an official committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the College.

The regulations of the act make clear that, in the case of students who are dependents of their parents for Internal Revenue Service purposes, information from the education records of the student may be disclosed to parents without the student’s prior consent. The College may notify the student’s parents in writing of academic probation, required withdrawal, and suspension. In communications with parents concerning other matters, it is normally College policy to respect the privacy of the student and not to disclose information from educational records without the student’s prior consent.

Requests for review of specific records must be made in writing. A student who seeks to review only health or career records should file a written request to do so with the director of health services, the director of the counseling service, or the Career Development Center. All other requests should be made at the Office of the Dean of the College.

The Privacy Act gives Mount Holyoke College the right to make public at its discretion, without prior authorization from the individual student, the following personally identifiable directory information: name; class year; home/permanent, off-campus/local, and College addresses; home, local, and residence hall telephone numbers; College electronic mail address; identification photograph; dates of attendance at Mount Holyoke College; enrollment status (e.g., undergraduate or graduate; full- or part-time; on leave); date and place of birth; major(s); degrees, honors, and awards received; participation in officially recognized sports and activities; status as student employee; and previous educational institution most recently attended. An individual student may limit release of the above information for any given year by filing such a request with the registrar by July 1 of that year; requests received after this date will be put into effect as quickly as possible, but directory information already released cannot be recalled.