Yale’s most valuable resource is not its libraries or its laboratories, but its student body—a community with a remarkable range of experiences and aspirations, talents and abilities, backgrounds and identities. Diversity is an essential component of a Yale education. In the words of Professor of Psychology and former Yale College Dean Marvin Chun, “Diversity is the foundation for innovation, strength, and resilience. When a community is diverse, individuals thrive.”

**Diversity of identity, culture, and community** enriches every interaction in every campus space, from seminar tables to cultural celebrations, from religious observances to political demonstrations.

**Diversity of thought** enables every undergraduate to explore courses in more than 80 majors without the restrictions of a core curriculum.

**Diversity of perspective** brings a world of experiences to Yale and the Yale experience to every corner of the globe.

**Socioeconomic diversity** ensures that cost is never a barrier to assembling the most promising students from every background.

**Diversity of experience** prepares students for positions of leadership and impact in any field.

**Diverse futures** await Yale graduates, who define success on their own terms and make significant contributions to every community they join.

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**Yale Mission Statement**

Yale is committed to improving the world today and for future generations through outstanding research and scholarship, education, preservation, and practice. Yale educates aspiring leaders worldwide who serve all sectors of society. We carry out this mission through the free exchange of ideas in an ethical, interdependent, and diverse community of faculty, staff, students, and alumni.
Diversity of Identity, Culture, and Community.

Recognizing that people are multidimensional, Yale’s cultural and resource centers encourage all students to engage, explore, and expand their cultural understanding, forging bonds and creating community with people from all different backgrounds.

Four cultural houses—the Afro-American Cultural Center, Asian American Cultural Center, La Casa Cultural, and Native American Cultural Center—are central to much of student life at Yale. They provide space for students, faculty, and staff with shared interests, cultures, and experiences to come together, have fun, and contribute to the discourse on campus around issues of diversity, identity, and social justice. The centers are a home base for dozens of affiliated organizations, from performance groups and publications, to Greek-letter organizations, to social and political action groups.

Students also engage with dedicated resource centers designed to meet the needs of Yale’s diverse community. The Office of International Students and Scholars provides advising, mentoring, immigration assistance, and academic and social support to students from abroad. The Office of LGBTQ Resources sponsors outreach and education on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. The Women’s Center is committed to improving the lives of all women, especially those at Yale and in New Haven. The Chaplain’s Office supports more than thirty religious and spiritual traditions at Yale, coordinating multiple daily services, faith centers, faith-conscious kitchens, and student-led organizations.

The Community Initiative is dedicated to empowering Yale’s first-generation, low-income community by offering students financial, academic, and social support throughout their time here.

These spaces and communities empower Yale students to explore who they are and where they’ve come from. No matter where students’ journeys of identity take them, they will make lasting friendships, gain support from others, and learn something new about themselves.

Explore Yale’s efforts to increase diversity, ensure equity, and enhance a sense of inclusion and belonging for everyone at belong.yale.edu.
Diversity of Thought.

Yale students pursue a personalized academic journey, drawing on more than 80 majors and programs. The curriculum’s breadth compels students to expand their understanding of complex topics and make connections across seemingly disparate ways of thinking.

Every student charts their own path through their course work, even if they share the same major. With more than 2,000 courses offered each academic year—and no core curriculum—it’s easy to combine multiple academic passions and discover entirely new areas of interest.

The undergraduate curriculum includes several programs that promote scholarship through multicultural lenses. Yale’s Center for the Study of Race, Indigenousity, and Transnational Migration, for example, supports intellectual work related to ethnic studies; intersectional race, gender, and sexuality research; and Native and diasporic communities.

Yale supports members of historically under-represented groups with programs designed to increase student participation in cutting-edge research. The Science, Technology, and Research Scholars (STARS) program supports women, minority, and economically underprivileged students in the STEM fields. The Mellon Mays and Edward A. Bouchet Fellowships aim to increase the number of minority students—and students committed to eliminating racial disparities—who pursue careers in academia, by providing paid research opportunities and loan repayment assistance.

Yale faculty come from around the world, bringing exceptional scholarship and diverse experiences to the classroom, with a commitment to teaching and mentoring undergraduates.

“Academic excellence and diversity are mutually constitutive. One cannot fully realize one without the other. In an age of increasing globalization and cultural heterogeneity, leadership and scholarly insight require awareness, insight, and experience that are often best gained in interactive and diverse environments. Yale’s student, faculty, and staff communities have been particularly welcoming and stimulating, and I believe that many unexpected and productive avenues start from within such often interpersonal collaborations.”

Ned Blackhawk (Western Shoshone) Professor of History and American Studies

“Classes such as Documenting Refugees in New Haven and Introduction to Latinx Studies challenged my understanding of topics that hit close to home. Despite my personal experience, I continue to redefine my identity and my personal goals. Classes are an academic and a personal journey.”

Zenaida Aguirre Gutierrez Ethnicity, Race, and Migration Major

Majors in Yale College


* as a second major only
Diversity of Perspective.

Yale’s residential colleges serve as microcosms of the entire student body, making the university’s global scope accessible in a small, supportive setting. Each college reflects, in miniature, the diversity of the student body:

Yale’s residential colleges provide countless opportunities for students to learn from those around them. Each incoming student is randomly assigned to one of fourteen residential college communities. Students remain affiliated with their college throughout their undergraduate years and long after graduation. Each houses about 400–500 students who represent a cross-section of class years, majors, interests, backgrounds, and ambitions. A residential college is both a home away from home and a nexus for changing one’s perspective on the world.

Much more than just a place to eat and sleep, residential colleges host dozens of events that bring community members together. College Teas give students an opportunity to have casual conversations with world leaders, thinkers, and artists. Student activity committees in each college lead subsidized excursions to Broadway shows, art exhibitions, and cultural events. Residential College Seminars provide innovative courses that fall outside traditional departments: recent seminar topics include geoengineering in response to climate change; digital media activism; and hip hop music and culture.

Any Yale student or graduate will agree that late-night conversations with suitemates, political debates with friends in the college courtyard, and dinners shared with faculty fellows are as enriching a part of a Yale education as the course work.

“At an event at the medical school, I struck up a conversation with a Yale professor and found out that years ago, he was also a first-year in my residential college, Timothy Dwight! We got to know each other better, and I later interviewed to join his lab, where I’m working on cutting-edge immunology research.”

Nishanth Krishnan  Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology Major

“For me, the most intriguing part of diversity at Yale isn’t our differences—it’s the similarities. I look out into my lecture hall, and I realize I’m speaking to students with different histories, with diverse values and experiences. Yet all of the students I talk to are deeply similar in one critical respect—Yalies share an incredible curiosity. And that love of learning acts as a remarkable equalizer. Yale students’ shared passions almost always allow them to transcend even the most striking of differences. And that to me is the best part of being in a diverse community here at Yale—it’s the realization that what we share very often overwhelms what makes us different.”

Laurie Santos  Professor of Psychology and Head of Silliman College
Socioeconomic Diversity.

More than fifty years ago, Yale became the first American university to combine a need-blind admissions policy with a commitment to meet the full financial need of every student. This tradition of equity and inclusion continues today; nearly two thirds of students receive financial assistance.

Yale’s extraordinary investment in affordability ensures that every admitted student can attend, regardless of their parents’ income, their citizenship, or their immigration status. These policies reduce the burden on students and enrich the undergraduate community in immeasurable ways. The myriad and complex experiences students bring to campus facilitate vital conversations, informed policy debates, and valuable learning opportunities.

Many students who come from lower-income households or who are the first in their families to attend college engage with the first-generation low-income (FGLI) Community Initiative, a collaboration between students and administrators. It provides students with financial, academic, and social support, and empowers them to pursue leadership opportunities on campus.

Yale Financial Aid Awards meet 100% of a student’s demonstrated financial need, without requiring loans. And with no strict deadlines or cutoffs, Yale’s financial aid can adjust to a family’s changing circumstances.

For students receiving financial aid, Yale created the International Study Award, which provides a stipend of up to $16,100 for a Yale experience abroad, and the Summer Experience Award, which provides $4,000–$6,000 stipends to students who pursue unpaid internships, research jobs, and arts apprenticeships.

The total cost of attendance for 2023–2024—including tuition, room, meals, books, and personal expenses—is $87,705, but the average scholarship covers more than two thirds of this cost, and hundreds of Yale families have no expected parent share. In three minutes or less, anyone can estimate their Yale cost using the Quick Cost Estimator, a six-question tool at admissions.yale.edu/affordable.

$63,274
average Yale need-based scholarship in 2022–2023

86%
of the Class of 2022 graduated with zero loan debt

“Yale has seen socioeconomic mobility as a central pillar of its mission since its earliest days, and the American Dream is very much alive here. As a product of that dream myself, I am inspired by it. I am committed to preserving it. I am thankful that Yale’s financial aid policies and practices sustain and propel its promise. It is my hope—indeed my conviction—that Yale students will continue to ensure that the dream of a better life will be woven permanently into the fabric of our societies around the world.”

Peter Salovey  President of Yale University

Financial Aid Snapshot 2023–2024

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Annual Income Range</th>
<th>Median Net Cost</th>
<th>Median Scholarship</th>
<th>Aid Applicants Who Qualified</th>
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*Most who qualify have multiple children in college.
Diversity of Experience.

A Yale education extends far beyond a major, a collection of courses, or the boundaries of campus. Students arrive encompassing a wide range of life experiences that naturally broadens and enriches their understandings of each other. Students then take these evolving perspectives with them around the world through Yale-facilitated programs that provide unexpected opportunities for further growth and discovery.

No two Yale students walk the same path before their undergraduate journey, nor do they take the same path once they begin. Yale College seeks students from all walks and stages of life—including transfers and nontraditional, adult students—who will make the most of Yale’s unique opportunities and its many vibrant communities. All students gather at Yale to develop their intellectual, moral, civic, and creative capacities to the fullest, and the majority disperse to participate in study, research, or internships abroad in disciplines inside and outside their majors. International experiences are accessible to all students regardless of class year, major, or financial need, and students can connect with experienced advisers at Yale’s Center for International and Professional Experience in their very first semester.

“Diversity is illustrated by differing perspectives, conflicting opinions, distinct backgrounds, and unique ways of looking at the world, all of which are critical to the Yale experience. The remarkable diversity of this student population, combined with undergraduates’ intense curiosity and drive, makes Yale an incredibly exciting place to learn.”

Stephen Pitti, Professor of History and American Studies and Associate Head of Ezra Stiles College

6,645 undergraduates enrolled as of 2022
50 states
68 countries
48% men
50% women
2% another gender
53% identify as members of a minority group
18% first-generation four-year college students
10% international students
65% attended public high school
64% receive financial assistance
17% are Pell Grant recipients
23% major in the Arts and Humanities
40% major in the Social Sciences
37% major in STEM
19% hold double majors

Students may apply to Yale in one of three ways: as first-year students; as transfer students; or to the Eli Whitney Students Program, a unique program designed for adult learners.

Half of the transfer and Eli Whitney students who entered Yale in the fall of 2022 applied from community college.

How I got to Yale:

Sebastian Mendieta
Political Science Major

After gaining my United States citizenship in high school, I struggled to find a meaningful path. I decided to put aside my education until I knew exactly how I wanted to focus my efforts. In the meantime, I joined the military and became a Naval Aviation Rescue Swimmer. With the aid of strong mentors who cultivated my intellectual curiosity, I reignited my desire to pursue higher education and applied to the Eli Whitney Students Program.

Yuki Hayasaka
Ethnicity, Race, & Migration Major

I spent two months in Fiji and Kiribati doing field research on climate migration. The project combined my interests in development, climate change, and international relations. I am grateful for the support of the Edward A. Bouchet Undergraduate Fellowship Program, which provided funding and also connected me to mentors on campus and beyond who helped me with my research along the way.

Yale Abroad:

Jinchen Zou
Global Affairs and Economics & Mathematics Major

I spent five weeks in Fiji and Kiribati doing field research on climate migration. The project combined my interests in development, climate change, and international relations. I am grateful for the support of the Edward A. Bouchet Undergraduate Fellowship Program, which provided funding and also connected me to mentors on campus and beyond who helped me with my research along the way.

Paulina Pimentel-Mora
Political Science Major

The years preceding my time at Yale were some of the most formative years in my life. After graduating high school in 2019, I decided to enroll at my local community college where I joined student government, worked at my campus health center, interned for a congressmen, volunteered at various community organizations, and simply thrived as a person. It was those years that led me to transfer to Yale and continue to ground me as I continue with my journey.

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Diverse Futures.

Yale inspires the students who inspire the world. Yale graduates are equipped with the critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills necessary to thrive in a position of leadership in any field and career anywhere in the world.

Artist and architect Maya Lin ’81, actress Angela Bassett ’80, and YouTube sensation Sam Tsui ’10 create art in different forms, but they each challenge audiences around the world to see things differently. Neurosurgeon and former U.S. Secretary of HUD HUD Ben Carson ’73, journalist Anderson Cooper ’80, and historian Henry Louis Gates ’73 have different political views, but they each spark national conversations about pressing issues.

Nearly three quarters of all Yale College students attend graduate or professional school within five years of graduating, earning spots in premier Ph.D. programs and at top medical, law, and business schools. For those who choose a more entrepreneurial path, a Yale education prepares graduates to succeed in professions of their own creation. No matter their path through Yale or after Yale, all students develop a meaningful definition of success that combines personal accomplishment and public service.

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The Work of Yale University* is carried on in the following schools:

Yale College—Established 1701
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences 1817
School of Medicine 1810
Divinity School 1822
Law School 1829
School of Engineering & Applied Science 1852
School of Art 1869
School of Music 1894
School of Architecture 1915
School of Drama 1923
School of Management 1976

*For more information, please see https://bulletin.yale.edu.