

College Honors Program -1

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The College Honors Program provides a high level of challenge and stimulation to talented students who seek a broad educational experience. Honors courses meet liberal learning requirements, so students in the program may complete part of the liberal learning requirements with courses exclusive to the Honors Program. Thus, completion of the Honors Program does not require students to take additional courses, only different ones. Classes are small, encouraging interaction with professors and other talented students.

Some honors courses are team-taught by a pair of faculty members from different disciplines. Many investigate the western cultural heritage and provide a global view of cultural values. Another important part of the program is a required study of cultures and issues of the non-Western world.

The Honors Program is open to both incoming students and matriculated students who meet the entrance requirements of the program. Graduates of the program receive special recognition on diplomas and transcripts.

Application Guidelines:

- Entering Students: combined SAT score of 1300 (Math and Verbal) and graduation in the top 15% of high school class.
- Matriculated Students: 3.5 cumulative average and four course units earned.

The Honors and Scholars Program Council considers each application individually, focusing on the high school program, honors application essay, involvement in activities, and two letters of recommendation. Admission to the Honors Program is highly competitive, with less than 10% of the entering class being accepted.

Prerequisite for all honors courses:

Membership in the College Honors Program or permission of instructor.

It is *strongly recommended* that incoming freshmen who have been admitted into the College Honors Program enroll in an Honors Freshman Seminar. (Freshmen in the Honors Program must complete at least one honors course during the first semester in residence at the College.)

Requirements to Complete the College Honors Program

- A student must complete five units (=20 credits) of Honors study. The five units may be earned through coursework, study abroad, or independent research.
- Of the five units, one must be completed during the first semester in residence at the College as an Honors student. (Most incoming freshmen complete this requirement by enrolling in an Honors First Year Seminar.)
- Of the five units, one must be in philosophy or religion and one must meet the College's Global requirement. (No single course can be used to meet both of these requirements.)

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- Departmental Honors projects can (upon approval by the Honors and Scholars Program Council) count toward the five units of Honors.
- Two of the five units can be earned through honors-by-contract study. Honors-by-contract allows a student to complete a traditional course for honors credit, when the student and professor together agree to a set of enhancements (in research or performance) that raise the demands placed on the student to the Honors level.
- Study abroad may count toward College Honors, when approved in advance by the Honors Coordinator.
- In order to complete the program, a student must carry a minimum 3.0 (B) grade point average both in honors courses and at the college as a whole.