

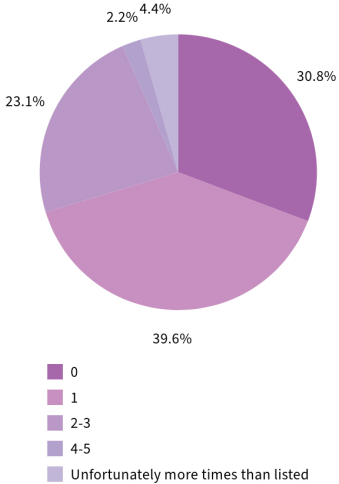
THE MUDDRAKER

MEET THE CLASS OF 2028!

Article by Melinda Deng & Sarah Nathani | Art by Ella Joo | Design by Sarah Nathani

Hi Mudders! Are you, as frosh, curious to know about your fellow classmates? Are you, as upperclassmen, keen to find out if your message of adopting the pass-fail mindset has reached enough frosh? We're here with the results of our survey to the Class of 2028 with answers to all your questions.

Number of accidental lockouts



It seems that we've all been pretty good about remembering to bring our room keys. Over 70% of us have only locked ourselves out once or none at all.



Must-have dorm item

We received many responses, ranging from air purifiers to fairy lights, mini-fridges to thumbtacks - but the most common one of them all was plushies, and we could not agree more.

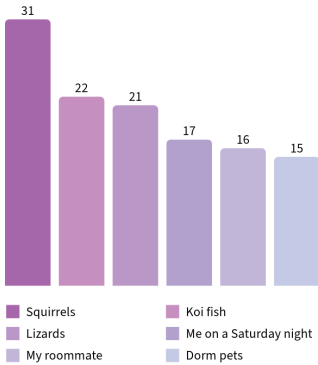


Brat vs. Midwest Princess Summer

In a close battle, the Class of 2028 has concluded that Chappell Roan was the femininomenon of the summer!



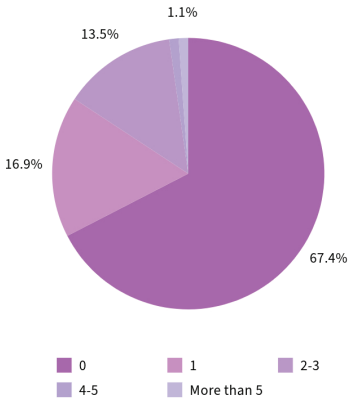
Favorite on-campus animal



We see the adorable, albeit manic squirrels, running around on campus every day, so it's no surprise that they are a class favorite. Lizards and koi fish almost tied for second place. It seems that people are really livin' it up on Saturday nights, as well! And it also seems that some of us have some not-so-civilized roommates...



Number of ISOs/OSIs sent



While our emails are flooded with ISOs and OSIs on the daily, it appears that the Class of '28 is not the main culprit. Two-thirds of us have never even sent one, and 17% of us have only sent one. Good job for keeping track of your belongings!

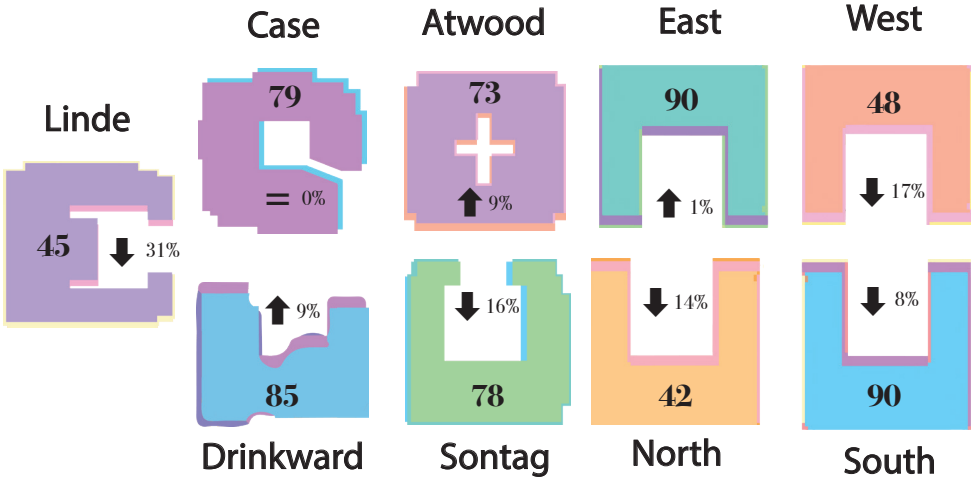
Number of times upperclassmen have told you "it's pass-fail frosh year"



We've heard this more times than we can count, but we wanted to make sure that was the case for the rest of our class too. Sure enough, over 50% of us have also been told it so many times that we've lost track. We hope you enjoyed your first semester at Mudd! Also, a special shout-out to the upperclassmen who've done an amazing job of reminding us to take it easy.

Rice Purity Scores

Now, for one of the most awaited parts of the frosh survey, with an indication of how much the scores have changed from last year (which makes for some interesting observations)!



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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Dear readers,

Thanks for picking up a copy of this semester's edition of *The Muddraker*!

We want to dedicate this issue to Arjun Vattipalli, a cherished member of our sophomore class, and Olivia Guerrero, a beloved member of our senior class. We will miss both dearly. Their memorial websites are listed below, where everyone is welcome to read and share their memories of Arjun and Olivia.

We hope that this edition of *The Muddraker* will bring you some joy in this time of loss. In this issue, you'll find plenty of information about Mudd happenings. Flip to page 3 for everything you need to know about the new climate majors, and page 6 for in-depth profiles of creative spaces like the Makerspace and Hive. You'll find an interview with members of ASHMC's Executive Board (pg. 4-5) and important updates from our Honor Board (pg. 14). And if you're graduating soon, flip to page 8 for advice on how to make the most of your senior year. If you didn't get into that new AI class during registration, check out our article on different types of AI models (pg. 7)!

Tired of Mudd's warts? Head over to the best spots to study at Scripps (pg. 11), or take public transit to get off campus without a car (pg. 10). Or read about the experiences of two upperclassmen who studied abroad (pg. 12-13) Can't wait for Hoch Hearts? We're spreading some positivity with another round of Platonic Secret Admirer (pg. 14). On page 15, try your hand at our crossword, and, for the first time, a game of Where's Waldo Wally (pg. 15). And lastly, if you're looking for a cozy holiday recipe, learn how to bake biscoff tiramisu (pg. 16).

We hope you enjoy the paper!

Ella, Claire, and Isabel

Arjun's
memorial
website



Olivia's
memorial
website



P.S. We want to acknowledge that this semester has been difficult for many. Please remember that the Office of Wellbeing, MCAPS, and the Academic Deans are always available, and don't hesitate to reach out to them if you need support.

Hixon Center Develops Joint Majors for Climate

Article & Design by Sarah Nathani

Since the 2019 Board of Trustees Saddle Rock Retreat, Harvey Mudd has experienced a surge of enthusiasm to delve deeper into climate education, led by our Hixon Center. Originally established as the Hixon Center for Sustainable Environmental Design 9 years ago, it was renamed 3 years ago as the Hixon Center for the Climate and the Environment. Since then, it has become driven to work towards expanding curriculum related to climate, environment, and sustainability. Significant efforts have been made in this direction: increased hiring of climate-adjacent faculty into the Hixon Center; the 2022-2023 Nelson Speaker Series which focused on a theme of “Climate Storytellers,” and more. These efforts reflect the college’s mission to shape scientists who possess interdisciplinary tools and knowledge to tackle complex issues, especially as we face the brunt of the climate crisis.

Recently, the Hixon Center has established new joint majors in Climate. The Joint Major in Chemistry and Climate and the Joint Major in Computer Science and Climate are now offered starting in the 2024-25 school year. The four pillars of these joint majors are Climate Dynamics, Impacts, Interventions, and Contexts, which are representative of the majors’ curriculum. A student studying one of the joint majors must take a class to satisfy each of these pillars.

The Hixon Center’s department is home to professors engaged in diverse climate research. Professor Hawkins investigates the intersection of air pollution and climate change at sites in California and abroad, while Professor Kavasallis uses computational methods to build accurate and accessible models of the atmosphere. Professor Kirabo designs frameworks that focus on establishing transportation equity, drawing from her research about the lived experience of disabled people. Meanwhile, Professor Guo studies how dryland plants are impacted by drought and heat, focusing on their balance strategies to exchange water for carbon. The Hixon Center is continuing to expand, with a variety of research paths that dive into different aspects of climate science and its intersections with other disciplines. It’s an exciting time for students who want to get involved, as they’ll pick up practical skills in fieldwork and modeling while exploring new, interdisciplinary angles in climate research.

FAQs about the Climate Joint Majors

Answered by Professor Lelia Hawkins, Director of the Hixon Center

What are the differences between the Climate joint majors and the Emphasis in Environmental Analysis?

The joint majors are STEM-focused on climate, while the EEA has a larger umbrella, enabling students to take courses about climate-adjacent fields. The EEA requires students to complete five classes: two in STEM, two in HSA, and one that can be from either category, with three of these classes being upper division. This allows for the EEA to overlay with any major at Mudd, enabling students to emphasize HSA if they wish.

Would students be doing Thesis or Clinic for their capstone?

Students would follow whatever is being done in the home department. For example, the joint majors in Chemistry and Climate would have the same option of doing thesis and clinic as Chemistry majors do now. The joint Computer Science + Climate majors would choose a clinic project as the Computer Science department does clinic.

Can students not intending to pursue one of these majors still take a climate elective?

Yes! Professor Hawkins highly encourages anyone to do so. Note that many of these are not HSA electives, though the HSA department does have courses in this area; CLES courses are currently all STEM electives that can fulfill elective requirements across a variety of majors.

Can you study abroad with these joint majors?

Yes, the process works in the same way as it would with any other major at Mudd. Always plan in advance!



What’s Next?

Looking into next semester, the Hixon Center is set to expand its climate science class offerings for Spring 2025. The faculty plans to offer a course about transportation technology and climate policy, taught by Mudd alum and Director of Vehicle Technologies at the US Department of Energy, Austin Brown. Additionally, they will offer courses about the chemistry of oceans and the atmosphere (taught by Prof. Kavassalis), climate wayfinding (taught by Professor Hawkins), as well as two half-courses about disability and climate (taught by Professor Kirabo). Professor Kirabo will also teach her Games for Climate Change Literacy course again.

The Hixon Center is also currently developing a Joint Major in Climate and Biology in collaboration with Professor Guo, set to be offered from Fall 2025 onwards. There are plans to develop a new Joint Major in Climate and Mathematics by 2026 as oceanographer Professor Robert Sanchez joins the faculty. Professor Sanchez plans to engage students in hands-on research, taking them to coastal areas such as San Diego to study ocean dynamics. Finally, the Hixon Center is also working on fundraising for remaining joint hires with the Physics, HSA, and Engineering departments.

Overall, the Hixon Center’s short- and long-term developments aim to equip students with a deeper literacy in climate sciences and prepare them to tackle challenges that inherently call for multidisciplinary approaches.

Interviews with members of the ASHMC Executive Board

Article by Tessa Han / Design by Shivani Manivasagan

The Executive Board (EB) is one branch of ASHMC (Associate Students of Harvey Mudd College), along with Senate and the Honor Board. EB has eight Director positions that plan and oversee a facet of campus life – such as Athletics, Clubs, Wellness, and more. We sat down with three members of EB to hear about their experiences in their roles so far.

Be sure to check out themuddraker.org for the full interviews!

Sheridan Dorsey Social Director



Q: What do you do as Social Chair?

A: The social party situation at our schools is very unique, so by nature these events can't exist without the Social Chairs. We plan, organize and oversee all of the social events that occur at the school. Specifically, we're in charge of scheduling, coordinating with outside food vendors for Wet Season, getting bartenders for 5C parties, and booking security and talking to Event Staff to ensure student safety. To emphasize: the reason why most things are allowed is because we will help keep it safe.

Q: What have been some challenges in this role?

A: An example from earlier this year is when Case had an event which they needed to fence for, and around 30 minutes before it started, they couldn't find two of the fences. We're technically in charge of the fences, but someone had taken them without asking us. I was very stressed because I didn't plan for something like this to go wrong, and it just took extra time out of my day. We eventually found the fences, so everything worked out. Another example of an unexpected challenge – also related to fences – is that we had people steal the fences last year, and they didn't return all of them. We then had to spend a lot of money to buy some new fences. And those are just difficult things that come with the job.

Writer's note: DON'T STEAL THE FENCES!!!

Q: What's been rewarding about your role?

A: It's just rewarding to do something well, to have things go well and know that you contributed to that. For example, we had a lot of issues at the beginning of last year, especially with transports and alcohol safety. Talia and I had to put in a lot of work to figure out what to do. But this year, we proactively made efforts to improve the training modules, talk to all the dorm presidents, and more to ensure safety, and I feel like things have generally been going well so far.

Q: How does event scheduling work?

A: The event schedule is a bit different this year. Last year, we ran into a lot of scheduling issues, so a lot of events ended up happening on a different day. One time, another school was trying to host a 5C party on the same day that we had a 5C party scheduled. We can't have a 5C or any type of 1C on the same day another school is having a 5C, which is a rule that a lot of people don't realize. There is so much coordination

with the other schools' Social Chairs – we have to really build our calendar around theirs.

We have a big GroupMe and a shared calendar, and we had a meeting at the end of last year for people to claim the really big dates – HalloWeekend, for example. We text in the group chat all the time, so whenever you see me emailing messages from other Social Chairs, that's basically what they sent in the GroupMe.

Q: How does budgeting work?

A: The Social budget is one of the largest budgets. A large part of our budget is the Wet Season food catering. Another chunk is security, like CampSec, which is required for safety reasons at 5C parties. The Social budget also covers mixers and decorations, and we basically budget a certain dollar amount for each 1C and 5C party. It's also important to note that Social does not pay for alcohol – the school can't pay for alcohol, because we don't have a liquor license and it would be illegal.

Q: You've approved all of the events, so you know all of them – what's your favorite event?

A: Okay, maybe I'm biased. I personally think that 5Cs are the most fun because it's really awesome to see other schools come to the events. My favorite is Paint Party, I think it's our most fun event of the year. This event happens at North, and the people who live at North put in a lot of effort to set up that party –hours and hours and hours of manual labor –and it's just really nice to see it play out. Other schools have astronomically larger budgets. For example, Monte Carlo is a very, very expensive event because they pay people to set it up. So I think Paint Party is my favorite because it's so successful, everyone enjoys it and it's entirely run and set up by students.

Q: Why don't we charge for wristbands like the other 5Cs do? And why can't Social give out wristbands any more?

A: We're technically not allowed to charge for wristbands at a party if we're serving alcohol there, because unlike CMC, we don't have a liquor license and that would essentially be like students paying for alcohol. But it's also kind of one of our moral pillars – we don't think that students should have to pay to attend parties. Regarding wristbands for off-campus parties, we are in conversation with the other 5Cs about that. I personally was questioning in the group chat why we have to pay \$10 for a Monte Carlo wristband. While the CMC Social Chair claims it's because of the sheer number of events they throw, I think it's because they spend much more money per event. Mudd is able to throw a very similar number of, if not more, events on a smaller budget. Unfortunately, we no longer are allowed to use the Social budget to purchase wristbands from CMC to give them to Mudders for free due to a new rule that the CMC Dean has implemented. In the future, we might try to do some sort of reimbursement.

Q: Is there anything you want to tell Mudders?

A: I just want to bring up the fact that we do have a very unique social and party situation, and I know that sometimes there are things that can be very frustrating. But I just feel like students need to zoom

out for a second and think, genuinely think, about how safe it is to go out at night here, to drink here, to go to events here. It's crazy. When you go to other schools, it is not like that. It is dangerous, it is scary. I really like what we have at Mudd, because I think it's really, really awesome that we can just walk out of our dorms and go to a party and nothing bad is going to happen. Sometimes people have suggestions about, you know, "Why is there so much security?" "Why do we need so much fencing?" Like maybe it is kind of annoying, but it is there for a reason and if we didn't have that, we might be in a completely different situation that involves more unsafe and less fun events.

Also, if people ever have any questions or want to register literally anything, come to Social Hour from 5-6, Wednesdays at the Hoch! We [the Social Chairs] are very excited to talk to you.

Tia Tounesi CAP Director



Q: What are your hobbies outside of EB?

A: Most of what I spend time on is cultural activities. I'm Arab, and there are very few Arabs at Mudd, so a lot of my time is spent at the other 5Cs. I run the Arab Students Association, so we hold events like game nights where we play Arabic card games. I'm also a Machine Shop proctor, and I spend a lot of my free time just being crafty. But a lot of my time goes into CAP and events. I'm also the events intern for Dean Chris, so planning events is kind of my thing.

Q: What motivated you to run for CAP Director?

A: I spent the summer after my freshman year at Mudd doing research. A good amount of my friends stayed as well. One of them had a car, so we went to LA almost every day. Everyone was okay with going, but only if there were plans. So I planned everything every day with my friends, made every day something special and found events in LA to convince them to tag along. I did that basically the entire summer and it was one of my favorite summers ever. After that, I realized I really enjoyed planning events, and some of my friends recommended I run for CAP. After planning events for my friend group, I realized planning events for all of Mudd was basically the same thing. Then I ran, I got it, and it's been really nice.

Q: How long have you been on EB?

A: I joined junior year. I saw so much potential in CAP the year before, and the previous CAP directors were

so good. At the end of my sophomore year, I ran and we held our first event at the end of the school year.

Q: Over the past year or so, you've really helped CAP grow. How would you describe your role and how does it impact the Mudd community?

A: Our main job is to get Mudders off campus. What that involves is thinking about every Mudder, almost following the stereotypes. For example, we would ask, "What would Westies want to do? What would Easties want?" We think about each type of Mudder to make sure we have events for a diverse range of interests.

Q: Do you have a formal strategy to gather event ideas, or is it more like you just chat with friends?

A: Kind of a mix. Some of them I know from different dorms, but we do have beginning of the semester, mid semester, and end of semester forms and people can leave suggestions. However, the people that fill out the forms are an entirely different demographic than people in some dorms or just other types of Mudders. So I try to actively seek them out, and I think this is the best way to encapsulate the overall Mudd population.

Q: What is the usual turnout for your events? Do you usually use all of your budget?

A: Yes, we do. We have to carefully plan our subsidies because those are more popular. Hundreds of people use them, and that alone can really run our budget out. Besides that, we do trips and those are for a limited number of people. So, we try to keep a balance. When we host events like a Six Flags or Disneyland trip and everyone is lining up out the door, that kind of pushes us to host more similar trips. So yes – basically every year we completely use up our money.

Q: What has been the most challenging?

A: Not taking things personally. Like the first event I threw, it was really, really popular; 50 people signed up, and there was a huge waitlist. Then, at the last minute, 10 people bailed, which created some logistical challenges. But it's also a mental thing – I thought, "Oh, was there something wrong with my event?" We've talked to the other CAP-equivalent programs at the other 5Cs, though, and this seems to be pretty consistent across the colleges. I guess it's just part of planning an event, and I think any club leader would recognize that too. In spite of this, it's really about pursuing your ideas without that validation.

Q: What has been most rewarding in your role?

A: Definitely hearing feedback from other people who I don't really know, or who I'm not very close with. It's rewarding just interacting with them, learning what people from certain dorms would like, and making sure that each niche is fulfilled. Plus, a perk of planning these fun events is getting to go to them.

Q: Are there any changes you would want to make to your role or to EB in general?

A: It would be nice to have a larger committee. At the other colleges, if you're in the event planning committee or any EB equivalent role, you get paid by the hour. For the CMC Committee, they have retreats. There's a leader of the theater division, etc. I don't know if we could have whole division committees with the current stipend situation. So getting paid by the hour would be ideal, as well as having more structure. But we're figuring that out now – there's a lot of changes in the Executive Board that Serena and Shivani are working on.

Q: What would be your dream event to plan? You have an unlimited budget, people will show up and NOT BAIL!

A: Oh my gosh. It's an event that CMC holds. Hot air balloon trip! They only take 7 people or so. But still, it's a hot air balloon trip, and they have it every single year. It's a staple.

Q: What would you tell people who want to run for this role?

A: I think the important thing is if someone knows a lot about LA, or desperately wants to get out of the Mudd bubble and be up-to-date with all the events in

LA. Taking on this role would force you to do that, to get out of the Mudd bubble and help other people do the same. If a main concern for you is getting Mudders off campus, you should absolutely run for CAP.

Q: What's been your favorite event that you have planned in the past couple of years? Or maybe one that's coming up this year?

A: I mean, I obviously loved the Disney trip. We had a great time there. But there's a lot I'm looking forward to – I want to do a drag brunch thing at one of those restaurants or cafes that host drag shows. I've really wanted to go, and I know there are a lot of queer Mudders that are into that sort of thing, and that have expressed that this would be cool.

Q: Is there anything else you want to tell readers?

A: For one, don't bail at the last minute. Also, focus on growing your community and organizing events, paying attention to your friend group – prioritize community-building. I think Mudders should hold events with their friends: game nights, trivia nights, presentation nights, dinners, potlucks, whatever. Just help your community stay connected.

Serena Mao ASHMC President



Q: How would you describe your role?

A: Officially, my role is called ASHMC President. I work with the Senate Chair, which is a co-president role – we act as a liaison between the students and the administration. The president is supposed to be a leader of the entire student body, which can mean a lot of different things. I think in practice what it means is that logistically, I'm in charge of managing EB, which is all the directors who host events for the school, and helping support Senate, which is all the dorm presidents and class presidents. We have regular meetings with Dean Cindy, DC, and President Nembhard. We're also on the Faculty Executive Committee, which is some faculty members who are in leadership positions who we help facilitate communication with.

Q: How do you handle communication between all those groups?

A: Luckily, there's not too much that is in conflict between groups, because usually people are aligned in what they want; for example, the administration is there to serve the students, and the students ask the administration when they need help. A lot of times it's just the communication that needs to happen, but it's not usually anything difficult. For example, Senate is over-budgeted this year, and DSA has an extra fund. So we're able to have a conversation with DSA about the budget and ask for help, and that's an example where the problem is very simple and people just need to talk and come to that conclusion. Conflicts are extremely rare, it just happens to be that there's been recent student protests, so that whole situation has been less straightforward and more of a situation where ASHMC, as leadership, needs to be the neutral party facilitating communication when there are no proper channels.

Q: How long have you been on EB? And what roles have you held in the past?

A: For EB specifically, I was Wellness Director my sophomore year. That was cool because the Wellness Director my freshman year became the ASHMC President my sophomore year. So I not only learned a lot about Wellness from her, but also about what it's like to be president. As Wellness Director, we did a lot of events like free matcha and boba, and before midterms, we did 3 days of free food. Another event that I'm very proud of is when we got Priceless Pets to come and do a petting zoo. Unfortunately, Priceless Pets is closed so we can't bring that back. But my proudest moment was when we started Prof-firmations. I sent a form to all the faculty and they wrote affirmations to put up in front of the Hoch for people before their midterms. That's a tradition that's still going.

Q: Did you know the challenges and time expectations of the role going into it?

A: Before I was elected, there wasn't much visibility into issues that would pop up, because there's so much communication that happens behind the scenes that you don't know of. After talking to the previous presidents, I learned about all the different meetings they had, which was pretty surprising. So no, I definitely did not know the challenges or the time that would go into it until after I was already elected.

Q: What motivated you to run for president?

A: I feel like I have naturally held a lot of leadership positions since I've come to Mudd. I did a lot of club officer-ing and then I was also in EB. I also was involved in ResLife as a Mentor and then as a Proctor. Since I was Proctor as a junior, I wanted to try something different my senior year. So the natural thing was to run for ASHMC president.

Q: Are there any changes you would want to make to your role or to EB in general?

A: I definitely would. I don't think things are perfect. With EB specifically, I would love to see more engagement with the student population. I think EB is often underappreciated, especially sectors like sustainability and diversity, even though there's so much they can do. For example, their budget line items are less restricted. I would encourage underclassmen and people who have free time (lol) to collaborate with these different directors and help them with whatever they do because it'd be nice to have more people involved.

Q: How do you think we can bring back that sense of community, and increase engagement?

A: I think at Mudd, because it's so small, word of mouth is such a big thing. People don't realize, but when you're trying to pass information along about something, it doesn't need to be like this big PSA megaphone where you tell everyone. Oftentimes, if you just mention, "Oh, CAP has this arcade subsidy" or, "I went to OCS [Office of Career Services] and they were able to push my resume forward into this recruiting process," then people say, "Oh wait, I didn't know that they could actually do that." Then more people talk about it. I think it's something about Mudd and just trying to motivate people and help your friends out.

Q: What would you tell someone who wants to run for ASHMC President next year?

A: I'd say, "Please do." Because no one ran against me and I feel like the election shouldn't have just one ticket. If you want to do it, please reach out. Last year's presidents are already asking us, "Oh, do you guys know anyone who wants to run for it next year?" so it's definitely not too early to be thinking about running.

Q: Is there anything you want to tell Mudders?

A: I want people to know that they can talk to me anytime and feel free to ask me for help. Please ask me for recruiting help, I'm not scary. I love talking to new people, and I want to talk to as many people as I can before I leave Mudd, because that's really what's special about this school.

THE MAKERSPACE AND THE HIVE

ARTICLE BY TESSA HAN | PHOTOS BY TALIA GREEN | DESIGN BY ELLA JOO

If there's one thing to take advantage of at Mudd, it's the resources at creative spaces like the Makerspace and Hive. These spaces offer cutting-edge technologies and a diverse range of creative outlets. Here, we'll go over some of the opportunities they offer to 5C students.

The Makerspace is equipped with 3D printers (including 6 new Bambu printers — speedy and functional, but almost always occupied), electronics workstations, audiovisual equipment, and a full suite of power tools. For artists, there are two different kinds of looms, spray paint, sewing materials, and a large format printer — perfect for printing posters if you need some cheap and custom dorm decor. If you've never used a certain tool, don't worry! The Makerspace is staffed by 5C students, called Makerspace Stewards, who are trained in each tool and are always happy to lend a hand. The Stewards hold weekly workshops on everything from welding to jewelry making.

"COME TO THE MAKERSPACE TO RELEASE YOUR CREATIVITY! IT'S A GREAT WAY TO TAKE A BREAK AND HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS."

- THE MAKERSPACE STEWARDS

The Makerspace is one of the best examples of Mudd's mission to empower innovation, encourage learning beyond the classroom, and help students be better equipped to learn, grow, and create meaningful projects. Open 24/7, it's a perfect place for late-night flashes of inspiration or last-minute present making.

In addition to the space and materials, the Makerspace offers the Braun grant for students every semester, which gives awardees up to \$200/Mudd and \$50/non-Mudd. If there's a passion project you've been wanting to pursue (electronics, cool props, or anything really!), this grant is a great way to open doors and allow your creativity to run a little further. Applications can be found on the Makerspace website; they are closed for the fall semester, but they'll open again for the spring.

Keep in mind that the Makerspace has a couple of quizzes that you can find on their website (make.hmc.edu) that you need to complete in order to access certain areas. You can also find the Makerspace's stock list, and a schedule of upcoming workshops. The Makerspace can be found on the lowest level of McGregor, and can also be accessed through the Libra Complex.

Across the 5Cs, just southwest of the Claremont Colleges Library, is the Hive. Formally known as the "Rick and Susan Sontag Center for Collaborative Creativity," the Hive inspires creativity with every inch of the building. From the couches underneath each stairwell, to the main area which is packed with craft supplies, the Hive is a perfect place to collaboratively explore the bounds of art and design. Similar to the Makerspace, the Hive offers workshops run by student staffers. Sometimes, for niche fields like leatherworking, they host workshops led by outside experts. In addition to these workshops, the Hive also has a wide range of events like the Tiny Patio series (inspired by NPR's "Tiny Desk" series, where 5C student musicians perform in front of the Hive), comedy shows, and trivia nights.

The Hive focuses on the social



impact of students' work, and showcases pieces from different human-centered design courses and art courses, each of which has an accompanying message. It's well-known for supporting entrepreneurship, and even has a summer design fellowship. The Hive's emphasis on collaborative creativity fosters an interdisciplinary approach to projects, and nurtures open problem-solving skills. Although it's a bit of a trek from Mudd, I'd highly recommend checking it out at least once! You'll almost certainly come back to discover more about this wonderful creative space. And for those interested, you can find much more detail on their website (colleges.claremont.edu/thehive/).

All in all, the grind can get a little exhausting, and there is truly no better way to take a step back from PSETs (read: justify procrastinating) to work on something fun, creative, and beneficial. Take advantage of these resources while you can! It's not very often one gets the chance to use a resin printer, film a professional-quality music video, or screen-print custom merch — all using the resources at our creative spaces on campus.



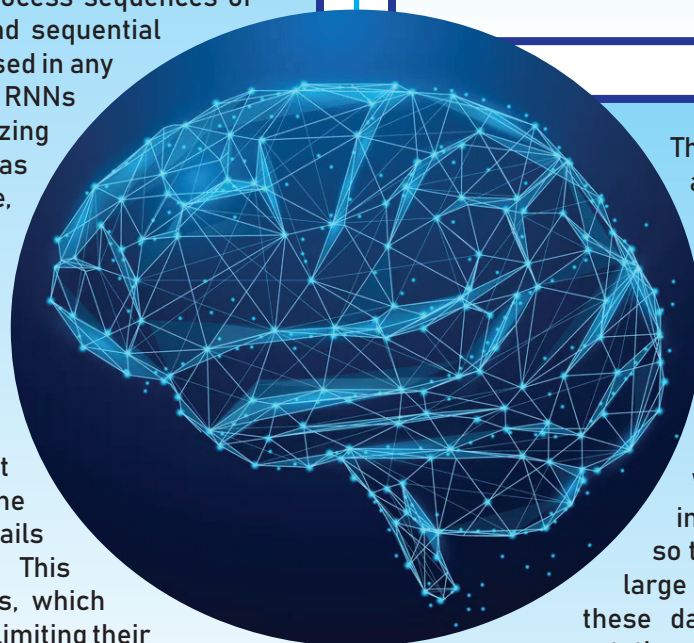
GENERALIZED VS. SPECIALIZED AI MODELS

By Sudharsan Gopalakrishnan & Kashyan Damani \ Design by Isabel Godoy

Generative models have made a lasting impact on people's lives — through combating fraud, breaking down communication barriers, generating code, drafting important documents, and much more. The applications of generative AI are vast! But exactly how are today's AI models capable of being applied to almost any task?

Courtesy of Getty Images

One of the key factors that enables these seemingly generalized AI models to be very adaptable is their underlying architecture. Lot of popular models employ specific architectures such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and recurrent neural networks (RNNs). CNNs are specifically designed to process images by using learnable filters to identify specific edges, textures, and other features in them. On the other hand, RNNs are designed to process sequences of data and capture temporal dependencies and sequential patterns within them. As such, CNNs can be used in any context that involves analyzing images, while RNNs can be used in any context involving analyzing sequential data. Large language models such as GPT are based on the transformer architecture, which is a complex neural network that can learn patterns in sequences (i.e. text) over large contexts. The transformer architecture leverages a mathematical technique called self-attention, enabling it to capture long-term dependencies within a sequence by analyzing both local and global contexts and focusing on the most relevant parts of the input text. In other words, self-attention enhances the transformer's ability to capture intricate details while maintaining a global understanding. This approach contrasts with traditional methods, which often process words individually in sequence, limiting their ability to understand relationships across the entire context. As such, this architecture is versatile enough to be applied to various domains because it doesn't rely on task-specific design but instead on a flexible approach to sequence and pattern recognition.



On the other hand, specialized machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL) models are developed for niche and specific tasks. They can do exceptionally well in one specific area but are less suited to other actions beyond that domain. Examples include AlphaFold, which is specifically designed for protein structure prediction and boasts an unprecedented level of accuracy. AlphaFold achieved results that were ten times better than the next best method in the CASP14 competition, which tests computational methods for protein prediction. You Only Look Once (YOLO) has also become one of the most popular object detection models, achieving real-time processing speeds of up to 45 frames per second while maintaining a mean average precision (mAP) of over 50% on benchmark datasets like COCO, making it highly suitable for real-time applications. These models offer several advantages as they are highly optimized for performance, accuracy, and efficiency within their specific domain. Tailored architectures or training pipelines also lead to better results in the target application.

There are several tradeoffs between generalized and specialized AI models, the most prominent of which concerns flexibility and performance. While generalized models such as GPT and other large language models are suited for a large variety of tasks, they don't need to perform well in all of these tasks. These models are trained with immensely large datasets (i.e., large language models are trained with vast, diverse data from the World Wide Web). This means there are huge variations in the data that these models are trained with, so the best the models can do is to generalize this large amount of data and make predictions. Because these datasets are large, it also takes substantial computational power and time to train generalized models on these datasets. This is why we resort to more specialized models for more specific tasks. However, there are also some challenges to using specialized models. Specialized models often require extensive domain-specific data and expertise, making them less adaptable to other tasks. This isn't a problem unless one has fairly limited computational resources to train large models on large datasets to train generalized models. Additionally, their development cycles can also be long, perhaps longer, due to the need for customization.

Let's take a closer look at some examples. Grammarly, a cloud-based writing assistant, has always been a go-to application for millions for reviewing grammar, punctuation, writing clarity, and more. However, a little more than a year ago, it integrated large language models such as GPT to help create outlines, email drafts, reports, and such per users' needs. It caters to all kinds of people and industries. Khan Academy has also created Khanmigo, an AI assistant driven by large language models with the intention of facilitating students with homework and explaining concepts. Aside from large language models, there is also ResNet, a family of complex convolutional neural networks built for image classification. The ResNet series was trained on a humongous image dataset called ImageNet, which has 1000 different classes for classification. However, ResNet's general architecture and flexibility make it widely applicable across many different tasks, whether that be image classification, object detection, image segmentation, and many others. For example, ResNet has been widely used in medical image analysis to identify tumors and segment anatomical structures.

In summary, generalized AI models offer remarkable flexibility, enabling them to tackle a wide variety of tasks across different domains due to their versatile architectures and extensive training on diverse datasets. However, this flexibility usually comes at the cost of computational demands and less optimized performance. On the other hand, specialized models are far more accurate and efficient for narrowly defined tasks, leveraging tailored designs and domain-specific optimizations. While generalized models shine in adaptability, specialized models dominate in precision, highlighting the trade-off between versatility and performance in AI development.

Help! How do I make the most of my senior year?!

It feels like each year at Mudd has flown by faster than the one before. To be honest, I never thought this year would come. Sometimes, I stop and think about how in just one year, we will all be in such different contexts, locations, and situations from where we are now. Then I get a little freaked out and decide I should probably go study for my midterm or something.

Anyway, in an attempt to chase away those worries, I decided to create a guidebook of how to approach my senior year of college so that I can look back with no regrets. These tips comprise the philosophy I've been living by as a senior so far. Please note, though, that not all of these tidbits of advice will work for everyone. Please also do not treat me as though I'm a senior-year-optimization guru — this is a combination of advice from my own mishmash of thoughts, along with what I've heard from alumni and parents, and a little bit of research. If anything does resonate with you or you end up employing any of these tips, I'm glad, because that's what I'm trying to accomplish! Let me know if you do :)

1. Okay, it's good to think about your future, but don't spend every day on it

As you've probably heard many times before, balance is healthy! If you spend your whole senior year focused on what you're doing after senior year, this year is going to fly by in the blink of an eye. Don't drown in the recruiting/grad school app/etc. grind; you don't want to lose sight of the here and now. However, it is good to think a bit about what's in store for you after you leave campus. Shamelessly borrowing from Prof. Lape's Prototyping Your Future Self class: you can draw out a 5 year plan for yourself if you feel so inclined. You can even draw out multiple five year plans: one that's your current plan, one that you would follow if you couldn't have your first plan, and one that's completely wild, with no restrictions on money or career. Treat the world as your oyster!

On the flip side, it's totally fine to not have your life figured out by the time you graduate. Once we leave the rigid educational system, which is all we've known since we were literally five years old, we're going to be entering a period of life that's more unstructured than we've ever experienced. Take some time to breathe. While we're still in college, just remember: this is our last year of fake-adulthood, so we might as well play it up as much as we can.

2. Build your professional network

No matter whether you're going after college, it's super helpful to connect with people including alums, people working in industries you're interested in, or people in grad school, to name a few. You don't have to be searching for an employment opportunity out of this. Coffee chats, aka informational interviews, can be super helpful to see what your life might look like in five or ten years. It might also ease your dread about real adulthood post-graduation once you hear how people have done it in the past. Having a strong and widely-connected network in the field you're interested in can be super beneficial for finding jobs in the future too!

3. Build and maintain your social network too!

Senior year is not the time to hide away in your dorm and play League all day! Maintain the friendships you have, even if you don't live with each other. Get meals with people, or attend events and parties together. At the same time, don't be afraid to make new friends in classes or otherwise (maybe friends have sprouted from your new p-set grind groups!). You don't need to stick with a hard-set friend group; it's okay to branch out too. And since this is the last year we'll all be living together, you could consider doing some small, random acts of kindness towards your friends or strangers to make their day.

4. Stay on track!

I have a hunch that senioritis will start to set in a little more in the spring semester. A little bit of that is totally valid! We are seniors, after all; we can't help the inevitability of this contagious virus. But at the same time, a lot of us have teammates depending on us for clinic projects, lab work, etc. Don't ditch all your commitments — people are still counting on you! This includes yourself too :)

5. But please don't burn out

Trust me: you will not want to look back on your senior year at Mudd and regret the fact that you spent every waking minute in your dorm room grinding an Algs p-set or cranking out MATLAB code (no matter how pretty your contour plot might look). I'd recommend maybe once per weekend, take a scheduled chunk of time to perhaps: go outside and play a sport, bake a fun treat, go try a cute cafe, play board games with friends... the list stretches on. Yes, these are my own personal forms of enjoyment, but feel free to take inspiration or do whatever else brings you joy. You'll remember these fun, sometimes spontaneous moments way more than you'll remember Question #4 on HW #8 of E171.

This is also the perfect time for you to start checkin' off your bucket list items (see the end of this article). Yeah, you know how you've always wanted to hike Mount Baldy before you graduate? Do it! Go to events on campus too, whether it be Muchachos events, parties, or club gatherings. In my opinion, this is an acceptable time to let your actions be guided by FOMO. Hang out with people whenever you can. College is such a unique conglomeration of people with niche interests and so many types of events. It's definitely worth taking advantage of.

From one nostalgic, uncertain, sentimental senior to another

Article by Mikayla Mann
Design by Alice Tidmarsh

6. Take some dedicated time to reflect and remember your time at Mudd up to now

When you find yourself laughing with your friends in a dorm lounge late one night about that one time freshman year when your friend did push-ups on the floor of the Hoch, lean into those moments! It's so fun to reflect back on the naive days of our pass-fail eras (sorry freshmen, you'll understand in three years). These are the days when those memories are the most fresh in our minds, and we have the most shared context to reminisce over. Plus, it's great practice to keep an archive of all your friends' embarrassing moments so you can whip them out at their wedding or something. If you want to get really contemplative and meditative with it, you could even reflect on how you've Grown and Changed™ since freshman year. (And if you think you haven't, I can almost certainly assure you that you're wrong!) Be proud of your journey up until this point.

7. Live in the moment, while also appreciating that these moments are limited

All right, I know, it's a bit of a paradox. It's hard to think about how to do both of these at the same time. Let's start with living in the moment. The way I approach this is to savor the joy in each experience I have. I try not to let any sadness seep in for a bit. I capture the memories (oftentimes with photos) and actively try to cement them in my brain. After all, senior year is supposed to be about having fun!

Now, for acknowledging the limited time we have left. I think it's important to embrace the bittersweet nostalgia of it all. Time for me to go into a bit of a sentimental brain dump! After you graduate, it's pretty unlikely that you'll be living this close to so many of your friends all at once. So take advantage of the time you do have! Go visit your friends in their dorms, knock insufferably on their doors, bug them while they're still only a three minute walk away. And even though our buildings on campus may not be the prettiest, you probably won't find yourself studying at the Shan cafe tables again after you graduate. So live out your college main character dreams. Find some cutesy study spots, take a walk to the prettiest parts of the 5C's (aka walking away from Mudd), go have a picnic on the lawn and pretend like you're a perfectly posed student in a college brochure. Bonus points if a tour is walking by! Be mindful of when things are happening for the last time: your last spring break, last Scrunch, last grutoring, etc. Savor and celebrate all your lasts.

8. Face the future with optimism (as much as you can)

Y'all, nobody wants to be the person that has to admit they peaked in college. But if you go through the rest of your life lamenting how you'll never be back in college again, then you, my friend, will be one of those people that peaked in college. If you're excited about any small part of your future – maybe living in an exciting new location, or getting to decorate your own place (that isn't built in the style of brutalist architecture) – hold on to that! Our futures should be something to look forward to, not dread. And while it may be sad that our time here at Mudd is coming to a close, I think that sadness is a sign that we've made the most of our college experience. Onwards and upwards to a new chapter in our lives!

And now, here's a bucket list I've compiled to make the most of the time you have left at Mudd. Please do not treat this list as a checklist for graduation requirements! These are merely for inspiration. Let me know how many you end up completing :)

DO BEFORE YOU GRADUATE:

- ◇ Let yourself get showered if you haven't yet
- ◇ Go to a Wednesday nighter or other Muchachos event
- ◇ Try all the restaurants in the Village that you've been meaning to
- ◇ Go to a concert in the LA area
- ◇ Ride the Metrolink (maybe all the way to Union Station?)
- ◇ Check out a 1C or 5C party!
- ◇ Join a random new club and attend at least one event
- ◇ Do a late night Cane's or In-N-Out run
- ◇ Pull a (wholesome) prank on someone
- ◇ Have a PowerPoint night with your friends to reflect on Mudd memories
- ◇ At the end of the year sign each others' yearbooks (or some other memento)
- ◇ As one of the senior class presidents, I'll be doing my best to organize this!
- ◇ Go on a senior friend group trip
- ◇ Hold a bar opening on campus
- ◇ Hike Mount Baldy
- ◇ Visit the botanical garden
- ◇ Make a playlist of nostalgic songs and songs you're listening to at the moment for a full memory trip
- ◇ Take grad pics :')

Beyond Campus: A Mudder’s Guide to Public Transit

Article by Stephen Xu \ Design by Isabel Godoy

Whether you’re looking to explore Los Angeles, hit the beach, or grab some off-campus boba, public transit can get you there—often for free or cheap. Here’s your roadmap to navigating the transit options available to us Mudders.



Local Transit!



Bus Pass

One of the easiest ways to get around locally is by bus. As a student at the Claremont Colleges, you can obtain a Foothill Transit Class Pass by going to the Connections service at the Honnold-Mudd Library, which allows you to take any nearby Foothill buses for free.



Cheap/Subsidized Ubers

There’s also the CLAREMONT DIAL-A-RIDE program if you want something more on-demand than a bus (or buses aren’t available for some reason). Once you sign up at <https://www.pvtrans.org/register-to-ride/>, you can call the number and get \$2.50 rides anywhere throughout Claremont. They’ve also recently introduced an Uber program, which gives you Uber vouchers and allows you to get a \$2.50 Uber to travel between any two locations in Claremont. To sign up for the Uber program, you can call (909) 596-7664 during business hours and let them know your email address and phone number for your Uber account.

Travel Tips



- Traveling in groups is much safer and generally less stressful. If you must travel alone, ensure someone knows your location (consider sharing your location).
- Plan ahead (Google Maps works great) and account for some time in between connections!
- Trust your instincts and avoid potentially dangerous situations.
- Fully charge your phone before longer trips, and consider bringing a portable charger.
- Riding the train is an excellent time to get work done! Metrolink is very clean :D



Images courtesy of Metrolink, City of Montclair. Icons courtesy of Freepik, Smashicons, iconixar on Flaticon.

Regional Transportation!



Looking outside of Claremont, one of the fantastic services Mudders have access to is the **Metrolink Student Adventure Pass**.

You can register by downloading the Metrolink mobile app and signing up with your school email address, giving you free access to all of Metrolink.

The Metrolink Student Adventure Pass is great because you can take the Metrolink from Claremont Station (located right under the village, either a 20-minute walk or the 188 bus route) and go to Union Station. From Union Station, you can transfer to the LA Metro (for free if you use the Student Adventure Pass!) and get pretty much anywhere. As a student, you can take the Flyaway bus to get to LAX for \$9, get free transit connections to the LA Metro (different from Metrolink), and even get a free transit connection all the way down to San Diego through the NCTD Breeze/Sprinter.



Study Spaces at Scripps

Article by Claire Stuvland Photos by Sruthi Koneru Design by Talia Green

When I first committed to Mudd my senior year of high school, my friends liked to make fun of Mudd's architecture. I will admit, it's very wart-y and geometric, and not especially easy on the eyes. So, whenever they teased me about it, I would get defensive and explain how Scripps College was right across the street from Mudd and I was going to spend all my time there. Unfortunately, in my two years here, I haven't actually spent a lot of time at Scripps. I requested a compilation of my friend's favorite Scripps study spaces and made it my goal this semester to work at each of them in hopes of finding new places to study. Below you'll find my ratings for each study space my friend recommended.

The Motley ★★★★★☆

The Motley is the beautiful student-run coffee shop at Scripps College. It's known for its cozy atmosphere and diverse menu, offering a range of options from a multitude of teas and lattes to comfort food. The space is often used as a social hub for students, featuring comfortable seating and a relaxed vibe. It also hosts events and activities every once in a while.

Here are my main takeaways:

- The Motley sells great drinks; there's such a wide variety of them that I can't imagine anyone being left unsatisfied by the range of options. My favorite drink has to be the matcha cha cha latte with lavender syrup and oat milk.
- On that note, the Motley offers great plant-based milk alternatives.
- Seating inside is often limited; if I ever get a seat, I consider myself lucky.
- Scripps College closed down the Motley for a good portion of the semester, which was greatly disappointing. This also forced me to reflect on my over-dependent relationship with lavender matcha lattes.

Browsing Rooms ★★★★★☆☆

The browsing rooms in Scripps College dorms are common areas designed for students to relax, socialize, and study. Each dorm typically has its own browsing room, which is furnished with comfortable seating, tables, and often includes bookshelves filled with a variety of reading materials. These spaces are intended to foster community among residents, providing a casual environment



for group study sessions, hanging out with friends, or enjoying a quiet moment with a book.

I studied in a Scripps browsing room with one of my friends (who goes to Scripps, trust that we did not break in). The first thing I must say is that Scripps dorms are so much nicer than the dorms here. They give fancy hotel vibes and I'm just a little bit jealous. At least we have our warts at Mudd.

Here's what I found from my experience :studying in a browsing room:

- It can be awkward when you walk into a room where someone is studying and you both awkwardly blink at each other.
- It can be awkward when a tour group walks past where you are studying, and a group of high school students and their parents
- It can be awkward when you say something that so clearly shows you are not a Scrippsie.
- The rooms are really nice if you like to work alone or in small groups. They are generally very quiet and cozy, which is nice for studying... or falling asleep.

Tiernan Wellness Room 🧘🏻‍♀️🤗🤗🤗🤗/5 stars

I must confess, the Tiernan Wellness Room is so well-hidden that I actually haven't done any work there yet. I've actually never been there. I actually don't even know its whereabouts. My deepest apologies.

Here are my main takeaways based on online information and photos:

- The Wellness Room has a massage chair, which I can just see myself falling asleep in.
- It also has bean bags, which I can just see myself falling asleep in.
- It's generally a small and cozy space, which I can see myself falling asleep in.
- As you can see, I fear this space would heighten my vulnerability to falling asleep, thus decreasing my propensity to study. However, this remains inconclusive; I still need to try it out.
- I believe the room would be a relaxing place to get some work done, if you can resist the temptation to sleep.

Denison Library ★★★★★☆

Denison Library is the main library at Scripps College. It serves as a central resource for students and faculty, providing access to a wide range of books, journals, and digital resources. The library features study spaces, group study rooms, and computer access, making it a key area for research and academic work. Denison also hosts various events, workshops, and exhibits, contributing to the academic and cultural life of the college. Its cozy atmosphere and beautiful architecture make it a popular spot for students to study, collaborate, and engage with the consortium's resources.

Like Seal Court, I've only worked in Denison once:

- I felt like the epitome of an academic weapon when I was studying there.
- Denison has both cozy library vibes and dark academia vibes, which helped set the mood for getting work done.
- My main issues with the library were that the silence inside can be somewhat stifling, and that seating is usually limited, since one person can take an entire table to themselves.

Seal Court ★★★★★☆☆

Seal Court is a central outdoor space at Scripps College, the courtyard between the Motley and Malott. It's known for its picturesque surroundings and serves as a gathering spot for students. The court features beautiful landscaping and seating areas, and is often used for events, socializing, and studying. It's also a popular spot for students to relax between classes. The iconic seals at the center add to its charm and significance within the college community. There are also turtles (who sometimes duke it out) in the little pond, which is very exciting as a turtle-loving person.

There was one day this semester where I did work in Seal Court.

Here are my main takeaways from studying there:

- Seal Court has too many bugs.
- The Motley is right nearby, which is very convenient for when you need a sweet treat or a pick-me-up drink.
- Seal Court houses a large excess of bugs.
- It's not terribly crowded outside of meal times.
- Seal Court seems to have a stupendous abundance of bugs.
- The vibes in the courtyard are very relaxing, but not so much that you'll be put to sleep. It was nearly an ideal study space; I had only one qualm with the location.
- Word on the street is that there appears to be a surplus of bugs in Seal Court.
- Tables in the shade may be limited.
- There are quite a few hexapod invertebrates, known colloquially as bugs, around. Watch out for them.
- The bathrooms are right nearby, if you just so happen to have a Scripps College ID.
- It's quite possible I acquired ~30 bug bites on this day.

Margaret Fowler Garden ★★★★★☆



The Margaret Fowler Garden at Scripps College is a beautifully landscaped area designed to provide a serene environment for students and faculty. Located near the college's main campus, the garden features a variety of plants, flowers, and trees, creating a peaceful retreat for relaxation and study. The garden is named after Margaret Fowler, a Scripps College philanthropist, and it reflects the college's commitment to sustainability and the appreciation of nature.

I will admit I haven't actually ever been to the garden to study. I've been for a surprise birthday party – the garden provided a very lovely setting for that. Based on the vibes I gathered on that day, I'll give you a few of my takeaways:

- It seems like a really tranquil and calming place to get work done.
- Similar to many spaces at Scripps, seating is limited, so if you plan to work in the garden, get there early.
- Because the garden is outdoors, you may notice the presence of beings of the bug variety, like in Seal Court. Beware.
- There are a lot of plants, so shade was actually abundant, which would be nice for studying on warm days.

Conclusion

Overall, Scripps provides a range of amazing areas for studying. I wish I had explored earlier on in my college career; it's just so beautiful and a great place to take a break from Mudd's brutalism.

Study Abroad

Korea - Seoul

Hannah Dearman-So

Hannah Dearman-So is a senior engineering major, and studied abroad last spring in South Korea. She went abroad through CIEE and studied at Yonsei University in Seoul, the capital of South Korea.

Hannah chose to go abroad to Korea because she's half Korean and had made it a goal early on to learn to speak Korean fluently, so she could more easily converse with her Korean family. Before leaving for Korea, she'd taken Korean classes at CMC and had gotten up to a beginner intermediate level of Korean, but wanted to increase her fluency before graduating college.

Hannah noted that Yonsei didn't provide a great academic experience for students from abroad. She was originally going to take two STEM courses: replacements for E102 (Advanced Systems Engineering II) and E84 (Electronic and Magnetic Circuits and Devices). Neither of these classes were especially conducive towards her learning. The replacement for E102 was advertised as being fully taught in English; in reality, it was taught half using English and half using Korea, so she dropped the class. The replacement for E84 was a bit of a mess as well; she spent the first three weeks watching lecture videos from a UCLA professor. Hannah dropped this as well. Eventually, she found a replacement for Fluid Mechanics, which she stuck with throughout the semester. The lesson? Be careful taking STEM courses abroad.

In contrast, her HSA, a course on K-pop, was amazing. It basically gave students a way to study history through Korean music, and see the way that Korea's relationship with the western world is tied in with K-pop. It helped that the course didn't have homework and the workload was mainly based on group projects. It gave students the opportunity to meet and work with other students from abroad.

One clear difference between Yonsei and Mudd was that Yonsei is focused on research output and not so much on the undergraduate experience (at least for visiting students). Grades at Yonsei are based almost entirely on exam scores.

During her time in Korea, Hannah lived in on-campus housing. Her floor was half Korean students, half study abroad students. There were huge differences between that experience and the dorm experience at Mudd. People on the same floor didn't generally interact with each other in the hall, and kept to themselves - this is regarded as what's polite.

I asked Hannah about academic integrity at Yonsei. Academic dishonesty

isn't taken seriously and is actually quite common - she noted this was likely because scholarships to attend university are based on individual class rank. When students are able to improve their class rank in any way - either by improving their grades or pushing other students down - they get a better scholarship. Academics are therefore very competitive, and academic dishonesty seems to be quite normalized.

Another academic difference she noticed was that gap years are a lot more common among students. This is likely a symptom of one major difference between Western and Eastern cultures: in Korea, a lot of people just live at home until they get married. Generally speaking, students there aren't scrambling to graduate so they can earn a salary and live independently from their family, unlike students here.

Hannah took up multiple activities in her free time. One of them was joining the Taekwondo team for international students at Yonsei. Hannah had no previous experience with Taekwondo prior to that, but it was super fun to learn Taekwondo in its place of origin. They went on hiking trips as well; one was to Seoraksan National Park, one of the most famous national parks in South Korea. She never got to visit Jeju Island though, which is the biggest island off of South Korea's coast and a popular destination for tourists.

Hannah's language skills improved a lot! Before going to Korea, she'd taken some Korean classes at CMC, and was at a beginner intermediate level. At the end of her abroad experience, she was conversationally comfortable in Korean and could run her errands with ease.

There were a few interesting social differences Hannah noticed while in South Korea. One is that nobody eats and walks at the same time; yet, it isn't uncommon to see people doing their makeup on the go, which is a flip from cultural norms here in the U.S. Hannah also realized that her style changed while abroad. She dressed more conservatively - avoiding tank tops and crop tops. This highlights differences between social norms in fashion in South Korea versus the United States: generally, people don't wear shirts that reveal their shoulders/upper body in South Korea, while short skirts and shorts are quite normalized.

Also, the amount of government control compared to the United States was very noticeable. All phones have the shutter sound when taking pictures, a feature that can't be turned off. All cars are sold with a black box for video

footage, and almost everywhere in cities is under CCTV surveillance. Military conscription for men is mandatory, and they face harsh legal consequences if they deliberately avoid it. There was also a lack of individual expression, compared to in the U.S. - for example, a large part of the population adapts very quickly to changes in fashion trends.

Another noticeable cultural difference between the U.S. and South Korea was how much people there care about their appearances. Hannah noted that here, it's kind of embarrassing being caught checking your appearance. However, that behavior is completely normalized in South Korea - people don't miss the opportunity to check their appearance, whether it be in a window or mirror.

One tip Hannah has for students planning on studying abroad is to research potential housing situations. See how far housing is from the university, potential classes, and city centers or stores. Also, see who you'll be living with and who will be living in the same building.

Hannah appreciated how studying abroad gave her a really poignant time of reflection - it was a super fun way to get out there and learn how to live independently, without an immediate support system.



Experiences

Scotland – Edinburgh

Katie Baakkonen

Katie Baakkonen is a senior engineering major who studied abroad last semester in the spring at the University of Edinburgh through Arcadia Abroad. She was motivated to go abroad to Scotland because she visited Edinburgh when she was younger, and liked the city enough to go back.

Katie took 4 courses abroad: 2 HSA courses and 2 engineering courses. The HSAs were more intensive than 5C HSAs, but her experience with the engineering courses was the opposite –they were not as hard as the engineering courses here at Mudd. In Scotland, classes were mainly lecture-based, grades were determined by the few exams they took (which is common throughout Europe), and students weren't assigned any homework. Even though engineering courses here are harder, Katie noted that Mudd provides a lot of support and tools for growth, such as office hours with professors and tutoring/AE hours with upperclassmen; that wasn't the case at Edinburgh.

She's unsure whether it was a difference between American universities and the University of Edinburgh or if it was a difference between just Mudd and the university, but Katie was surprised by the fact that a lot of students didn't take academic dishonesty seriously. A lot of students just copied other students' homework. One time for a discussion board assignment, the responses of students in the class were essentially just copies of each other. Also, students were a lot more chill about their schoolwork and

learning in general compared to students here. It was only during exam season that they really locked in.

Another major difference was the weather – it was really cold in Scotland up until spring, when it would've been getting warmer here in Claremont. And let's be real, it doesn't get below like 50 degrees here anyways. That was an adjustment, but Edinburgh had good cozy vibes.



Due to her on-campus housing situation, Katie spent most of her time with other study abroad students. Housing on-campus is mainly reserved for first-year students and visiting students from abroad. The commute to each campus at Edinburgh took about half an hour. Definitely makes me grateful for having classes max ten minutes away from my dorm.

Katie doesn't have any regrets about her study abroad program or where she went. She took advantage of the location and, in her free time, explored Scotland and visited different countries like the Netherlands and Italy.

It definitely took a while to get comfortable with being uncomfortable all the time – living independently without a nearby support system to rely on took adjusting, but was very conducive to personal growth.

One message Katie has for students studying abroad was that you don't have to be making the most out of your abroad experience all the time. Definitely take the opportunity to explore wherever you are, be a tourist, and enjoy the experiences that only being abroad offers. However, you don't have to be having a novel experience all the time, every day of the week – rest and recovery still matter, and some time spent recharging will allow you to enjoy your experience more.



Notes from the Interviewer:

Listening to and learning about their experiences was really cool! On the one hand, I'm more grateful for the undergraduate-focused education we get here at Mudd; getting help directly from professors who care about our growth and development as scientists is amazing. On the other hand, it sounds like studying abroad is a great opportunity to grow as an independent adult and have a lot of awesome experiences that we don't have easy access to here in Claremont.

To students who are interested in studying abroad, there's a new study abroad advisor in DSA, Sarah Repetto, who is absolutely willing to discuss options and help you plan your abroad experience! You can schedule an appointment with her online. All majors are able to study abroad; some (Engineering) might require more strategic planning than others.



Article by Claire Stuvland / Design by Ella Joo



PLATONIC SECRET ADMIRER

Article by Aleicia Zhu / Design by Alice Tidmarsh

Claire Boege She's nerdy and funny and super passionate about her interests. She's an amazing friend that is always there for me! Love you Claire! <3	Sophie Saleh You're always here for me. Whether I need help doing math homework, sleep past my alarm and almost miss practice, or need a midnight Gilmore girls viewing. You have the best humor ever.	Maddie Reeve She is genuinely the smartest person I know and works 3x harder than any normal person could handle. She's going to do such great things <3	Olivia Backholm You're the awesomest, the coolest, the best friend ever! Thanks for giving me your smoothie the other day.	Liza Gull They are so fun and make me feel better about myself when I spend time with her. They create an energy and space around them where I feel like I can not hold back and be my true self. She's just an awesome person!! <3
Rohan Subramanian When Rohan plays piano it is like an angel descended from heaven.	Angel Perez Best soccer player I know!	Fia Flores Best pookie in the world, I'm so proud of you and ilysm girl!!	Wava Chan Wava is the funniest person ever. She never fails to bring giggles wherever she goes.	Kate Lam You're SO pretty and SO sweet ily!!
Allison Barker One of the OGs, you're the best and ily!! Let's go bowling again sometime ;))	Javier Gonzales Anaya Prof. Javier is so wholesome and a great lecturer. You can always tell just how much he loves math and how excited he is to be teaching it :)	Hamilton (Prof HC's dog) Hammy is sooooo cute, especially when he gets scared by liquid nitrogen :)	Morgan Pulling He's always willing to help, greets you with a smile, and is an incredible friend. I couldn't ask for a better partner, thanks for all the good memories!	Jadyn Linuma Jadyn has the most infectious joy!! She is super smart, caring, and multi-talented. A great person to be around. <3
Katrina Nelson I smile every time I see Katrina! She is an inspiring hard worker and a dedicated friend (:	Katie Baakkonen Katie is an amazing friend. She is always willing to share the joy for life that she has!	John Simon John is the ultimate source of knowledge on all things pirate related! You can always count on John	Amelia Acker Amelia is such an uplifting person to be around!	Caiya Coggs shall Caiya is so dedicated to bringing joy to the people around her and opening people up to new and exciting experiences!
Katrina Nelson Katrina has stylish outfits and an infectious smile!	Shivani Manivasagan Shivani is so kind, organized, makes every day brighter, and the GOAT for fixing ASHMC!!! <3	Jaanvi Jaanvi is so beautiful inside and out!	Laney Laney is super chill and always really easy to talk to :)	Alan Wu He always has ways to make me laugh and is very helpful. my favorite mudder!
Dean Nita Kansara She is our legend!!! THANK YOU for making Mudd so amazing for us internationals, we really appreciate your care!! MOTHER NITA FOR THE WIN!!!!	Selina Rong I love how she is always so positive and makes all of us laugh and smile. She also saves my ass by lending me clothes and giving me food.	Landon McGraw He lightens the mood of a room when he walks in. He brightens the faces of the room when he sheds a grin. He brings out the joy within, so when he talks, I listen.	Serena Mao Serena is one of the most admirable people I've ever met! Her drive, intelligence, and vision are incredible. She's a girlboss and an amazing friend <3	Tessa Han TESSA! You're the bestest, I hope you have a great day ily!!

UPDATES FROM THE HONOR BOARD

ARTICLE BY REBECCA PREIS

Hi Harvey Mudd! It's this year's Honor Board chairs, with new and exciting updates!

1. Based on feedback we've heard over the years, we've created a living document, bit.ly/muddhonorcode, to make the Honor Code and Honor Board more transparent, clear, and accessible. We do not expect you to sit down and read it in full. Rather, it serves as a reference that you can use to answer whatever questions you may have, whenever you have them. Some highlights include:

- "About the Honor Board" to better understand the student-run nature and who is making decisions
 - "What Does an Honor Board Case Look Like?" to learn what processes are in place, how they work, and what factors are taken into account in decisions
 - "Past Case Summaries" and "Examples of Cases" to see good examples of what type of Honor Code violations commonly lead to what type of sanctions
 - FAQ to answer other questions and confusions that we've heard!
- Go give it a skim!

2. There's a new role on the Honor Board: Deputy Chair. Added in 2022 and expanded in 2023, the two Deputy Chairs are second in command to the JB and DB chairs, and help them with their workload, correspondence, decisions, and planning. While this change shouldn't affect more than workflow, it's important for us to inform you.

3. Email violations are no longer treated as Honor Code violations by default. That being said, email violations that egregiously break policy or hurt the community will continue to be handled by the Honor Board.

We hope these changes and updates serve you well! As always, please reach out to jb@g.hmc.edu or db@g.hmc.edu with any questions, comments, or concerns, and always feel free to use our living document as an Honor Code reference!



ACROSS

- 1 Cracked, as a door
- 5 Tangent
- 10 Statement that might be "humble"
- 14 Transportation tube for Mario
- 15 Fight away
- 16 Indian musical pattern
- 17 Wine "expert"
- 18 Album by 18-Across
- 20 Put on the company tab
- 22 Sound of a cartoon spring
- 23 "The Big Lebowski" director Joel
- 24 Draws out
- 26 Album by 26-Across
- 30 Hawaii's Pineapple Island
- 31 "Celebrity Jeopardy!" network
- 32 Arab bigwig
- 36 Old White House nickname
- 37 Pointed fingers at
- 41 Citrus drink suffix
- 42 Basilica benches
- 44 Apt rhyme of "fire"
- 45 Hole-in-one on a par three, e.g.
- 47 Album by 47-Across
- 51 Wrecked beyond repair, as a car
- 54 Periods of worsened performance
- 55 Twos in the news
- 56 Came clean
- 60 Album by 60-Across
- 63 Daisy or Rose

- 64 Car-collecting comedian
- 65 Resident of Tehran
- 66 Units of current
- 67 Once, once
- 68 ___ and repeat
- 69 In case

DOWN

- 1 Basilica benches
- 2 "We just said the same thing at the same time!"
- 3 Per unit
- 4 "Friday" singer Black
- 5 Wakes up
- 6 Star close to Venus?
- 7 Music player from 2001-2022
- 8 Bear lair
- 9 State tree of two different states
- 10 Rich French bread
- 11 They're ulnae-adjacent
- 12 FBI operative
- 13 Groups of troublemakers
- 19 Slightly
- 21 Brand of seemingly indestructible cell phones
- 24 Goes, as the flow
- 25 Use the bunny-ears method, say
- 26 Dot on a radar screen
- 27 Word before any of the words in the HOMES mnemonic
- 28 From the beginning
- 29 Eddie of men's apparel
- 33 Biblical gift bearers
- 34 Doing nothing
- 35 Instagram ___s (TikTok competitor)

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55							56					57	58	59
60						61	62				63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

- 38 Include in a bibliography
- 39 Reputation, casually
- 40 Financial obligations
- 43 Junk email sender
- 46 Rival of Manchester United
- 48 If's partner, in computer science
- 49 Leafy ___ (salad bar selections)
- 50 One "Down Under," informally
- 51 Sir or Madam
- 52 Catchall category
- 53 Some Generation Alpha members
- 56 Custardy Spanish dessert
- 57 Knight's lady
- 58 Baseballers who work at home?
- 59 Bothersome individual
- 61 Cause of inflation
- 62 Prefix with angle or athlete

Can you find Wally the Wart in this picture? / By Anna Chen



Winter Recipe: Biscoff Tiramisu

Article by Irene Jung | Design by Claire Stuvland

It's that time of the year again! Nothing's better than making a sweet treat indoors to shield yourself from the cold, especially one that doesn't require an oven. With notes of caramel and a rich coffee aroma, this traditional Italian dessert with a festive spin is sure to become one of your go-to recipes.

General Notes:

- Assembling the tiramisu should take around 1 hour, and 3-5 hours are needed to let it chill in the fridge.
- The serving size will depend on the type of container you use to hold your tiramisu, but I recommend using a narrow and tall container to get the most layers! Keep in mind that this recipe makes about 2-3 cups of filling, so you'll have to account for that volume in addition to the space that the cookie layers take up.
- All the ingredients in this recipe can be found at Trader Joes.
- If you can't find or don't have any Biscoff cookies on hand, feel free to substitute them with any other cookie/biscuit to your liking!
- See footnotes for important tips and tricks!



Ingredients:

- 1 package of Biscoff/ anyspeculoos cookies
- 1 cup strong coffee¹
- 1 cup (8 oz) of mascarpone cheese
- 1 cup (8 oz container) heavy whipping cream²
- 3 tbsp sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract (optional)

Materials:

- Container (to layer and store the tiramisu)
- Mixing bowl (one tall and one small)
- Whisk or hand mixer
- Spatula

- 1 You'll want to use something stronger than cold brew, but not as strong as espresso.
- 2 Make sure you use heavy whipping cream and not normal whipping cream, there is a difference! Also make sure that your cream is always very cold, otherwise you might have a hard time getting it to whip up.

Steps:

1. Whip the cream until you see soft (not stiff!) peaks.
2. Mix the mascarpone and sugar in a separate bowl until smooth.
3. Slowly fold the mascarpone mixture into the whipped cream. Be careful not to overmix! Cream curdles (separates into butter) really easily.
4. Spread about an inch of the cream mixture into the prepared container.
5. Dunk a biscuit into the coffee and place it on top of the first layer of cream. Repeat until you have an even layer of biscuits across the container. Do this step quickly to prevent the biscuit from getting too soggy and breaking down while you're dipping it in the coffee. If you feel like you haven't soaked the biscuits enough, you can spoon a small amount of coffee over the layer of cookies for more flavor.
6. Alternate with the remaining cream and cookies, finishing with a layer of cream. You can garnish the finished tiramisu with crushed cookies for some flair!
7. Cover and refrigerate for at least 3-5 hours. This step ensures that you're able to scoop your tiramisu out onto a dish without having a goopy mess!
8. Enjoy!