Where you can simply, boldly and powerfully be.
At Smith, one of the largest liberal arts colleges for women, there is nothing to hold you back. We trust you to set your own path, to be audacious, to have courage, to express yourself and find your way in the world. That's the boldness of you. That's the power of Smith.
Our academic programs combine intellectual rigor with the pure joy of learning something new. Here, we encourage you to explore what gives you purpose. Develop global solutions in our accredited engineering program. Analyze market economics. Discover expressive dance. Whatever you choose, our curriculum powerfully prepares you to achieve your goals.

Study what moves you.

When you come to Smith, you join a community of individuals who have changed the world in remarkable ways. Smithies like Betty Friedan, Julia Child, Gloria Steinem, Sylvia Plath and Kimberly Drew have started movements, broken barriers, lifted communities and changed our culture. At Smith, you’ll experience the same things they did—rigorous academics and a community where your strengths, goals and dreams are enthusiastically supported. Study with professors who are inspired by your ambition; learn from advisers who help you chart your course; and feel confident in knowing that you have the power to be anything you choose.

In addition to your major, choose among 57 minors and a collection of academic concentrations to integrate intellectual and practical experiences into your area of interest.

FOR A FULL LIST OF OUR CONCENTRATIONS, visit smith.edu/academics
A FOUNDATION OF FREEDOM.

A liberal arts emphasis, an open curriculum and the opportunity to explore.

Grounded firmly in the humanities, arts and sciences, our liberal arts foundation ensures that you have the skills and ability to not only understand our complex world but also lead in it. A Smith education gives you the freedom to explore a wide range of historical ideas and engage in cross-disciplinary conversation. In that same spirit, we offer an open curriculum—meaning you have the flexibility to choose courses that spark your passions. In an open curriculum, you’re never required to take courses that don’t interest you. Instead, you’ll shape your own academic journey. Choose courses in Arabic, engineering or digital literacy—it’s up to you.

At Smith, we set you free.

Support like never before.
In addition to dedicated advisers, you’ll always have access to writing and teaching support, learning workshops, and meaningful career development opportunities through our academic support centers.

THE FIVE COLLEGE CONSORTIUM

The Five College Consortium gives you greater flexibility for academic and personal discovery. Within a 12-mile radius of Smith are Amherst, Hampshire and Mount Holyoke colleges and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Proximity to these schools enables us to offer joint programs like astronomy and architectural studies or queer, transgender and sexuality studies. You’re able to take these courses for free as you continue exploring and growing.
When Sidni transferred to Smith to study pre-med, she immediately took advantage of the incredible array of experiences available to her. Through networking and thoughtful exploration of new ideas, she cultivated her interests in entrepreneurship, startups, technology and digital marketing. Inspired, Sidni switched to a philosophy/economics double major and then to an econ major, philosophy minor. Her path is a true reflection of Smith’s flexible approach to academics and our commitment to supporting and guiding you at every step—inside and outside of the classroom.

“I am so grateful to my mentors. They are truly the most influential people in my life—amazing people who have helped guide me in directions I did not know I would go.”

BETWEEN MY SOPHOMORE AND JUNIOR YEARS, I became interested in entrepreneurship and startups. I reached out to the Lazarus Center for Career Development. They helped me connect with [Mediabistro founder] Laurel Touby ’85. She connected me with Daphne Cheng, an entrepreneur and vegan chef who was starting a new company. From Daphne, I became familiar with Slack and Google Drive as well as how to effectively research a market you want to enter. From this experience, I began to think about my own startup ideas.

AFTER TWO INTERNSHIPS WITH STARTUPS, I wanted to try something new. I was lucky enough to get a summer internship within the marketing technology department at New York Life Insurance Company. I focused on web analytics, working with Adobe Omniture to analyze web traffic. In addition, I was part of a website redesign, and I was able to teach myself some coding in CSS and HTML. Here, I developed an immense interest in web design and web analytics.”

SMITHIE SPOTLIGHT

SIDNI STANDARD

CLASS OF 2017
EMBOLDENED TO BE

THE FIRST IN YOUR FIELD.

SMITH COLLEGE

COMMUNITY LIFE

ADELAIDE BROWN, 1888
First woman on California State Board of Health

FLORENCE RENA SABIN, 1893
First woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences

OTELIA CROMWELL, 1902
First African-American woman to receive a doctorate from Yale University

HELEN WALLBRIDGE, 1903
First woman student to be accepted to New York Hospital in Manhattan

LUCILE ATCHERSON CURTIS, 1913
First woman to serve in the U.S. Foreign Service

MARIA LOPEZ, 1975
First Hispanic woman appointed to Massachusetts Superior Court

EUNICE HUNTON CARTER, 1921
First black woman district attorney in New York City

ELIZABETH STOFFREGEN MAY, 1928
First woman member of board of directors of U.S. Export-Import Bank

BARBARA POLK WASHBURN, 1935
First woman to climb Mt. McKinley

ANN BAUMGARTNER CARL, 1939
First woman to fly a jet plane

RENèE CLAIRE FOX, 1940
First woman to hold a chair of a department (sociology) at University of Pennsylvania

FERDINAND D. NANCY STEVENSON, 1960
First woman dean of the college at Princeton University

JOANNE MARTIN, 1968
First woman to earn tenure at Stanford University’s Graduate School of Business

LAURA D’ANDREA TYSON, 1969
First woman to chair White House Council of Economic advisers, under President Clinton

NANCY WEISS MALKIEL, 1965
First woman dean of the college at Princeton University

MARJORIE FINE KNOWLES, 1960
First inspector general of the U.S. Department of Labor

NG’ENDO MWANGI, 1961
First woman physician in Kenya

HARI BRISBINI, 1943
First woman director in the office of the UN High Commission

BARBARA HULLEY ACKERMANN, 1948
First woman mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts

KATHERINE WOODRUFF BEANNING, 1943
First woman president of American Society of Newspaper Editors

ANN BROWN, 1959
First woman chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission

MAZDORE FINE KNOWLES, 1960
First U.S. general of the U.S. Department of Labor

NANCY CHAN-PALAY, 1965
First woman to receive a medical degree summa cum laude from Harvard

RENEE CLAIRE FOX, 1949
First woman to hold a chair of a department (sociology) at University of Pennsylvania

ELEANOR SANGER, 1950
First woman lawyer, television sports producer

CHRISTINE VON WEDEMEYER SEARIN, 1952
First woman partner in New York City’s largest law firm

SALLIE MCFAUGUE TE SELL, 1952
First woman dean of an American theological school

ELIZABETH WOODRUFF PINE, 1952
First woman to be elected a New York State judge

ELIZABETH H. MYERS, 1957
First woman ordained an Episcopal priest in Diocese of Central Pennsylvania

ANN BROWN, 1959
First woman chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission

MARIE LOPEZ, 1975
First Hispanic woman appointed to Massachusetts Superior Court

VICTORIA MURDEN McCURIE, 1965
First woman to climb Mt. McKinley

MARIA MURDEN McCURIE, 1965
First woman to climb Mt. McKinley

MITSU CLAIRE CHINO, 1991
First female executive officer of any major trading company in Japan, and the youngest…
A campus designed for connection.

Empowering Smithies is what we do best.

At Smith, you’ll always find something to do and someone to connect with. Attend concerts, see movies, sit in on guest lectures or network with non-Smithies at sponsored events. When you’re ready to venture off campus, you can walk to the bustling downtown of Northampton just a few minutes away. In Noho, you’ll find dozens of sidewalk cafés, shops, restaurants and music venues. Beyond Northampton, you can hike the New England countryside, ride the nearby bikepath to surrounding towns, or take a train to New York City or a bus to Boston.

Uncover a passion.

As a Smithie, you’re automatically a member of the Student Government Association, which supports more than 140 student organizations. From social justice to sustainability to sports, there’s a club at Smith for you.

We’re here for you.

The Smith College Campus Safety Department is committed to keeping you secure. Officers provide 24-hour security, patrolling the campus on foot and by bicycle. Highly trained officers reflect Smith’s values: they respect, support and are sensitive in responding to all members of the campus community. Smith also has a campuswide emergency notification system.

Wellness in all things.

We make it a priority to offer accessible, medical and mental-health care. At the Schacht Center for Health and Wellness, we offer support of all kinds including sleep management, self-image development and resilience skills.

Molly Aber
CLASS OF 2021

"I IMMEDIATELY FELT LIKE I HAD FOUND MY PLACE AT SMITH."

We make it a priority to offer accessible, medical and mental-health care. At the Schacht Center for Health and Wellness, we offer support of all kinds including sleep management, self-image development and resilience skills.
Living alongside one another with compassion, respect and acceptance.

In the spirit of intentional living, we don’t have traditional dorms or sororities. Instead, you’ll live in a house on campus that’s specifically designed to foster friendship. Each of Smith’s 44 residences has a distinct character and architectural style. A limited number of senior students are also permitted to live off campus through a lottery process. Wherever you live, you’ll find that community comes naturally at Smith.

Welcome home.
As an incoming student, you’ll be assigned your room and roommate. In addition, you’ll share space with housemates from other classes. All Smith houses are unique in that they are self-governing, meaning you establish your own shared culture. It’s also a valuable opportunity to find your voice and put it into practice.

Sharing meals and doing life, together.
Food is a natural rhythm of Smith daily life, and we believe in providing an abundance of options. You’ll find something to please your palate. We have 15 dining rooms and a range of vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, kosher and halal menus. Have lunch with friends at a dining room after class, then try another house’s home cooking for dinner.
A COMMUNITY OF INTREPID EXPLORERS.
We bring the world to you. Now, discover what you bring to the world.

Living and studying with over 2,500 students from across this country and around the world, you'll develop meaningful friendships, exchange ideas and learn across cultures. You'll discover how to create the kind of change that isn't limited by borders. And when you graduate, you'll have a greater understanding of the world and your place in it.

Our wide variety of study away options give you the opportunity to expand your college experience. Travel the globe with faculty-led programs or participate in summer internships abroad. Choose to spend a semester or two in places like Italy, Morocco or Jordan. Smith’s study away programs are so impactful that nearly half of all Smithies take advantage of them during their college career.

The world is waiting. Opportunities for global learning include:

- The Phoebe and John D. Lewis Global Studies Center
- Courses in Latin American studies, Africana studies, Asian studies, Middle East studies, “New Europe” studies and border studies
- Study abroad experiences across the world
- Global leaders in residence

Photos courtesy of Lewis Global Studies Center.
The complete loss of permafrost would have irreversible consequences that would not only impact Alaskans but the entire globe. Permafrost stores a vast amount of greenhouse gases, such as methane and carbon dioxide. If that concentration of greenhouse gases was released into the atmosphere, there would be catastrophic impacts on our climate, accelerating warming like never before. For this reason, the thawing of permafrost is considered the sleeping giant. Scientists believe that if this threshold is passed, the climate would be unrecognizable and likely have impacts that we cannot imagine.”
WITH EMPATHY AND AUDACITY. WITH LEADING AND LISTENING.
Driven to discover.

Engage in the questions that shape our future.

Smith’s innovative curriculum empowers you to participate in meaningful, hands-on research tailored to your academic interests. Investigate and analyze pressing questions in areas like genomics, artificial intelligence or neurochemistry. Make profound discoveries through programs like AEMES (Achieving Excellence in Mathematics, Engineering and Sciences) and STRIDE (Student Research in Departments) learning alongside faculty mentors who guide and inspire your research every step of the way.

Nearly 48% of Smith’s STEM majors conduct research with faculty.

Research in motion

Every April, Smith holds an annual showcase for student research and performance, highlighting Smithie achievements. Student topics are relevant and self-selected, and include themes like disease prevention, health policy making and civic engagement.

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

Whatever your interest, we help you find the right research opportunity:

- Research scholarships
- Volunteering in labs
- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships
- Independent research projects
- Work-study projects
- Senior honors thesis

“YOU HAVE A COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE THAT ARE THERE FOR YOU, THAT WANT TO SUPPORT YOU AND WHO WANT TO SEE YOU DO WELL IN YOUR RESEARCH.”

Nyla Johnay Conaway
CLASS OF 2023
MY FIRST TWO YEARS AT SMITH, I received funding through the AEMES Scholars Program. My first project was to work with a faculty mentor, Reid Bertone-Johnson of the landscape studies department, developing a website to catalog artwork created at Smith’s MacLeish Field Station.

OVER MY SOPHOMORE SUMMER, I worked with two other Smith students to cut another mile of hiking trail on the eastern side of the MacLeish property. Working with my hands in this way helped me appreciate the importance of sustainable landscapes. Without AEMES, it’s likely I would not have explored all MacLeish has to offer or discovered a genuine interest in landscape design.

MY FIRST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, an internship last summer at Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects (MNLA), was partially funded by a Praxis stipend. I spent 12 weeks at work in lower Manhattan and was thrilled to be assigned hands-on projects.

MY SENIOR YEAR, I was a student member of the Landscape Master Planning Committee, where we discussed how a sustainable landscape better aligns with Smith’s core values by addressing issues of inclusivity, education and adaptation.

“LANDSCAPES CAN FOSTER COMMUNITY, PROMOTE AN APPRECIATION FOR THE NATURAL WORLD AND CREATE RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE.”

TESS ABBOT CLASS OF 2020

Creating community through beautifully designed landscapes: this was something Tess hadn’t considered before an off-campus internship and funded research experiences as an AEMES scholar (Achieving Excellence in Mathematics, Engineering and Sciences). Almost immediately, Smith provided exposure to innovative thinking and new ways to combine her love of design and the natural world.

“LANDSCAPES CAN FOSTER COMMUNITY, PROMOTE AN APPRECIATION FOR THE NATURAL WORLD AND CREATE RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE.”
EMBOLDENED TO BE ON THE FOREFRONT OF THE FUTURE.

Smith’s Imaging Center connects you to cutting-edge software, digital tools, and virtual and augmented reality experiences. You have opportunities to make art, develop systems-thinking through strategic games, and improve your technical skills and digital storytelling.
Audacious action.

It’s what our future calls for.

Responsible stewardship of the earth’s resources is a top priority at Smith. It’s the reason we’re dedicated to studying ecological issues and finding sustainable solutions. And it’s why we pioneer programs in landscape studies, environmental science and policy, and engineering. We’re not only committed to education and research, but we also put sustainable strategies into practice across campus.

Building sustainably.

All our newest buildings and renovations meet high environmental and health standards. Smith is home to several LEED-certified buildings, including Ford Hall, Cutter House, Ziskind House, and the Friedman apartment complex. In addition, we have two acres of rooftop solar panels, and we’re continually retrofitting older buildings to be more sustainable.

SMITH COLLEGE

SUSTAINABILITY

Initiating change.

Sustainable campus initiatives include:

- Buying and serving locally grown products
- Implementing sustainable practices campuswide
- Addressing environmental challenges through research and study
- Engaging in environmental activism through extracurriculars

52% of academic departments are engaged in sustainability research and scholarship.

SMITH has committed to becoming CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030

52% of academic departments are engaged in sustainability research and scholarship.

We’re deeply committed to sustainability along with student access and inclusivity. Our modern labs, renowned art collection, extensive women’s history archive, stunning botanic gardens and nearly completed state-of-the-art library offer an immersive environment for meaningful learning. These innovative spaces also provide access to extensive technology resources, including professional-grade media equipment and facilities.

An environment dedicated to beauty and shared knowledge.

At our heart.
The new Neilson Library, by renowned designer Maya Lin, is the intellectual heart of the campus. Its renovation features two new wings—one bringing together special collections and the other filled with spaces to support scholarship and innovation. The library will also include a café, a digital media hub and a sunken outdoor amphitheater. Works of art in The Smith College Museum of Art.

Mendenhall Center for the Performing Arts houses two fully equipped theatres, dance studios, design labs, lounges, and professional scene and costume shops. Sage Hall, home of the music department, has two concert spaces and dozens of practice rooms, a digital music studio and an electronic music studio.

The botanic garden cultivates thousands of plants, including those grown under glass in the Lyman Conservatory and outdoors in the campus arboretum.
BE THE PERSON YOU WERE MEANT TO BECOME.
There is something to be said about the timeless authority of a printed newspaper, but an online presence has undeniably become a requirement for print journalism. In such a hyperconnected digital age, this intersectional role coalesces naturally in the social media sphere.

As a Korean American, I’ve become more conscious of how discrimination plays a role in the relationship of people of color with the press, and how nuanced biases in media can work against minorities and build a wall of distrust. The Sophian has the potential to realign that relationship to something constructive for students of color and other minorities at Smith through better representation in published content and on staff.

After graduation, I worked as a paralegal specialist at the Justice Department in D.C. Even though I didn’t pursue journalism, it will always play a role in my life. Working on The Sophian has improved my problem-solving skills and changed my perspective on current events and the potential of journalism for the better.”
Nothing stops a Smithie.

Here, there are no financial barriers to your success.

We believe in supporting your dreams, and that means making sure you have the financial resources you need to experience everything Smith has to offer. At Smith, access equals excellence. Our generous financial aid packages (grants, scholarships and loans) meet the full calculated need, within federal and institutional guidelines, of all admitted students who apply for aid by the deadlines.

We welcome your questions — we’re here to walk you and your family through all your options.
Start Now.

When it comes to admission, we want to understand who you are beyond what's reflected on your transcript. We read each application thoughtfully, considering your life experiences and goals alongside your academic preparation and extracurricular activities. Above all, we seek motivated, determined and curious individuals who are ready to powerfully impact the future.

Key dates
There are three first-year admission plans. Early Decision I and II allow you to designate Smith as your first choice. This choice saves the time and expense of multiple applications and provides a faster decision. Regular Decision gives you a third option.

EARLY DECISION I
Complete application by November 15
Campus interview by November 15
Decision mailing date: mid-December

EARLY DECISION II
Complete application by January 1
Campus interview by January 1
Decision mailing date: late January

REGULAR DECISION
Complete application by January 15
Campus interview by January 15
Decision mailing date: late March

International Students
International students make up more than 14% of the student body at Smith. You may apply to Smith under one of our three decision plans and enroll in the fall.

Transfer Students
Smith welcomes applications from students wishing to transfer into the sophomore and junior classes. Transfer students may be admitted for September or January.
AUDACITY,
AGENCY,
AUTHENTICITY.

THAT’S WHAT MAKES A
Smithie.

SMITH COLLEGE
10 Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01063
413-585-2500
admission@smith.edu