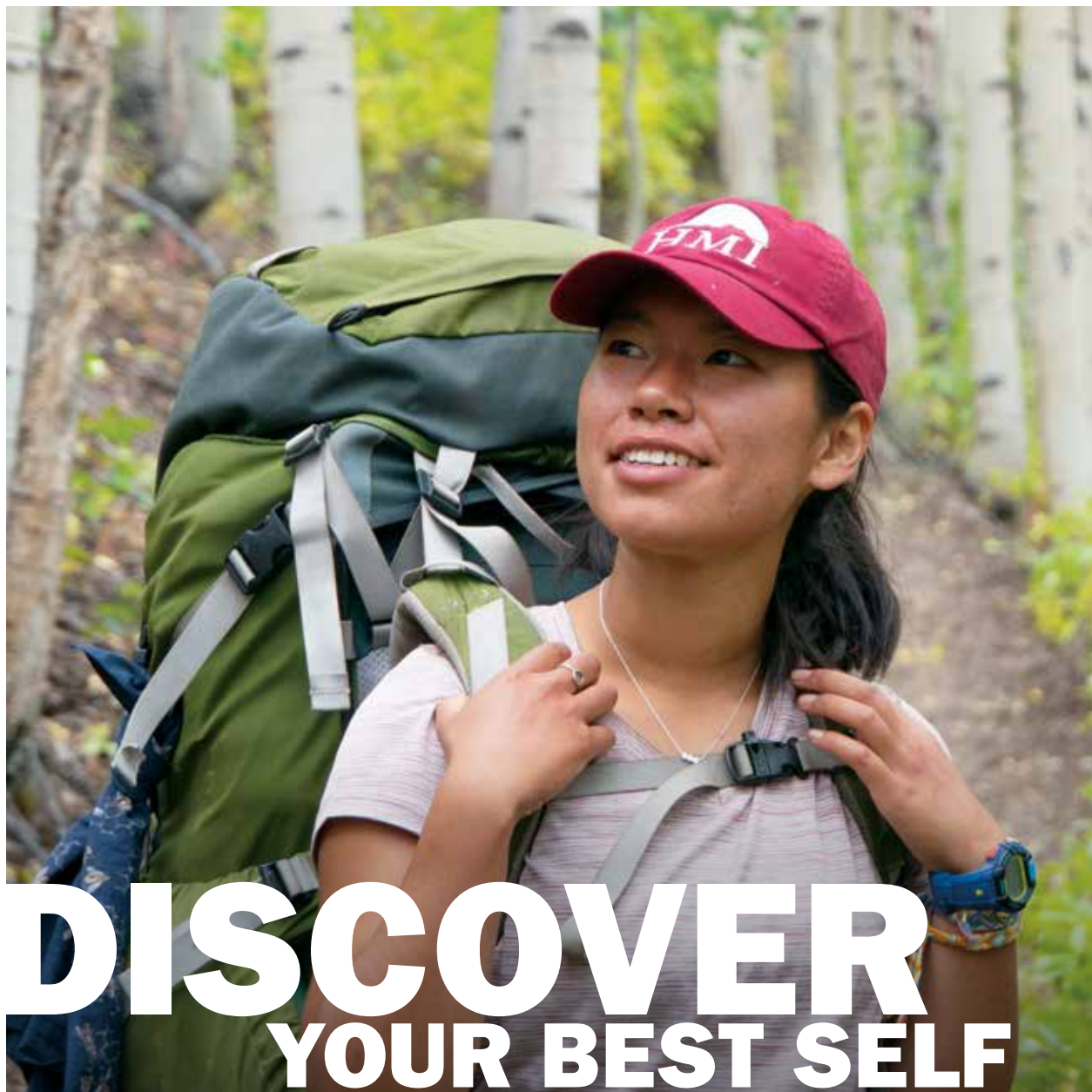


HIGH *when nature & minds meet* **MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE**

HIGH SCHOOL SEMESTER



STUDY AWAY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF COLORADO



**DISCOVER
YOUR BEST SELF**

HIGH SCHOOL SEMESTER

Learning, adventure, and community thrive at the High Mountain Institute—and so do our students. During the HMI Semester, students in their junior and senior years of high school participate in rigorous academic coursework and extended wilderness expeditions. 48 high-achieving students join us each semester from a diverse group of public and private schools in search of challenge, personal growth, and a deeper connection to nature.

After their semester at HMI, students return to their home schools invigorated about education, more aware of the world around them, and ready to make a difference in their communities.





ON CAMPUS

Our home base for the semester is the 80-acre HMI campus outside of Leadville, Colorado. Here students take a full academic course load, live in rustic cabins with their peers, and participate in our vibrant community. At HMI students serve as the stewards of the campus, participating in daily chores and spending time in the kitchen helping to prepare meals.



Courses at HMI are place-based, allowing students to connect in a multidisciplinary way with our Rocky Mountain region. Classes are designed to align with a typical junior-year honors curriculum so that students transition back to their home schools as smoothly as possible.



ON EXPEDITION

Students spend a total of five weeks on backpacking expeditions at HMI. Classroom teachers lead these expeditions, allowing coursework to integrate into the trips and creating meaningful space for mentorship. In the wilderness, students develop their capacity to collaborate, problem solve, and take initiative—skills that enhance their experience back on campus and beyond.



NO OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE NECESSARY to participate in expeditions. HMI welcomes students with all skill levels—from expert hikers to those who have never spent a night in the woods.







18 DAYS

MOUNTAIN EXPEDITION

- **BACKPACK** through the Rocky Mountains during the changing fall season
- **REACH THE SUMMIT** of some of the tallest peaks in the state—and discover something new about yourself along the way
- **LEARN EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP** strategies as you help your peers navigate mountainous terrain
- **ENJOY CLASS DISCUSSIONS** along dramatic ridgelines, in high-alpine meadows, and beneath the stars





12 DAYS

WINTER EXPEDITION

- **LEARN HOW TELEMARK SKI** even if you've never skied before
- **TRAVEL THROUGH MOUNTAINS** and master the art of winter camping
- **STUDY SNOW SCIENCE** and the geology of the Rocky Mountains
- **WORK AS A GROUP** to build snow shelters, cook creative meals, and search out an untouched ski slope





14 DAYS

CANYON EXPEDITION

- **BACKPACK** in Bear's Ears National Monument, Utah
- **EXPLORE NATURAL ARCHES** slot canyons, and Native American ruins
- **DEBATE THE POLITICS OF LAND CONSERVATION** in the American West
- **TRAVEL INDEPENDENTLY**, navigating the canyons and putting your new outdoor skills to the test





FAST FACTS

LOCATION: Leadville, Colorado

SEMESTER LENGTH: 17 Weeks

WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS: 5 Weeks

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 48

NUMBER OF FACULTY: 11

STATES REPRESENTED: 20+

COLLEGE ATTENDANCE RATE: 98–100%





COURSES OFFERED

ALL COURSES TAUGHT AT THE HONORS OR AP LEVEL:

- United States History
 - Math – Algebra 2, Precalculus, Calculus
 - Literature of the Natural World
 - Natural Science
 - Practices & Principles: Ethics of the Natural World
 - Spanish
 - Independent Study / Online Study
-

ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

- The HMI Semester is open to juniors and seniors
- Apply by February 15 of your sophomore or junior year
- Please check our website for our current tuition
- HMI meets the full demonstrated financial need of every student accepted
- 28% of students receive financial aid
- Full scholarships include plane tickets to/from Colorado, and 100% free outdoor gear rental

TO APPLY OR LEARN MORE:

www.hminet.org

719-486-8200 x1





**“MY BEST
SEMESTER OF
HIGH SCHOOL”**