Honors Program (HON)

Courses

HON 100 Honors Seminar: Becoming a Scholar* (1 Hour)
Prerequisites : Department approval.
The honors seminar introduces students to new approaches to knowledge construction and experience what it means to engage critically and creatively in its production. Students explore the many ways in which honors education allows them to think outside of the box and to the supportive environment that empowers them to forge their unique path forward. It will also equip them with the tools to ask hard questions, begin to find answers, develop a tolerance for uncertainty and take on the task of knowledge construction as they embrace the identity of scholar.

HON 170 Honors Contract* (1 Hour)
Prerequisites : HON 100 with a grade of "B" or higher.
The Honors Contract provides an opportunity for students to personalize their learning in a course and formally engage in undergraduate research. Students will be mentored by a faculty in a particular discipline by focusing on a topic of unique interest to the student but closely associated with the theme of the course it is enhancing. The honors contract always exceeds the course's goals and scope and draws from honors courses that students have completed prior to their enrollment. Students will especially build upon the research literacy skills introduced in the Honors Seminar to develop a project informed by research. They will refine their ability to observe, synthesize information and reflect while making sense of a problem they have identified by engaging with the scholarship in the discipline of choice. Students will develop a greater understanding of issues identified in collaboration with the faculty mentor to enhance their learning as well as their peers' learning. This is a repeatable course and may be taken more than once for credit.

HON 205 Introduction to Research Methods* (1 Hour)
Prerequisites or corequisites: HON 100 or Department approval.
The honors course introduces students to research methods in a given field or area of research in preparation for lifelong inquiry. Students will explore essential research language, refresh their research literacy skills, refine their ability to ask research questions, to test the validity of existing research and discuss ethical questions stemming from academic inquiry.

HON 270 Honors Forum:* (3 Hours)
Prerequisites or corequisites: HON 100 with a grade of "B" or higher.
The Honors Forum provides an interdisciplinary approach to contemporary problems as they emerge locally, nationally or globally. Students will be exposed to diverse modes of inquiry in order to consider these problems from multiple angles. The Honors Forum draws from honors courses that students have completed prior to their enrollment. Students will develop a greater understanding of each issue and acquire the ability to develop an evidence-based argument regarding the topic under scrutiny. In this course students will build upon the research literacy skills introduced in the Honors Seminar, such that they demonstrate proficiency in the selection and use of academic databases, as well as the ability to incorporate in their argument the analysis of at least one primary source. This is a repeatable course and may be taken more than once for credit.

HON 291 Independent Study* (1-7 Hour)
Prerequisites : 3.5 GPA minimum and department approval.
Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.

HON 292 Special Topics:* (1-3 Hour)
Prerequisites : Department approval.
This course periodically offers specialized or advanced discipline-specific content related to diverse areas of honors pedagogy not usually taught in the curriculum to interested and qualified students within the program. This is a repeatable course and may be taken more than once for credit.