Class of 2021

Welcome to Amherst! We are pleased that you have made the trip for our Day Open House Program and hope that your visit will be as enjoyable as it is informative.

This program includes a schedule of events for the Day Open House as well as additional information of interest for both parents and prospective students, including a schedule of classes that students are invited and pre-approved to attend.

We encourage you to participate in all the activities planned for the Open House and also in any event that is open to Amherst College students.

Enjoy your day!
Day Open House Program

Monday, April 17

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Check-In
Alumni Gymnasium
Welcome by Amherst Admission Office staff. Refreshments will be served, and students will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Financial Aid Office Hours
Office of Financial Aid, Converse Hall
Members of the Office of Financial Aid will be available to answer questions concerning financial awards. inquire at check-in for more information about scheduling an appointment.

9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.
Opening Session
Johnson Chapel
Remarks by Amherst College President Biddy Martin; Katie Fretwell, Dean of Admission and Financial Aid; and Cate Granger Zollos, Dean of Admission. Introduction of Diversity Interns.

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Campus Tours and Classes
See Monday Class Schedule for Locations
Campus tours will depart from the quad entrance of Johnson Chapel at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Tours last approximately one hour each. Students may also use this time to visit classes. A schedule of available classes is included in this booklet.

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Accessibility Services Open Hours
Converse Hall, Room 211
Amherst’s Accessibility Manager will be available for families to stop by and learn more about the services and support available for Amherst students. If you would like to schedule an appointment to meet outside of these drop-in hours to discuss individual circumstances, please contact the Accessibility Services Office at (413)-542-2337.

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Parents in Transition: What to Expect from Amherst
Pryne Lecture Hall, Fayerweather 115
A panel of administrators will discuss residential life, housing, career counseling, and academic support. All parents are encouraged to attend. Students are encouraged to take a tour or visit a class during this time.
12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Lunch Reception with Amherst Faculty
Alumni Gymnasium
Enjoy a light lunch buffet with faculty members representing a variety of academic departments.

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
“Bones and Stones” Tour of the Beneski Museum of Natural History
Beneski Earth Sciences Building
Join Fred Yenne, museum educator, for a walk through the Beneski Museum of Natural History, which houses outstanding collections and exhibits that include vertebrate and invertebrate paleontology, minerals and other geologic specimens collected locally and from around the world since 1825. Particularly noteworthy is the world-famous dinosaur track collection. Bring your photo taking device.

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Classes and Departure
Office of Admission
Feel free to attend any other classes you may be interested in. Admission Office representatives will be available at the Office of Admission to answer any remaining questions. The Admission Office will close at 4:30 p.m. on Monday.

3:00 p.m.
Emily Dickinson Museum Tour
Frost Library Front Steps
The poet Emily Dickinson (1830-1886) spent her entire life in Amherst. Her family’s connections to Amherst College date to the school’s founding in 1821, and the college now holds one of the world’s largest Dickinson collections. Explore Dickinson’s College connections and visit her home with a guide from the Emily Dickinson Museum. To start the one-hour tour, meet your guide at the front steps of Frost Library. The tour will include a walk to Dickinson’s home on Main Street, two blocks north of campus.
Additional Monday Activities for Guests

A.J. Hastings, Inc.: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
45 South Pleasant Street
A local newsdealer and stationer, stocking a large selection of Amherst College clothing and merchandise.

Center for Russian Culture: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Webster Hall, Second Floor
Amherst College acquired in 1991 what has generally been considered the West's largest private holding of rare Russian books, manuscripts, newspapers, and periodicals. The collection took almost fifty years to assemble and represents the breadth and depth of Russian cultural achievement in modern times. The collection reflects what Russian intellectuals were doing in the Soviet Union and all over the world for over seventy years. In all, the materials donated by Thomas P. Whitney (1917-2007) cover every aspect of modern Russian culture, with a particular emphasis on the emigration. One need not go elsewhere to get the entire picture of 20th-century Russian — especially emigre — life, from the mundane to the spectacular, from laundry lists to grand works of art.

Mead Art Museum: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
The Mead Art Museum houses the art collection of Amherst College, spanning 5,000 years and encompassing the creative achievements of many world cultures; its more than 19,000 objects are used for teaching and research across the disciplines.

Frost Café: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Frost Café, located on the main floor of Frost Library, offers a vast array of goodies for purchase to get you through your day. Fair Trade Coffee beverages are creatively crafted alongside Teatulia Teas, fresh baked pastries from Val’s Bakery and a number of other treats.

Beneski Museum of Natural History: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Tour at 1:30 p.m.)
The Beneski Museum of Natural History opened its new, award-winning building in 2008. It houses more than 200,000 specimens collected by Amherst professors and their students over nearly two centuries. On display are over 1,700 specimens, including towering skeletons of a mammoth, a mastodon, and dinosaurs; plus a world-renowned dinosaur footprint collection stunningly displayed.

Norwottuck Rail Trail
A scenic 8.5-mile path linking Northampton, Hadley and Amherst along the former Boston & Maine Railroad right-of-way. Accessible behind the College’s tennis courts, it is a popular destination for joggers, cyclists and those merely out for a stroll.