



## Clothing and Equipment List

*Please note that this list has been revised to reflect our COVID-19 coordination and planning process as of January 19, 2021. As our planning continues, we may send an addendum of items that students will need to bring with them to Maine Coast Semester, such as other types of personal protective equipment (PPE).*

At Chewonki, you have an opportunity to simplify your life. One way to achieve this is to limit the “stuff” that you use daily; remember that you will be living in a one-room cabin with five of your peers. Most of your attire can be informal and should enable you to live, learn, and work comfortably in both built environments and the outdoors. As you pack, keep in mind seasonal changes. Students in both semesters will experience temperatures and conditions that range from summer (70° - 80° F ±) to winter (0° - 25° F ±).

Put your name on all your clothes and equipment and bring all of the required items with you at the time of your arrival. We do not bring students off campus to purchase additional clothing or equipment. Although students may receive packages at Maine Coast Semester, we strongly encourage families to plan ahead and avoid ordering additional clothing or equipment after the beginning of the semester. We discourage online shopping during the semester, both to uphold our mission of being a sustainable community and our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement that establishes Chewonki’s commitment to promoting equity.

Additionally, you will be expected to do your own laundry on campus. Chewonki provides detergent, and there is no fee to use the laundry facilities.

### Clothing Expectations

Though we do not have a formal dress code, we do ask that clothing be presentable and respectful of others while in classes and representing Maine Coast Semester. Our 400-acre campus features an organic farm, forest and woodlot, meadows, marsh, rocky coastline, and twelve-miles of hiking trails. Students spend a great deal of time outdoors in all weather conditions, including rain and snow. Students should pack accordingly. Jeans are appropriate for most activities, including work programs. Work program also necessitates that you bring clothes and gloves that can get *very* dirty. A headlamp is a **MUST HAVE** for moving around campus in the early mornings and evenings. Please also bring one “nicer” outfit for special events.

### Storage

Students live in one-room cabins with five other peers. For storage, each student has two medium-sized bookcases (waist height) with four-six shelves a piece, as well as space under the bed. Some students bring a trunk to keep at the foot of their bed or containers to go underneath. Under-bed containers may be on wheels and should be no taller than 11.5 inches. A labeled mesh bag for laundry is also useful.

**Required Outerwear**

- Warm winter parka (lightweight down or synthetic-fill “super layer”)
- Waterproof rain jacket
- Waterproof rain pants
- Work pants (jean or cotton duck)
- Insulated snow pants (required for spring semester)
- Warm thermal or fleece pants to layer under rain pants (required for spring semester)
- Warm fleece or wool gloves that are flexible enough to wear when writing
- Warm shell mittens that fit over gloves
- Lined leather or canvas work gloves
- Hat with a brim
- Wool or synthetic ski hat
- Balaclava, buff, or warm scarf
- Sunglasses and/or ski goggles
- Bandana
- Seven (7) fitted face-masks

**Required Clothing**

- Two weeks’ worth of everyday clothing
- Two warm wool sweaters or fleece jackets that can be layered over shirts and t-shirts
- Two sets of long underwear (non-cotton), top and bottom
- Long-sleeved work shirts (flannel, wool, or denim)
- Several pairs of warm, wool socks
- Swim suit
- One outfit for special events

**Required Footwear**

*Although there are boardwalks near the center of campus and some gravel pathways, students should expect to encounter wet, muddy, snowy, and cold ground conditions on a regular basis. Classes frequently meet on our farm, hiking trails, and coastline. During science field lab, students typically visit rocky and sandy beaches, bogs, brooks, and marshes. Students will be outside in all weather conditions, including the snow and rain.*

- Sturdy hiking boots that are waterproof or water-resistant
- Tall, rubber boots such as rain boots or insulated bog boots (recommended, however the farm has extra pairs of waterproof boots on hand for farm chores)
- Everyday footwear, such as running shoes, sandals, crocs, etc.
- Water shoes (old sneakers are acceptable, but crocs and backless sandals are not)
- Insulated winter boots (ideally, with removable felt lining)
- An old pair of sneakers that you don’t mind getting exceptionally wet or dirty for polar bear dips and other water/mudflat activities (see above “water shoes” for more information)
- Slippers or slipper socks for wearing inside your cabin

**Required Cabin and Outdoor Items**

- Headlamp and additional batteries
- Warm bedding and linens – twin-sized sheets, blankets, pillow, towels
- Two water bottles (approximately 32 oz. each)
- Battery-powered alarm clock

- Wrist-watch (not Wi-Fi enabled)
- Books for pleasure reading or games (note: we do not support participants playing *Cards Against Humanity* or similar games. We are eager to engage in conversation with you about our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement and why this popular game does not align with our ethos.)
- Toiletries to last two months (natural/biodegradable preferred) and shower caddy
- Sunscreen
- Bug-spray

### Required School Supplies

*Note: we do not have a school store on campus.*

- Pens, pencils and highlighters
- Spiral notebooks (3-4)
- Five three-ring binders
- Five sets of subject-dividers to use with three-ring binders
- 100 count pack of college-ruled loose leaf paper to be used with binders
- Graphing calculator
- Durable backpack for on-campus use and science field labs
- School or government issued photo I.D.

### Additional Items Required for Spring Students

- Micro spikes (fit over shoes to provide extra traction in icy conditions)
- Notes from the fall semester classes you will be continuing at Maine Coast Semester, e.g. language, history, and math (these will be useful to look over as you learn new material and prepare for any Advanced Placement exams you may be taking)

### Optional Equipment, and Other Items

*Chewonki has many of these items on hand for students to use, however if you already own this equipment, you can bring it with you.*

- 40-50 liter internal-frame backpack
- Cold-weather sleeping bag, rated to 15 or 20° F for fall or 0 or 5° F for spring, that stuffs into a small sack. If you are a “cold sleeper,” you may want a synthetic fleece sleeping bag liner.
- Sleeping pad
- Crazy creek-style lightweight folding chair for field lab and phenology (NOTE: Maine Coast Semester provides each student with a crazy-creek style folding chair)
- Binoculars
- Digital camera
- Musical instruments (encouraged)
- Crafting materials, such as embroidery, knitting, crocheting, etc.
- Art supplies (art materials will also be provided by Maine Coast Semester)
- Recreational and sports equipment (e.g. tennis racket, lacrosse stick, cross-country skis, ice skates, hockey stick, etc.)
- Costumes or dress-up clothes for Saturday evening activities (i.e. skits, coffeehouses, theme dances, etc.)

### Please Do **NOT** Bring or Acquire While Enrolled in Maine Coast Semester

- Cell phone (if needed for travel, we will safely store on campus)
- Personal Wi-Fi enabled devices (like laptops, iPad, wearable technology, etc.)

- Television sets, iPod Touch, DVD players, DVDs, or other electronic or digital media
- Hot pots, appliances, or electric blankets
- Large stereos (personal, non-internet capable music-listening devices are allowed)
- Tapestries or other cloth wall hangings are not allowed as they are a fire hazard. Posters and photos are ok.
- Firearms
- Pets
- Candles or incense
- Alcohol, tobacco products, or other illegal drugs

### Sourcing Items

Clothing, equipment, and footwear that students bring to campus will be well-used, so we recommend bringing durable items that can stand-up to Maine's rugged landscape and variable weather. Good quality items can be expensive, and several brands now offer gently used and repaired items on their websites. Buying used is both an environmentally friendly and pragmatic approach to outfitting yourself for the semester. Used gear can be found online by searching for:

- Patagonia Worn Wear
- REI Co-op Used Gear
- The North Face Renewed
- Outdoors Geek

You can also try searching websites like eBay or Tradesy for popular brands like Blundstone, Carhartt, L.L. Bean, Merrell, Keen, Muck Boots, Bogs Boots, or Sorel.

### Still Have Questions?

Packing for a four-month semester in an unfamiliar climate can be challenging, so if you feel unsure of what to pack please don't hesitate to call the admissions office at (207) 882-7323 ext. 140. Maine Coast Semester also maintains a robust [Flickr](#) account with photos of daily life, work program, farm chores, science field lab, and other activities. Some families find these images helpful when deciding what to pack.

### Climate Data for Wiscasset, Maine

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average high in °F:	29	33	40	51	62	71	76	76	68	57	46	36
Average low in °F:	11	14	23	33	43	52	58	57	50	39	31	20
Average precipitation:	4.05"	3.61"	5.02"	4.50"	3.91"	4.01"	3.66"	3.29"	3.99"	4.68"	4.95"	4.51"

Source: U.S. Climate Data