

CALL

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing two people sitting on a large, flat rock in the foreground, looking out over a vast forest with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. In the distance, a body of water is visible under a cloudy sky. The text 'CALL' is overlaid in the top left corner in a large, green, sans-serif font.

Climate Action and Leadership Lab
a high school semester program at the Watershed School





OUR Planet
MATTERS.

The Oceans are Rising
and so are
We

CALL

*where high school students act, innovate, and create
community-oriented solutions to climate change.*

The Climate Action and Leadership Lab inspires the next generation to overcome the challenges posed by climate change with resilience and creativity. Through conversations, projects, innovative coursework, and community partnerships, our students are creating a 21st-century culture that prioritizes communication, conservation, stewardship, and sustainability.

CREATE. ACT. ENGAGE.

What is CALL?

CALL is interdisciplinary, project-based, and community-oriented.

At CALL, you learn to understand the environmental, political, economic, ethical, and cultural impacts of a rapidly warming climate in the context of climate action and civic engagement.

You collaborate with town government and the community at large on environmental projects, and you serve as mentors for other students and municipalities throughout Maine as they strive to build their own initiatives to address climate change.

CREATE climate solutions

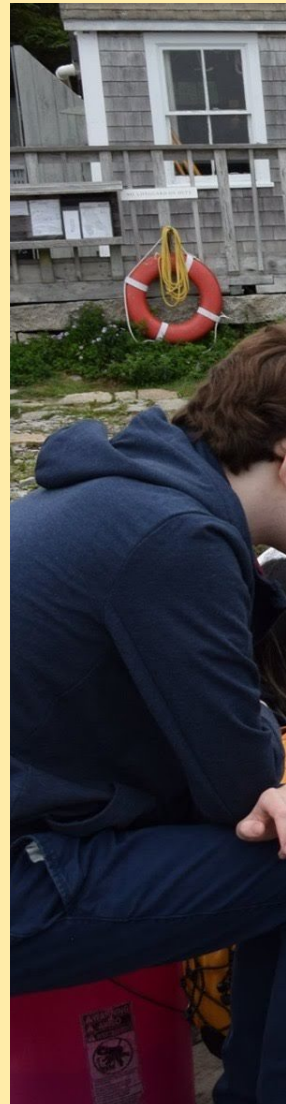
COMMUNICATE effectively

COLLABORATE with others
to bring about positive change

INTERPRET data and media
with a critical eye

OBSERVE your world

LEAD your community





learn by doing

COMMUNITY

Our community is close-knit, flexible, strong, and intentional. We prioritize mutual respect between students and faculty and believe that learning to trust, listen, and work as a team builds confidence and compassion. Our sense of community broadens as students engage with the public through projects, volunteer initiatives, partnerships, and coursework. With Penobscot Bay and Maine's rocky coastline in our backyard, students quickly become familiar with the coastal infrastructure, culture, and industry that define so much of Maine's way of life.



UNITY

At Watershed, our community is our campus. Courses take place at our climate center, in town halls, labs, and community gathering places throughout Maine. The CALL cohort is fully integrated into the Watershed community and creating a culture of interdependence and teamwork among CALL students and within the entire school is of the utmost importance. Students traveling from afar have the option to be placed in a homestay where they become part of the school community while experiencing life in a vibrant coastal Maine town.



LEARN

Our academic program is built around five interdisciplinary semester-long courses. In addition to taking these core courses, CALL students design and implement a capstone project that is rooted in community and relevant to their own lives and interests. This project fosters stewardship of our environment, prioritizes civic engagement, and requires collaboration with a community of the cohort's choosing. Throughout the semester, students participate in a climate communication workshop, and have opportunities to work on the front lines of climate action in Maine through partnerships with institutions such as University of Maine's *Climate Change Institute*, the Maine Climate Council, and the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences. In the spring, students will join other Maine high school students for a collaborative leadership training program at the Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership.





Core Courses

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: SCIENCE, ACTION, AND LEADERSHIP LAB

Understand the science behind past and present global climate change, learn how humans are affected by climate change and learn about the response at local and global levels. Engage with the community as you design a project that brings climate solutions to your community.

MEDIA LITERACY IN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Analyze the rhetoric surrounding climate change at home and abroad. How do we educate the public and the policy-makers? How do we communicate science directly and accurately? Learn to be an effective and confident public speaker, communicator, and listener.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY AND ETHICS

Explore the relationship between humans and their environment throughout history. How have attitudes towards nature changed over time and how has our history shaped the patterns of conservation, exploitation, pollution, and urbanization in the United States?

STATISTICS: INTERPRETING CLIMATE DATA

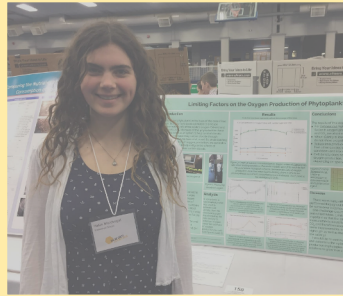
Learn about statistics within the context of climate data. How do scientists present their data? How does the media present data? Where do the numbers and graphs come from and what do they tell us about our past, present, and future?

SPANISH: CROSS-CULTURAL AND BILINGUAL PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Explore how countries in South and Central America are responding to climate change from a bilingual perspective. How does climate change impact immigration? What language surrounds the climate narrative in other countries and media sources?

Watershed School

At Watershed, students are not confined to the four walls of a classroom. Our educational program is integrated in community and our courses are designed with the knowledge that the most memorable learning takes place away from the textbook. Our discussion-based classes allow for engaging conversation, challenging debates, and innovative teaching. At Watershed, we challenge our students with real-life experiences that are rarely found at the high school level.



"Watershed's Climate Change class gave me a unique practical background in environmental studies that has profoundly shaped the way I think about climate change, has consistently set me apart from my peers, and left me extremely motivated and prepared to continue this type of work professionally."

~ Warren '17, Environmental Studies major at Middlebury College

APPLY TODAY



Admissions Process

CALL is a place for motivated and curious students looking for a rigorous and hands-on educational experience. Our selection process carefully considers your personal essays, interview, transcript, and letters of recommendation. We want to get to know you!

Non-Discrimination Policy

Watershed School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in education or employment.

Deadlines

We accept applications on a rolling admissions basis until the semester program is full. You can expect to hear from us within three weeks of submitting your application.

Financial Aid

We are committed to making CALL a reality for students regardless of their financial circumstances. Please visit our website to learn about our financial aid policies.

To apply and learn more visit: **watershed-school.org**

