

MAINE COAST SEMESTER at CHEWONKI



Life-Changing Learning in Nature

485 Chewonki Neck Road
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mainecoastsemester.org

ADMINISTRATION

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President

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OUR MISSION

Chewonki inspires transformative growth, teaches appreciation and stewardship of the natural world, and challenges people to build thriving, sustainable communities throughout their lives.

ACCREDITATION

Maine Coast Semester at Chewonki is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and is approved by the State of Maine Department of Education and is an associate member of The Association of Boarding Schools.



CEEB Code 201-122

Chewonki Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

ACADEMIC PROFILE 2026-2027

SCHOOL DESCRIPTION

Located on a 400-acre saltwater peninsula, Maine Coast Semester at Chewonki is an academically rigorous, place-based school community, which is made available to a select number of 11th grade students for one semester (fall or spring). Recognized as a highly competitive program, Maine Coast Semester provides intellectually curious juniors and seniors with an engaging, interdisciplinary curriculum delivered through student-centered instruction, as well as field studies and residential learning experiences, which foster creative thinking and independent problem-solving. The curriculum at Maine Coast Semester is carefully aligned with established college preparatory coursework and serves to complement the program of study at a wide variety of sending schools. In addition to their academic studies, students participate weekly in a variety of work programs that introduce the principles of environmental stewardship and community building.

OUR VISION

We choose to approach rigorous academics, physical work, and everyday living with responsibility and joy. Whether engaging in a spirited classroom discussion, harvesting tomatoes for our table, or planning Saturday night's activities, we live each day deliberately with an eye toward connecting the individual to a larger community. Our students leave Maine Coast Semester with strengthened ownership for their education, an awareness of their place in nature, and an understanding that they can make a positive difference in their world.

GOALS FOR GRADUATES

ENGAGED LEARNING: Students learn in a holistic way and address complex issues with humility, critical thinking, and creativity.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: As responsible community members, students intentionally engage with a breadth of perspectives to promote social and environmental justice within and across communities.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION: Students listen with openness and discernment and communicate ideas with clarity, creativity, and an awareness of impact.

SENSE OF PLACE: Students build an understanding of their reciprocal relationship with the natural world through focused observation and reflection.

SENSE OF SELF: Students explore and affirm their identities, strengths, and areas for growth, and understand how these impact the various communities of which they are a part.

SENDING SCHOOLS

More than 2,600 students from over 400 sending schools have attended Maine Coast Semester. In a typical semester, students come from 30+ high schools and 12+ states. Forty percent of students come from public schools and sixty percent come from private schools. Ten percent come from Maine. Some of our most common sending schools include:

West

Berkeley High School (CA)
Boulder High School (CO)
Crossroads School for Arts & Sciences (CA)
Crystal Springs Uplands School (CA)
Harvard-Westlake School (CA)
Lakeside School (WA)
Menlo School (CA)
Santa Fe Preparatory School (NM)
St. Margaret's Episcopal School (CA)
St. Paul Academy & Summit School (MN)
The Thacher School (CA)
Greenhill School (TX)
St. John's School (TX)
YES Prep Public Schools (TX)

East

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (MA)
Charlotte Country Day School (NC)
The Dalton School (NY)
Ethical Culture Fieldston School (NY)
Francis W. Parker School (IL)
Greensboro Day School (NC)
The Lovett School (GA)
Milton Academy (MA)
The Nightingale-Bamford School (NY)
Noble and Greenough School (MA)
Princeton Day School (NJ)
Shady Side Academy (PA)
Sidwell Friends School (DC)
Waynflete School (ME)
Webb School of Knoxville (TN)
The Westminster Schools (GA)

FACULTY

The Maine Coast Semester faculty includes eleven core academic teachers, four teaching fellows, three adjunct teachers, and four farm staff/educators.