







Eliot House, located in the middle of campus, serves as the center for religious and spiritual life. Believing that interfaith work enhances understanding of different faith groups and strengthens understanding of one's own beliefs, the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life offers a weekly Interfaith Prayer Lunch, organizes interfaith worship services, and supports an active Multifaith Council composed of three members of each faith group and three seekers. The offices of the chaplains and the dean of Religious and Spiritual Life, the Wa-Shin-An Japanese meditation garden and teahouse, the Muslim and Hindu Prayer rooms are located in Eliot House.

A kosher/halal kitchen and dining room, for Jewish and Muslim students who choose to observe Islamic and Jewish dietary laws, is located in Wilder Hall. It is one of the few college dining halls in the country to offer both halal and kosher meals. All students are welcome.

For more information about religious life, contact the Office of Religious Life at 413-538-2054 or visit [www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/religlife/index.shtml](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/religlife/index.shtml).

### **Community Service**

Mount Holyoke students can do volunteer work in nearby communities through the Mount Holyoke Community Service Volunteer Program. Students work with local service organizations dedicated to the care of children, elderly care, the environment, health/medical care, women, and literacy. Students may use the resources of the community service program to develop ideas for independent study or research. For more information about community service, visit [www.mtholyoke.edu/org/cause/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/org/cause/) or contact Eliot House at 413-538-2054.

### **Health Services**

The Mount Holyoke College Health Services include inpatient and outpatient medical and nursing services, counseling services, the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Project, and health education. All services are provided through offices located at the Pattie Groves Health Center, 4 Dunlap Place.

*Confidentiality* The confidentiality of all medical and counseling records is maintained in accordance with federal and state mandates. A written release of information, signed by the student, is required to release information to anyone outside of the College Health Services, including parents, other health care providers, and other departments within Mount Holyoke College. The only exception is to contact the Dean of the College and parents in the event of a life-threatening situation.

*Health Center Fees and Insurance* Massachusetts state law requires students to carry health insurance. Mount Holyoke recommends the Student Health Insurance Plan, offered through the College, which provides limited consultation, ancillary testing, medication, and inpatient services primarily for acute care conditions. This plan may not be adequate for students who have chronic medical conditions. For more information about health services, visit [www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/health/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/health/).

## Facilities

Mount Holyoke's extensive facilities include the following:

### **Blanchard Campus Center**

The renovated and expanded Blanchard Campus Center is a meeting place for the entire Mount Holyoke community. Home to the campus store, student art gallery, campus information desk, mailroom, ticket box office, and student organization offices, Blanchard offers food and drinks at the Uncommon Grounds coffee bar and at a fully equipped café. Dances, intimate concerts, lectures, and shows are held in the main café area, and larger events take place in the adjoining 5,000-square-foot Great Room, which offers a two-story glass wall with views of Lower Lake.

### **Mount Holyoke College Library, Information, and Technology Services**

Library, Information, and Technology Services (LITS) combines the expertise and services of Mount Holyoke's library, information, and computing groups. Although the work of LITS is woven throughout the campus, it is housed primarily in the Dwight, Williston, and Miles-Smith Buildings. These three buildings are physically connected and form the LITS complex.

The library's collection currently totals more than 740,000 volumes, including 1,600 periodical subscriptions. Beyond the print collections on the shelves the library has licensed access to more than 100 scholarly research databases as well as thousands of ebooks and ejournals. While known for overall strength, the collection has achieved notable depth in the following areas: medieval studies, biological sciences, chemistry, women's studies, international relations, and French and Italian literature.

The library is part of the Five College Consortium, which has a combined library catalog and access to a number of electronic sources. The combined collections provide access to more than eight million volumes. The libraries at Amherst, Hampshire, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts offer reference services and direct borrowing to all Mount Holyoke College students.

LITS houses an internationally known collection of archival records, manuscript collections, and rare books that are used by our undergraduate students as well as by scholars from all over the globe. Archives and Special Collections holds more than 9,000 linear feet of College records and manuscript collections as well as more than 11,000 rare books with primary strengths in the history of the College, women's history, women's education, early missionary activities and student history, Renaissance science, Italian literature, children's literature, and medieval history.

On the main floor of the library's Miles-Smith wing, the Information Commons contains more than 40 high-end computers arranged in clusters and a staffed information desk and Help Desk. Computer clusters are devoted to different functions, including group project work, individual workstations with standard office and instructional software, and quick checks of email and the library catalog via stand-up stations. Couches, tables, and comfortable seating are spread throughout the Information Commons.

In addition to the facilities in the LITS complex, there are specialized labs in Skinner Hall (economics), Clapp Laboratory (geology, geography, math), Kendade Hall (physics, computer science, biology), Carr Laboratory (chemistry), the Reese Building (psychology and education), Pratt Hall (music), and the Ciruti Center (languages). Numerous departmental computers, many with discipline-specific software/equipment, may be available to students who have special assignments. Computer clusters are also available in the residence halls, the Frances Perkins House, and the day student lounge.

The College network extends beyond the campus to the Five Colleges and to the world via the Internet. All of the residence halls are wired with individual outlets for every student. Wireless connections are available throughout the LITS complex, in a majority of residence halls, the Blanchard Campus Center, Kendade Hall, and various administrative buildings. Computer accounts used for email, Internet access, and network file storage are provided free of charge to all members of the College community. Please call or visit LITS for help finding or using any of our facilities or materials.

### **Mount Holyoke College Botanic Garden**

The botanic garden supports the academic curriculum and maintains the landscape of the campus. The main campus is an arboretum with a diverse collection of trees and shrubs. Individual gardens feature perennials, alpine plants, and other wildflowers, as well as woody ornamentals. The botanic garden also includes the Talcott Greenhouse, a 6,500-square-foot complex used for teaching, research, ornamental display, and plant propagation. The greenhouse is open to the public free of charge.

### **Science Facilities**

Mount Holyoke has a long, proud history of excellence and innovation in the sciences. Students benefit from hands-on work with sophisticated instrumentation often reserved for graduate students at other institutions. All departments have excellent laboratory facilities and equipment, including a solar greenhouse, a scanning electron microscope, several nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers, thermal cyclers, ultracentrifuges, DNA sequencing equipment, an electrophoresis apparatus, an atomic force microscope, and a linear accelerator, unusual even in much larger institutions.

A massive, \$36-million expansion and renovation has resulted in the new Mount Holyoke College Science Center, which has been designed to foster greater interaction between departments and to encourage new opportunities for collaborative research, pedagogical innovation, and curricular planning. The new science facility offers adjacent labs and offices, common spaces, and shared equipment for students and faculty with overlapping research interests. The College has made every effort to ensure that the Science Center has as little impact on the environment as possible. Kendade Hall, the multistory nexus of the Science Center, was designed and built to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria for a “green building,” as established by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

### **The Gorse Child Study Center**

Mount Holyoke's child study center is the laboratory preschool of the Department of Psychology and Education. Gorse enrolls children between the ages of three and six. Equipped with observation booths, Gorse offers opportunities for psychology and education students to both observe and work directly with young children as they pursue research, independent study, and prepracticum placements.

### **Joan E. Ciruti Center for Foreign Languages**

The Ciruti Center is a space where students can find foreign language DVDs, multistandard video players, and the latest Web technologies. Webcasting exchange programs regularly take place between students at MHC and foreign universities in Europe, South America, and Asia.

### **The Ellen and Thomas Reese Psychology and Education Building**

This building is home to the Department of Psychology and Education. In addition to classrooms, lecture spaces, and faculty offices, it includes statistics and computer laboratories; a vivarium, which houses species of animals and fish; an education curriculum library; and a shop-complex where students learn to design and build their own apparatuses.

### **Pratt Hall—The Music Building**

Pratt Hall contains teaching studios and classrooms; music and recording libraries; 14 practice rooms, 11 of which have pianos; an outstanding keyboard lab and computer lab devoted to musical applications; and two rehearsal and performance halls—Pratt Auditorium, which seats 400, and the Warbeke Room, which seats 75 and houses a recently acquired Bösendorfer grand piano. The College also owns a Fisk and Kaiser forte piano in late eighteenth-century Viennese style. Two fine organs—a handcrafted Fisk tracker-action instrument built in baroque style and an E. M. Skinner from the early twentieth century—are housed in Abbey Chapel. The newest addition to Pratt is the new high-tech “V-Room,” a virtual practice room that is able to simulate the acoustics of nine different settings, ranging from a church to a large arena.

### **Alice Withington Rooke Theatre**

The Rooke Theatre is equipped for instruction in every aspect of play production. The mainstage theatre is an intimate 192-seat facility, with excellent acoustics, sight lines, and state-of-the-art technical systems (lighting, sound, scenic machinery). The backstage shop is well equipped for wood and steel construction. The basement Black Box is a flexible space adaptable to experimental productions, with varied seating capacity of approximately 50.

### **Mount Holyoke College Art Museum**

The Mount Holyoke College Art Museum is among the nation's leading collegiate art museums. Its comprehensive permanent collection, encompassing works from antiquity to the present, can support every art history course with actual art objects.

The museum also offers students a variety of work/study and internship opportunities. The Society of Art Goddesses is a popular student group that plans student-centered events such as behind-the-scenes exhibition tours and art careers panels.

Dedicated to providing firsthand experience with works of significant aesthetic and cultural value, the museum also develops exhibitions that provide enjoyment, stimulate inquisitive looking, and encourage understanding of the artistic achievements represented by a diversity of cultures. Imaginative exhibitions are accompanied by lectures, gallery talks, demonstrations, symposia, and concerts. Many exhibitions travel nationally and receive significant attention from the media.

Among the more than 14,000 objects are important American paintings by George Inness, Albert Bierstadt, and others; Egyptian, Greek, and Roman antiquities, including select vases and a second-century Roman portrait bust of Faustina the Elder; art from China, Japan, India, and Southeast Asia; and a distinguished collection of Italian medieval and Renaissance paintings and sculpture. The museum's print room houses thousands of prints, drawings, photographs, and other works on paper. It also serves as a gallery for smaller changing exhibitions. For more information, visit [www.mtholyoke.edu/go/artmuseum](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/go/artmuseum).

### **Center for the Environment**

Located in the Talcott Greenhouse, the Center for the Environment is dedicated to engaging MHC students more actively in the scientific, social/human, and global dimensions of environmental study. See the Special Programs and Resources chapter for more information.

### **McCulloch Center for Global Initiatives**

Founded in 2004, the McCulloch Center for Global Initiatives unites Mount Holyoke's wealth of international programs and people and advances a coherent vision for education for global competence and citizenship. See the Special Programs and Resources chapter for more information.

### **Weissman Center for Leadership and the Liberal Arts**

See the Special Programs and Resources chapter for more information about the Weissman Center and its affiliate programs: the Speaking, Arguing, and Writing Program and community-based learning and case method courses.

### **Kendall Sports and Dance Complex**

Kendall Sports and Dance Complex and the nearby athletic fields and tennis courts provide space and equipment for a full range of outdoor and indoor sports and for informal recreation.

Kendall's facilities include six indoor and 12 outdoor tennis courts; two basketball and two volleyball courts; five squash and two racquetball courts; six grass playing fields; a 200-meter indoor track; a six-lane, 400-meter outdoor track; a performing dance studio with adjoining studio; and a weight-training room equipped with Cybex

strength equipment, free-weight systems, Lifecycles, Stairmasters, Lifesteps, and NordicTracks. The natatorium features an eight-lane, 25-meter pool with a separate diving pool.

In 2007, work began on a \$10 million renovation of the College's athletic facilities. A new outdoor synthetic multipurpose turf field with lights, surrounded by an eight-lane track with a nine-lane straightaway, will be constructed. Renovations to the Kendall Sports and Dance Complex include new dance studios and a state-of-the-art fitness facility.

### **Equestrian Center**

The Mount Holyoke College Equestrian Center is widely considered one of the nation's finest riding facilities. The center features a 60-stall barn with three wash stalls and heated tack rooms, two indoor arenas (100' x 256' and 75' x 130'), two outdoor arenas, a permanent all-weather, standard-size Fibar dressage arena, and a cross-country course. Bridle paths showcase lake views, stream crossings, wide open fields, and scenic forest settings. Special events such as hunter/jumper shows, dressage shows, and clinics are hosted by the center year-round. For more information, visit the Equestrian Center Web site at [www.mtholyoke.edu/go/equest](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/go/equest).

### **Eighteen-Hole Championship Golf Course**

The Orchards, Mount Holyoke's 18-hole championship golf course, was designed by the legendary Donald Ross. Famous across the Northeast for its course design, The Orchards was the site of the 2004 U.S. Women's Open. The course is located within walking distance of Kendall Sports and Dance Complex.

### **Career Development Center**

See the Academic and Career Advising chapter to learn about Mount Holyoke's Career Development Center, which is recognized as one of the most comprehensive undergraduate career facilities in the nation.

### **John Payson Williston Observatory**

Originally built in 1881 and frequently upgraded over the years, the observatory is the oldest academic building on campus and remains a state-of-the-art teaching facility. The original eight-inch Alvan Clark refractor is regularly used for visual observations; a modern 24-inch Ritchey-Chretien reflector is equipped for photometric observations with a million-pixel CCD array; and an elevated observing platform is equipped with two fully computer-controlled "robotic" telescopes.

### **Wa-Shin-An, Japanese Meditation Garden and Teahouse**

Wa-Shin-An (which means "peace," "mind," and "house") is located in Eliot House. The garden was designed by landscape artist Osamu Shimiqu, and the teahouse was built by architect Teruo Hara. Tours are provided by student guides (*kagi*) daily, and tea ceremonies are generally held every week. Meditation instruction is also offered, and private tea lessons may be arranged on an individual basis with the Wa-Shin-An tea mistress and consultant.