
Want to do summer research in 2021? In the field of atmospheric chemistry? And live in Paris for a month?

Who: All HMC students who are US citizens from all majors (rising sophomores too!). Two students will be selected each year.

What: Research in atmospheric chemistry (see timeline below for involvement)

When: starting in Spring 2021 with a 1-unit research experience, continuing through summer with a paid experience (10 weeks) into AY 21-22 (1 unit or paid research each semester). The program will be offered for 3 years with new students selected each year. This is the third offering.

Where: HMC Chemistry department and the University of Paris in Créteil

Why: Because undergraduate research is a transformative experience, because air pollution and climate change are important topics you want to learn more about, because travel to Paris sounds awesome, because you heard Professor Hawkins is really fun to work with...

Timeline of activities:

When	What
January and early February 2021	Students are recruited to apply
Mid February (Chemistry summer research deadline)	Applications are DUE (online Google form)
Before the second half semester begins	Selected students will register for 1 unit for research with Prof. Hawkins
	Participate in research 1 afternoon/week
Summer 2021	Fly to Paris, France around May 23
	Research at CESAM facility through June 19
	Resume research at HMC
	Research ends July 30, 2021
Academic year 2021-2022	Students continue analyzing summer data in a 1 unit or paid research experience (both semesters)

How to apply:

Visit the [HMC Chemistry Research page](#) and find the Google form there. Questions? Contact Prof. Hawkins at lhawkins@g.hmc.edu.

****IMPORTANT**** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions, the viability of travel will be assessed through March. If travel is deemed unsafe or if the College prohibits travel, students selected in 2021 will be first in line to travel in 2022.

Frequently asked questions:

Will I have to pay for airfare?

No, the travel expenses, including airfare and housing, are covered.

Will I have to pay for living expenses while in France?

Some, but not more than at HMC. I will buy each student a full access metro pass and provide a modest supplement to the normal summer stipend to help cover the most expensive food costs. As with research at HMC, you are expected to cover most of your living expenses, so the modest supplement is not enough itself to live on.

Do I have to be a U.S. citizen?

Unfortunately, yes, the NSF IRES program requires that participants are U.S. citizens. There are other research positions in chemistry, including in my lab, that are open to non-citizens.

What will our days be like?

Work in the lab will be the priority on weekdays, from 8:30 or 9am to 6p. Some days will be long and some will be short, depending on the research. Nights and weekends will be free for sightseeing. The lab is crowded and dirty (and fun!) so you should be prepared to work hard, and learn a lot.

What will my job be?

When equipment is running, you are responsible for looking at the equipment at least every 20-30 minutes if you are not sitting right in front of it. It is common for equipment to fail, and noticing sooner will save precious data (that we flew all the way here for).

What if I've never done research before?

Then you're in good company! There is no expectation of prior research experience.

What are you looking for in successful applicants?

I am looking for passionate students who are organized, patient, and have good attitudes in the face of challenging conditions and new situations. Successful applicants will demonstrate they are eager to learn, and willing to work hard to learn new things.