



HARVARD
COLLEGE



THE HARVARD EXPERIENCE



Harvard has educated leaders and shaped the future for nearly 400 years. It has nurtured novelists and scientific pioneers, jurists and composers, architects and actors, business leaders and spiritual leaders, physicians and public servants, and scholars and teachers in nearly every field of human endeavor. This institution leaves an indelible mark on the lives of its students, connecting them to an extraordinary history and challenging them to discover and define their purpose.

Drew Gilpin Faust

President of Harvard University



We want to ensure we are providing students a deeply transformative experience—intellectually, socially, and personally—that will prepare them for a life of citizenship and leadership. Harvard College intends to set the standard for liberal arts and sciences education for the next hundred years. This is who we are.

Rakesh Khurana

Dean of Harvard College



Harvard transformed my life—and it can transform yours.

- Live in Harvard's legendary House System, a faculty-led "small college" experience with enhanced personal advising and a graduation rate of 98%.
- Access our "One Harvard" and benefit from the unique resources of the entire University including our renowned graduate schools, research centers, theaters, museums, and Innovation Lab.
- Study and conduct research in state-of-the-art facilities with faculty at the forefront of all the arts and sciences.
- Explore Boston, "America's College Town," along with hundreds of on-campus extracurricular and athletic options.
- Afford Harvard through our revolutionary financial aid program with nearly 60% of Harvard families (including those international) paying an average of only \$12,000 per year, with no loans required.

Harvard presented possibilities I never imagined—imagine the possibilities waiting here for you.

William Fitzsimmons

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid



Home at Harvard

Residential life at the College



Harvard College is more than the sum of its many celebrated parts. It is, most of all, a home—a place where you can belong. Each college experience may be different, but at Harvard, there are certain experiences everyone will share. And a strong personal sense of community is one of them.

► college.harvard.edu



RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM

Our students represent all regions of the United States and over 80 foreign countries. You and your classmates will embody a panorama of interests and aspirations. You'll have goals and you'll work hard, but you'll also have time to relax and enjoy the company of friends. We designed residential life with those purposes in mind.

During freshman year, historic Harvard Yard will be your home. Surrounded by other first-year students, living together in the very heart of campus, you'll be steps away from the world's leading university library, state-of-the-art laboratories and classrooms, and a renowned faculty dedicated equally to teaching and research.

As a sophomore, you'll move into a House. These are residential colleges, where students live, dine, study, plan events, play intramural sports, and become part of a tight, supportive community that includes faculty and advisors. For many Harvard students, the Houses represent the most rewarding elements of both social and academic life. At some point in your Harvard career, people will ask you which is the best House at Harvard College. The answer will be easy: your House.

LOCATION

In Cambridge, you'll find an environment that combines history and colonial charm with all the energy of a modern urban setting. In addition to exploring legendary Harvard Square, home to popular restaurants, cafes, theaters, and, of course, bookstores, you can also enjoy the excitement of Boston, America's premier "college town."

A ten minute subway ride from Harvard Square can take you into the heart of downtown Boston, from which you can visit one of the great museums (the JFK Library, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Science, and many others); see exciting performances such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Red Sox, and Celtics; and explore nearby neighborhoods (like the North End and Beacon Hill). Also, within easy reach are Atlantic beaches, cozy seaside villages from Cape Cod to Maine, ski slopes, forests, and historic sites.



ABOUT CAMBRIDGE AND BOSTON

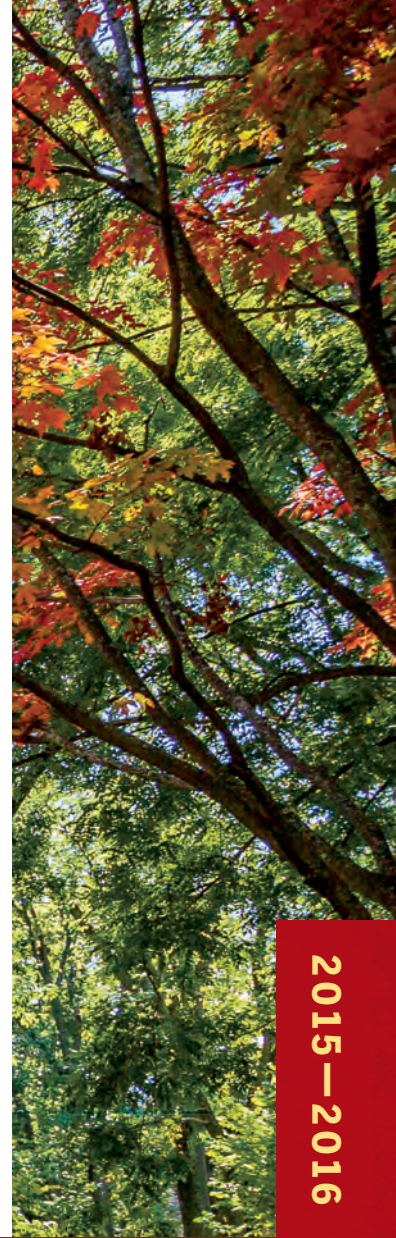
Harvard Yard is an amazing place to live. The blend of city life and historic buildings creates a really interesting and dynamic college experience—it's the perfect balance for me.

Halie Olson '17 *Massachusetts*

ABOUT HOUSES

The housing system is by far one of Harvard's greatest attributes. The amount of support I receive from my fellow students, tutors, House Masters, and the staff always gets me through the tougher weeks. These aren't just dorms; they're actually homes that foster a community of togetherness and trust.

Michael Richard '17 *Massachusetts*



2015—2016





Explore Ideas

Learning at Harvard College

Incredible range, depth, and variety will characterize your Harvard academic experience. World-renowned for the quality of our teaching and research, the College will supply you with the tools to build a highly individualized and rewarding undergraduate course of study.

► college.harvard.edu/academics

RANGE: A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION

At Harvard, you will be exposed to a broad array of academic topics, spanning the humanities, social sciences, and physical sciences. You will take courses in the General Education Program, designed to introduce you to subject matter from across the University and connect what you learn in the classroom to life beyond the college years. This interdisciplinary approach to learning will prepare you to engage in your community and enable you to think thoughtfully, critically, and constructively about the world.

DEPTH: CONCENTRATION

At the end of your third term, you will choose your primary field of focus, your concentration. This will give you the opportunity to dive into a specific field and explore a sequence of courses specific to the discipline. We offer more than 45 concentrations, but students whose interests bridge multiple areas may in some instances combine fields through a joint concentration or devise a special concentration. Secondary fields provide further opportunity for focused study outside of the primary area of concentration. The list of offerings can be found on our website.

VARIETY: CHOICE AND FLEXIBILITY

You can choose from over 3,500 courses to create a highly individualized plan of study. Every semester, you will spend the first week sitting in on classes and determining how well a class fits with your goals and needs. This “Shopping Week” gives you the flexibility to make important academic decisions with confidence, genuine interest, and direction. After declaring a concentration, you can pursue various tracks within the field to customize your experience. You may also register at many of our ten Harvard graduate schools or MIT.

ADVISING

Throughout your experience, you will develop meaningful relationships with your advisers and mentors. From freshman to senior year, you will have different kinds of advisers: academic/concentration advisers (members of the faculty or staff), residential advisers (graduate students or administrators), and peer advisers, all available to guide and help you.



OUR ACADEMIC LIFE BY THE NUMBERS

12 **median course size**

3,500+ **courses**

450+ **General Education classes**

120+ **Freshman Seminars**

80+ **ancient and modern languages**

45+ **undergraduate concentrations**

400+ **Freshman Advisers**

45+ **secondary fields**

7:1 **student to faculty ratio**

98% **graduation rate of our students**

FACULTY INTERACTION

One of my favorite things about Harvard so far is

how willing and enthusiastic the professors are when it comes to helping undergraduates. At the beginning of freshman year, I emailed a very renowned professor whose freshman seminar I wanted to take, and the professor not only emailed me back within half an hour, but he made himself extremely accessible.

Alice Hu '18 *Pennsylvania*

OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY

There's no better word than “collaborative” when describing Harvard culture. You discover new things 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I go to bed every night knowing that I've learned something new, and many times that comes from my peers and not just from the classroom.

Preeti Srinivasan '17 *Connecticut*



Dig Deeper

Academic opportunities at Harvard College



At Harvard College, we expect our students to dive into academic life, get to know their professors, and pursue interests both inside and outside of the classroom. The curriculum is structured, but you will have the chance to be creative, as well.

► college.harvard.edu/academics

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

► <http://uraf.harvard.edu/>

The research opportunities at Harvard College are virtually endless. Our world-renowned faculty values the opportunity to work with undergraduates, and beginning freshman year, you can pursue research as part of your normal academic program or as paid term-time or summer employment. This past year, more than 1,500 students participated in undergraduate research, receiving a total of more than \$5 million in project funding—and that's not counting internships and mentorships.

RESOURCES

Are you looking for a college with resources? We have these: 70 individual libraries, 12 teaching museums, 24 campus buildings devoted to science and research, and multiple theaters and performance spaces. In addition to these, you can seek career advice at the Office of Career Service, request a peer tutor at the Bureau of Study Counsel, collaborate with peers at the Innovation Lab, and cross-register at many of Harvard's graduate schools or MIT.

LANGUAGES

► <http://artsandhumanities.fas.harvard.edu/languages-harvard/>

Harvard offers an array of over 80 languages, vital to the linguistic and cultural proficiency required in an increasingly global society. Choose from languages such as Chinese, Irish, Arabic, Haitian, Swedish, Turkish, more than 20 African languages, and many more. Students can combine language study with literature, politics, music, film, and history.

STUDY ABROAD

► <http://oie.fas.harvard.edu/>

Join the 60% of students who enjoy an international experience during their time at Harvard. No matter your field of study, you can study in classrooms abroad, take part in field-based cultural immersion programs, or take language intensive courses. The only choice to make is when and where!

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

► <http://www.seas.harvard.edu/>

Harvard College educates the world's future leaders in science and technology, broadly and deeply. Embedded in the liberal arts and emphasizing hands-on learning and cross-disciplinary work, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences provides students with the technical and critical skills to create solutions to the problems of the world.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

► <http://artsandhumanities.fas.harvard.edu/>

You'll find vibrant and exciting fields in the Arts and Humanities, whether you study music, philosophy, theater, film-making, art history, or the literatures of the world. Whether your goal is to practice law or medicine, work in the humanities, or explore career options, the Arts and Humanities provide the foundational education necessary to live a life of meaning and professional fulfillment. Consider our new concentration in "Theater, Dance, and Media."



ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

It's very satisfying, and indeed inspiring, to work with the young people we will be depending on to confront and solve the scientific problems that will determine our destiny. It's made me feel incredibly optimistic about the future.

Jene Golovchenko *Rumford Professor of Physics and Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Physics*



Reach New Heights

Athletics for everybody



Chances are that as a Harvard student you will participate in some form of athletics and physical recreation on campus—nearly 80% of our students do! Our extensive athletic facilities include the nation’s oldest football stadium (which looks a lot like Rome’s Coliseum), modern strength/condition rooms and aerobic studios, an ice rink, and beautiful boat houses along the river—all in constant use. You can match your level of skill/interest by participating on teams ranging from varsity and junior varsity to club, intramural, or recreational. Or come be a spectator and cheer on the Harvard Crimson!

► college.harvard.edu/student-residential-life/athletics



ON THE SPORTING LIFE

Club and intramural sports have been such a vital part of my time at Harvard so far! The camaraderie of a sports team is unlike any other, and I would not give up the fun experiences I have had and the people I have met there for anything.

Becca Ramos '17 *Washington*

VARSITY

Harvard hosts the nation's largest Division I athletic program, with 42 sports and nearly 1,300 athletes. Our athletes pursue excellence both in the classroom and on the field, enjoying success within the Ivy League, as well as on national and international levels.

Our varsity teams include...

BASEBALL	GOLF	SOFTBALL
BASKETBALL	ICE HOCKEY	SQUASH
HEAVYWEIGHT CREW	LACROSSE	SWIMMING & DIVING
LIGHTWEIGHT CREW	RUGBY	TENNIS
CROSS COUNTRY	SAILING	TRACK & FIELD
FENCING	ALPINE SKIING	VOLLEYBALL
FIELD HOCKEY	NORDIC SKIING	WATER POLO
FOOTBALL	SOCCER	WRESTLING

CLUB

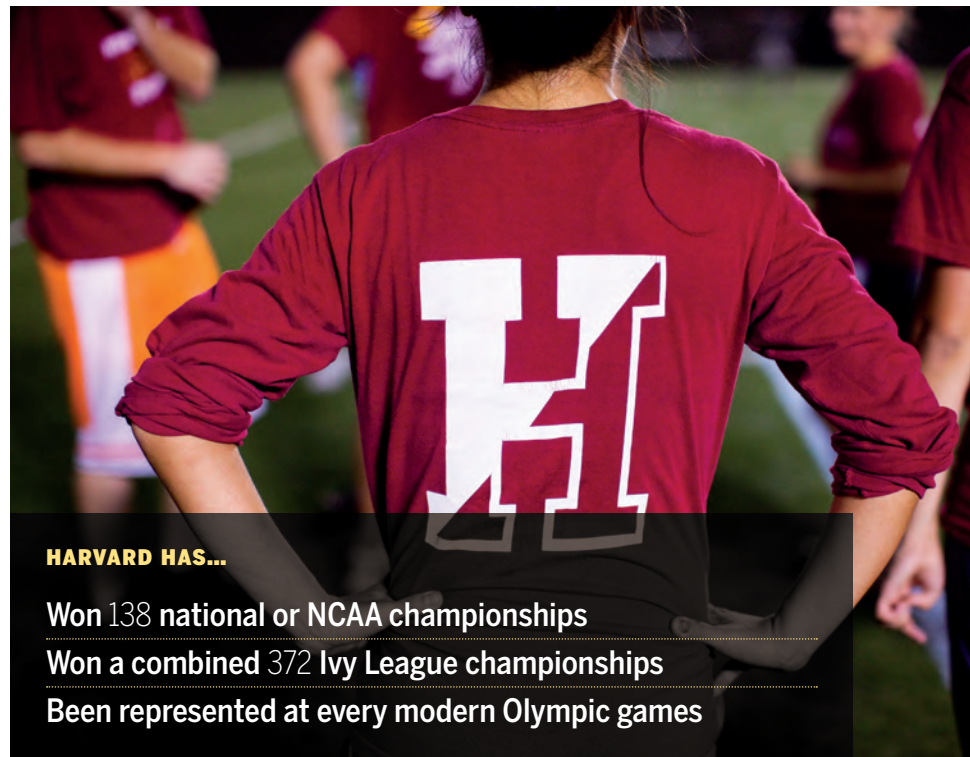
Join a group of peers who share a common interest in recreation and sport. Club sports are student-initiated and student-run, providing opportunities for leadership and decision-making. Fully recognized by the College and supported by the Department of Athletics, activities range from informal games to intercollegiate and tournament competition.

A sampling of club offerings...

ARCHERY	FENCING	SOCCER
BADMINTON	FIELD HOCKEY	SQUASH
BALLROOM DANCE	FIGURE SKATING	SWIMMING
BASEBALL	ICE HOCKEY	TABLE TENNIS
BASKETBALL	KENDO	TAEKWONDO
BODYBUILDING	LACROSSE	TENNIS
BOXING	POLO	ULTIMATE FRISBEE
CAPOEIRA	QUIDDITCH	VOLLEYBALL
CHEERLEADING	RUGBY	WRESTLING
CRIMSON DANCE	RUNNING	WUSHU
CYCLING	SKIING	

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Develop your House pride by competing in various intramural sports for the ultimate House trophy, the Straus Cup. Intramural sports range in skill level and in variety, including sports such as flag football, soccer, volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee, crew, basketball, softball and innertube water polo.



HARVARD HAS...

- Won 138 national or NCAA championships
- Won a combined 372 Ivy League championships
- Been represented at every modern Olympic games



Get Involved

Life outside the classroom



Your education will extend far beyond your courses. Joining extracurricular activities will complement your studies and create wonderful opportunities for friendship and learning. Student activities range in skill levels; you can pursue life-long passions or novel interests.

► college.harvard.edu/admissions/choosing-harvard/student-activities

PERFORMING, FINE AND APPLIED ARTS

If you're an artist—of sight, sound, or movement—you will flourish here. At Harvard, you will find many offerings in music, the visual arts, drama, and dance. Even if you're not yet an artist, consider the possibilities.

Offerings include:

SEVEN ORCHESTRAS	WORKSHOPS IN DRAWING,
CHAMBER MUSIC AND CHORAL	PAINTING, POTTERY,
ENSEMBLES	PHOTOGRAPHY, SCULPTURE, AND
SEVERAL JAZZ BANDS AND COMBOS	FILMMAKING
A WIND ENSEMBLE	MORE THAN 60 STUDENT
A GOSPEL CHOIR	PRODUCTIONS A YEAR
A GLEE CLUB	THE LOEB DRAMA CENTER (<i>with</i>
NUMEROUS A CAPPELLA AND	<i>credit / non-credit courses in</i>
MADRIGAL GROUPS	<i>acting, directing, playwrighting,</i>
ART STUDIOS	<i>dramaturgy, and design</i>)
A PRINT WORKSHOP	THE HARVARD COLLEGE DANCE
CERAMICS STUDIOS	CENTER (<i>credit / non-credit</i>
DARKROOMS	<i>courses in modern dance, ballet,</i>
WOODWORKING SHOPS	<i>jazz, tap, choreography, and</i>
20 STUDENT DANCE COMPANIES	<i>improvisation</i>)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Since 1636, Harvard has maintained a steadfast commitment to advancing society through meaningful individual and collective participation in service. The Phillips Brooks House Association has stood as the leading public service organization on campus for the past 100 years, offering more than 85 different student-run, community-based, and non-profit public service programs. We bet there's at least one that's perfect for you.

POLITICS & MEDIA

Harvard is home to numerous student-run media and political organizations, including a daily student newspaper, humor magazines, political newspapers, ethnic and cultural publications, a student-run radio station, and a yearbook. The Institute of Politics (IOP) seeks to unite and engage students with prominent academics, politicians, activists, and policymakers.

CULTURAL GROUPS

Harvard sponsors more than 50 cultural, ethnic, and international organizations, as well as groups representing nearly every religion and political belief. The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations hosts many activities throughout the year that celebrate campus ethnic and cultural diversity.



“ ”

ON LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

At Harvard, I've been a part of clubs like the Hyperion Shakespeare Company, where I work on intellectual projects, expand my leadership abilities, and work closely with some of my best friends. Outside the classroom is where some of the best learning at Harvard happens, and much of it is focused in our extracurriculars.

Emily Zoffer '17 *North Carolina*

Outside of the classroom, I'm involved in Speak Out Loud, our spoken word performance poetry group. It hosts open mics and poetry slams. Often we go into Greater Boston and perform at other colleges, and we've been to New York City and Colorado to compete in the national poetry slam for college students. My favorite part is the friends I've been able to make, both here at Harvard and in other parts of the country.

Henri Garrison-Desany '16 *Massachusetts*



Be a Part of Tradition

Celebrate Harvard with friends



Harvard is steeped in great social traditions, ones in which you will participate as a student and as an alumnus/a. They will add depth and texture to your Harvard experience. These traditions may evolve over time to reflect the interests of the students, but one thing is consistent for everyone—you will make friendships that will last a lifetime. In your House, on the field, around a seminar table, across a pizza, you'll meet and get to know people who will enrich your thinking, your life, and your career.

► college.harvard.edu/student-residentallife



ALUMNI LIFE

Your connection to Harvard will not end after your Commencement Ceremony. After graduating from Harvard, there are many opportunities to stay connected and involved. Join a shared interest group, attend your five, ten, twenty year reunions, connect with professional networks, or get involved in one of the 200+ alumni groups around the world. Attending Harvard is only the beginning.

Upper Left
Students celebrate Housing Day

Lower Left
The John Harvard statue

Right
Students at a football game

A FEW TRADITIONS WORTH HIGHLIGHTING

- Freshman Dance
- Yardfest
- Freshman Musical
- Housing Day
- Harvard-Yale football game
- Head of the Charles Regatta
- Cultural Rhythms
- Arts First
- House formal dances
- Masters receptions and teas
- Faculty lunches and dinners
- The Hasty Pudding Theatrical Group
- The Crimson
- The Lampoon
- Convocation
- Commencement

ON TRADITION

Harvard-Yale was an unforgettable weekend—there's nothing more exciting than a packed stadium full of Harvard students and alumni, cheering our team to a win for the eighth year in a row!

Bryant Yang '17 *South Dakota*

ON FRIENDSHIP

The friends I've made here are, as cliché as it sounds, simply incredible. They are warm, funny, caring, intelligent—everything I could possibly ask for and more. I'm constantly inspired by their diversity of experience and passion for learning, so to share in this excitement and be part of this community with them is truly special.

Emily Jaimerena '17 *California*



Join us

Admissions and financial aid



At Harvard College, we seek to enroll students who will educate each other within a variety of campus settings—academic, extracurricular, and social.

► college.harvard.edu/financial-aid

ADMISSION: WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Some admission candidates will demonstrate extraordinary promise in academic or research endeavors. Some will show uncommon talent in other areas, such as leadership, performing arts, or athletics. Most of our students combine the best of both scholastic and extracurricular achievement. Personal qualities—integrity, maturity, strength of character, and concern for others—also will play an important part in our evaluations.

FINANCIAL AID: REMOVING ECONOMIC BARRIERS

We bring the best people to Harvard, regardless of their ability to pay. About 70% of our students receive some form of aid, with close to 60% receiving need-based scholarships.

Applying for financial aid does not jeopardize any student’s chance for admission, including international applicants. Indeed, the Admissions Committee may respond favorably to evidence that a candidate has overcome significant obstacles, financial or otherwise. All of Harvard’s financial aid is awarded on the basis of demonstrated financial need—there are no academic, athletic, or merit-based awards. Harvard meets the demonstrated need of every student for all four years.

Get an estimate of your financial aid on our Net Price Calculator.
college.harvard.edu/financial-aid/net-price-calculator

Our financial aid program requires no contribution from Harvard families with annual incomes below \$65,000 and asks an average of no more than 10% of income from the majority of families receiving financial aid. In addition, even families with incomes greater than \$150,000 are eligible for aid depending on their particular circumstances, such as multiple children in college or unusual medical or other essential expenses. We do not require students to take out loans, although they are asked to contribute to the cost of their education through term-time and summer work.

You can afford to go to Harvard. Harvard was named “Best Value” by *US News*. In fact, close to 60% of Harvard families pay an average of only \$12,000 per year due to our revolutionary financial aid program. About 20% pay nothing!



ON ACCESS

Harvard's generous financial aid package ended up being the most affordable for my family. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to come here and learn from amazing professors and peers. I have fully immersed myself into the Harvard community, knowing that the College is committed to ensuring that my education is affordable.

Herman Bhupal '16 *North Carolina*



DEADLINES

	EARLY ACTION	REGULAR DECISION
Common Application or Universal College Application	As soon as possible or by November 1	As soon as possible or by January 1
Secondary School Report and two letters of recommendation	November 1 or October 15 if possible	January 1 or December 15 if possible
Initial components of the financial aid application (using best estimates)	November 1	February 1
All financial aid application materials, including tax and income documentation	March 1	March 1
Notification date for applicants	Mid-December	Late March



“ ”

I cannot stress enough that what makes the Harvard experience special are the people. To take advantage of the astonishing diversity has been an invaluable part of my college experience.

August Dao '15 *Oregon*



[harvard_admissions](#)



[@applytoharvard](#)



[harvard.tumblr.com](#)



[facebook.com/harvardadmissions](#)



HARVARD COLLEGE
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID
GRIFFIN FINANCIAL AID OFFICE
86 Brattle Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138