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HANDBOOK



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# What is the UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM?

The University Honors Program at Frostburg State University prides itself upon blurring boundaries traditionally found in academia. These boundaries include hierarchies among faculty members, students, and administrators; the boundaries among academic disciplines; and the boundaries between the classroom and other areas of student life.

Honors students may co-facilitate a course, participate in faculty development workshops, serve on the Honors Program Advisory Group, and function as partners in the design of curriculum and program requirements. Administrators from diverse parts of the university frequently teach honors courses. The Undergraduate Research Opportunity Stipend (UROS) program pairs honors students with faculty mentors. Social activities such as picnics, film discussions, and field trips are common. At every step of the program, students, faculty members, and administrators collaborate in the learning process.

Honors courses, even if they are housed in a particular academic discipline, are expected to incorporate material from multiple disciplines and encourage critical thinking, discussion, and writing. Specially designed interdisciplinary seminars are offered each semester; these seminars are sometimes team-taught. Topics in the past have included Wealth and Poverty, New York City and Modern American Culture, Ethnobotany: The Healing Nature of Plants, Representations of Gender, and Genocide. Some of the seminars, such as Genocide, are intensive, 6-credit experiences.

The Honors Program at FSU offers more than traditional courses. The following Honors travel/study experiences have been offered: International Politics in Ireland, Mythology as Sacred Geography in Greece, Art and the Social World in New York City, The American South in Charleston, Environmental Issues in Ecuador, and Diversity in New Mexico.

Honors/International Housing in Cambridge Hall and the Honors Freshman experience in Frost Hall offer students the opportunity to live in communities with unique programming that complements their honors courses. The Honors Program Learning Community integrates courses and co-curricular activities. Students and faculty members are often active participants in state, regional, and national collegiate honors conferences. FSU's Honors Program students are campus leaders in student government, campus publications, Greek life, and other organizations.

This University Honors Program Handbook provides students with information they will need to flourish as members of the Honors Program. Faculty and administrators should find this handbook useful for advising students, preparing to teach honors classes, and participating in other aspects of FSU honors education.

# A Dozen Reasons to Join the University Honors Program

Now that you know what we're all about, here are a few reasons to join us.

Course co-facilitating Honors classes emphasize active learning experiences: simulations, opportunities debates, writing, research, and discussion. Opportunities to attend and participate in State, Regional, All honors variants fulfill GEP and National Collegiate Honors requirements **Council Conferences** Priority Registration! Study abroad! Honors/International Housing in Cambridge Hall (single rooms Field trips to musuems and and a "down campus" location) cultural events. 5 Honors housing in Frost Hall Cultural Passport - free tickets to and Diehl Hall (single or double select campus events rooms, renovated rooms, and "up campus" location) 6 Fuller House is shared with CIE Undergraduate Research and features a lounge, **Opportunity Stipends (UROS)** classroom, and a kitchen

# **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

# **Admission Criteria**

Incoming first semester students are invited to join if they have a high school GPA of 3.5 and a combined SAT score of 1750 (or an ACT score of 26). Students who do not meet both of these requirements may apply for admission to the Honors Program based on the strength of either an excellent GPA with a minimum of 1500 on the combined SAT (23 on the ACT) or an excellent SAT/ACT score with at least a 3.25 GPA. Exceptions made on a case-by-case basis.

Transfer and current students may apply to the Honors Program if they have a GPA of 3.5 or above. All honors courses taken at other National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) affiliated colleges and universities will transfer in as FSU honors credit.

## Graduating With Honors in General Education

All of the students in the Honors Program are pursuing the distinction of graduating with "Honors in General Education." This distinction is awarded to students who complete the following requirements:

## • ENGL 111, 312, or 300 (3 credit)

 15 – 17 credit hours of Honors variants of General Education Program courses from an approved list (found in the GEP section of the Undergraduate Catalog)

- 6 credit hours of the following interdisciplinary courses:
  - IDIS 351 Honors Advanced Colloquium
  - IDIS 491 Honors Seminar
  - IDIS 493 Honors Thesis
  - Experiential Learning Option, Approved Study Abroad course, Undergraduate Research Project, Internship, Departmental Recital or other experiential learning experience

Honors students must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average in their Honors courses and overall GPA to be a student in good standing and to graduate with Honors in General Education.

ENGL 111 is required of all students entering the Honors Program as first-semester freshmen. Students electing to join this program after their first semester are required to take either ENGL 312 or 300. (However, students who receive a 5 on either the AP English Language and Composition or the AP English Literature and Composition test will receive credit for ENGL 111.)

Experiential Learning Option (ELO), IDIS 493 Honors Thesis, and IDIS 491 Honors seminars may, with departmental approval, count towards requirements in the major. IDIS 491 credit hours may, with approval of the Honors Program Advisory Group, substitute for portions of the Modes of Inquiry section of the GEP.

Each semester, students and their advisors will receive a copy of their records as they appear in our database, informing them of the student's progress toward completion of Honors Program requirements (see Appendix A).

# **Application Process**

Students may apply to the Honors Program at any time during their career at Frostburg State University. Applications may be found in Fuller House or online. A copy of the program application can be found in Appendix H.

Students who receive certain institutional merit scholarships are automatically offered admittance into the Honors Program. These students are contacted during Preview FSU as to whether they wish to partcipate in the program.

# **GRADUATING WITH HONORS: A GUIDE**

In order to graduate with "Honors in General Education," honors students will take 8 honors courses. The scheduling of classes, however, can occasionally prove to be challenging. To aid in the process, consider below a suggested sequence for completing the requirements for graduating with "Honors in General Education." Be aware, however, that requirements for a major and other interests may result in alterations in this sequence. The list of Honors variants is found on page 8.

| 1st Semester | ENGL 111 and 1 - 2 Honors variants    |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2nd Semester | 1 Honors variant                      |
| 3rd Semester | 1 Honors variant                      |
| 4th Semester | 1 Honors variant                      |
| 5th Semester | 1 Honors Upper-Level (e.g., IDIS 491) |
| 6th Semester | Break                                 |
| 7th Semester | 1 Honors Upper-Level (e.g., IDIS 491) |

Note: While a suggested sequence is only listed for students who enter the University Honors Program during their 1st semester, students can apply for the University Honors Program at any time. Upper-Level requirements include IDIS 351, 491, 493, and Experiential Learning Option.

# **Advanced Placement (AP)**

Students who receive a score of 3 or 4 on either AP English test (or participate in an approved dual-enrollment English course in high school) will receive credit for ENGL 101: Freshman Composition, but not ENGL 111: Honors Freshman Composition. If ENGL 101 has already been completed, students should plan to take ENGL 300 or 312 during their junior year. Students who receive a score of **5** on either AP English test, however, will receive credit for ENGL 111: Honors Freshman Composition and will not need to take ENGL 300 or 312 later on.

Students who receive a score of 5 on any College Board AP test will be given credit for the Honors equivalent of these courses, provided that FSU offers an honors course in that area.

# **Removal from the Honors Program**

In order to keep our records current, students who meet one or more of the conditions below will be contacted by the Honors Program concerning their removal and the reason(s). These students are welcome to contact the Honors Program if they would like to discuss their cases.

- 1. Not being enrolled in honors classes for 3 or more semesters
- 2. Honors or FSU GPA under a 2.0 for at least 2 semesters without improvement
- 3. Second-semester sophomore or more advanced (45+ credits) with 2 or fewer honors courses taken
- 4. Not in good standing with the Honors Program and not taking honors courses for 2 or more semesters
- 5. Failed 2 or more honors courses and/or 2 or more Ds in honors courses

# **HONORS VARIANTS**

"Honors variants" are versions of the introductory courses in the General Education Program. Honors variants are distinguished by smaller class sizes, an emphasis on active learning (such as simulations and other projects), and an atmosphere that engages students, faculty, and administrators in collaborative learning. Honors variants are the backbone of the Honors Program; offerings vary from semester to semester. In the case of a scheduling conflict, in which a student cannot take a needed variant, an Honors Course Enhancement may be pursued (see p. 9).

| ART 111  | Honors: Art Appreciation                                 |
|----------|--|
| CHEM 113 | Honors: Chemistry and Society                            |
| COSC 110 | Honors: Introduction to Computer Science                 |
| ECON 211 | Honors: Principles of Macroeconomics                     |
| ECON 212 | Honors: Principles of Microeconomics                     |
| ENGL 111 | Honors: Freshman Composition                             |
| ENGL 250 | Honors: Introduction to Comparative Literature           |
| ENGL 312 | Honors: Advanced Composition                             |
| GEOG 113 | Honors: Physical Geography                               |
| GEOG 114 | Honors: Human Geography                                  |
| HIST 111 | Honors: The Contemporary World in Historical Perspective |
| IDIS 151 | Honors: First Year Colloquium (topics vary)              |
| MATH 110 | Honors: Elements of Applied Probability and Statistics   |
| PHIL 111 | Honors: Introduction to Philosophy                       |
| PHIL 112 | Honors: Contemporary Ethical Problems                    |
| P0SC 112 | Honors: Introduction to American Politics                |
| P0SC 114 | Honors: Introduction to World Politics                   |
| PSYC 151 | Honors: General Psychology                               |
| SOCI 111 | Honors: Introduction to Sociology                        |

Most Honors variants are offered at least once per academic year. Each semester, approximately 8-10 Honors variants are offered. Departmental commitments or constraints may vary the scheduling of course offerings.

# HONORS COURSE ENHANCEMENTS

On occasion, Honors Program students might encounter difficulties enrolling in the required number of Honors variants. Honors Course Enhancements allow students to register for regular sections of courses and receive Honors credit. The Honors Course Enhancement must represent a scholarly endeavor beyond the normal content of the course, and the project must be approved and described on the Honors Course Enhancement Proposal (see Appendix **B**). Students are permitted to complete a maximum of 2 Honors **Course Enhancements.** 

# Focus

An Honors Course Enhancement may focus on: research beyond normal course work; critical thinking and extended analysis not required in regular course work; or a creative project beyond regular course requirements.

# Procedure

The instructor and the student should first determine the project and complete the Honors Course Enhancement Proposal (see Appendix B).

Througout the semester, they should meet to discuss the student's progress.

Finally, a copy of the final graded project and a signed Honors Course Enhancement Completion Form (see Appendix C) should be

## Deadlines

submitted to the Honors Program.

Enhancement Proposals must be in the Honors Program Director's office in Fuller House by the end of the semester's registration period.

The final draft of the Honors project or activity, with the Honors Course Enhancement Completion Form, must be in Honors Program

# Availability

Director's office by the last day of finals week.

The Honors Course Enhancement option is available when: the student has been progressing towards completion of the eight-course Honors Program requirement; scheduling conflicts have prevented the student from taking other Honors courses; and the Honors Director has approved the student's

## Paperwork

request for the use of an Honors Course Enhancement.

Enhancement Proposal and Completion forms are available on campus in Fuller House and online. Copies of both documents can be found in the Appendix of this handbook.

# **SEMINARS (IDIS 491)**

Honors seminars (IDIS 491) are interdisciplinary and in-depth explorations of a particular topic. Activities emphasize student discussions of assigned readings and oral and written reports. Topics vary each semester. Honors students typically enroll in seminars in their junior and senior years.

## Past seminars have included:

Belief in God and Mainstream Science

Extraterrestrials

Gender in Science

Genocide

Labor and the American Culture

LGBT Studies

Medieval Studies

Mental Health and Mental Illness

Mythology as Sacred Geography

Native Peoples of North America

NYC and Modern American Culture

Planet Earth: Past, Present, and Future

The Planets: Mythic History & Reality

**Representations of Gender** 

The Science of Happiness and Well-Being

Sex, Love, Marriage, and the State

The Sixties in America

The US War in Iraq

Wealth and Poverty

World Mythology

Zen Theory and Practice

# HONORS PROGRAM LEARNING COMMUNITY

FSU Learning Communities provide first-semester freshmen with the opportunity to enroll in selected courses with a common cohort of students. Each FSU Learning Community is organized around a theme and may consist of at least 2 linked courses, including Introduction to Higher Education. The faculty who teach connection courses work together to coordinate readings and assignments. They also arrange FSU Learning Community activities that facilitate learning outside the classroom.

The University Honors Program has its own learning community, containing linked courses designed specifically for Honors students - allowing them to build relationships and support networks with other Honors students and faculty. Learning Community activities include field trips. The courses included in the Honors Learning Community also count toward the 15 credit hours of variants required to graduate with Honors in General Education. concepts such as citizenship, democracy, opportunity, and liberty. Students will explore how the development of the US political system and American culture more generally have greatly reflected and shaped contemporary society's debates over social norms, cultural values, and the purposes of government. It is an excellent

introduction to the social sciences and the humanities at the college level, as well as an engaging beginning to an honors education.

This learning community includes:

POSC 112: Introduction to American Politics IDIS 151: Exploring American Culture ORIE 101: Introduction to Higher Education

The aforementioned courses are characteristic of Honors variants and may include debates, film screenings, class discussions, and a field trip to several Washington, D.C. musuems.

# Power, Culture, and Polarization in America

This learning community for honors students examines the intersections of political culture and popular culture in the United States, highlighting the contested meanings of

# **HONORS THESIS**

The Honors Thesis is an endeavor that spans a year in its preparation and completion. The thesis is a capstone requirement and therefore must represent visible evidence of accomplishment in a discipline or area of inquiry. It may be a research paper, but also a video, performance, art exhibit, or other endeavor that demonstrates competence beyond the requirements in the major.

The purpose of the thesis is to provide students with an opportunity to do independent, in-depth work in their discipline or area of interest with the guidance of faculty mentors. One benefit of the thesis is that it can prepare the student for graduate school. The thesis can provide evidence of the student's ability to design, develop, and complete an extended piece of scholarship or activity that is typical of an academic discipline. Creating a thesis is optional and not required to graduate with Honors.

# **Structure of Thesis**

Each thesis, regardless of its type, will have three components:

Literature Review: a summary of what others have written about the topic

Project: a presentation of the student's work on the topic

Discussion and Recommendations: a discussion of what is concluded and what should be addressed by future scholars/professionals

The thesis paper should be of sufficient scope to demonstrate expertise in the field.

# **Faculty Participation**

A number of faculty will play a role in mentoring a student during the honors thesis process. Faculty roles are:

1. **Thesis Sponsor**: This faculty person functions as Chair of the thesis committee and serves as the primary mentor. She/he will guide the work and reguarly meet with the student to talk about the conceptualization and structure of the project. The student will meet reguarly with her/his sponsor. The thesis sponsor is also responsible for helping the student "keep on schedule" and for supervising the oral presentation component of the assignment.

2. Member of the Thesis Committee: The student should select one additional faculty member to serve on the committee. His/her function is to be a resource person throughout the project, serve as a reader of the thesis, and participate in the oral presentation. The committee will consist of a minimum of two faculty members and the Honors Director.

3. **Honors Director:** The Honors Director will serve as an ex officio member of all honors thesis committees and as the thesis "seminar" facilitator.

## **Thesis Proposal Form**

A thesis proposal form (Appendix D) must be submitted prior to enrollment in IDIS 493. The student enrolls in IDIS 493 the semester in which s/he plans to complete the thesis.

## **Oral Presentation**

At completion of the final thesis draft, the oral presentation needs to be scheduled. This oral presentation should be 1 hour long and will focus on the content of the project and the assumptions that guide it. Thesis presentations are open to the public.



Honors student Aaron Blough speaks to the audience and FSU President Jonathan Gibralter at the 2013 Honors Banquet celebrating studnets graduating with Honors in General Education.

# **Suggested Thesis Time Frame**

| Junior Year                        | Begin thinking about thesis topic<br>Talk to faculty resource persons<br>Select faculty sponsor  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Prior to<br>Senior year            | Meet with Honors Director<br>Select thesis committee<br>Complete thesis proposal   |
| Senior year,<br>first semester     | Attend group thesis meetings<br>Begin research, planning, and design<br>Outline the thesis   |
| Senior year,<br>second<br>semester | Complete research<br>Complete draft 2 months before deadline<br>Review draft with committee<br>Schedule oral presentation<br>Submit revised final presentation of thesis |

# **Past Thesis Topics**

Obstacles Women Encounter on the Management Track

The Impact of the Political Model on U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

Variable Star CCD Photometry and Analysis

The Christianizing of Norway: Politics and Religion

Readers' Theater Scripts

The Life and Works of the Mathematician Archimedes

Prints and Reflections on Ireland

If planning to intern or student-teach, the student might to complete the thesis prior to her/his last semester.

## **Grade Repetition for Honors Courses**

Students earning a grade of D, F, FX, or WF in a designated Honors variant course may enroll in the non-honors equivalent. Students may file a grade repeat authorization form requesting that the credit hours and the grade earned in the Honors variant course not be used in calculating the cumulative grade point average and cumulative credits. All other regulations concerning the grade repeat option apply (see Course Repetition

and Grading in the Academic Standards section of the Undergraduate Catalog). Use of the

# grade repetition option in this manner constitutes withdrawal from the Honors Program.

However, students who repeat the designated Honors variant with a later section of the same designated Honors variant will remain in good standing in the Honors Program.

# **Experiential Learning Option (ELO)**

Honors students can complete the equivalent of a Honors seminar by taking the opportunity to complete an experiential learning project. In the past, students have taken advantage of study-abroad experiences, alternative spring breaks, research, and community-related activities to complete an Experiential Learning Option. Like the Honors Course Enhancement process, students must fill out a Proposal Form before their chosen experience and submit a completion form at the end of the project. To receive credit for an experiential learning activity, students must also submit a paper which reflects on the experiential learning experience and integrates it with their academic coursework in their major. Experiences must be approved in advance by the Honors Program director, as well as endorsed by a faculty instructor who will supervise the project.

While experiential learning projects fulfill an upper-level requirement in the Honors Program, please note that the experience is a project for the Honors Program and, thus, will not appear on an FSU transcript for credit.



Honors student Aidan Krautner studied abroad in Ireland for honors credit in Fall 2014.



## FROST HALL

# HONORS HOUSING

The Honors Program allows students the opportunity to reside in honors housing. In order to maintain this privilege, students must be steadily progressing towards completion of the requirements for graduating with Honors in General Education. Living in either of the honors residence halls requires registering for, and completing, honors courses, as well as maintaining both a cumulative and honors GPA of 3.0. Students who seek an exception to the housing eligibility criteria must submit a written appeal to the Honors Program Advisory Group (c/o Dr. Greg Wood, 19 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532). Please see page 14 for details on housing eligibility.

Two types of honors housing are available: single-occupancy rooms on the fifth and sixth floors of Cambridge Hall (Honors/International Housing) and singleor double-occupancy rooms for freshman in Frost Hall or Diehl Hall.

Honors/International Housing in Cambridge Hall is available for upper-class Honors Program students. Cambridge Hall offers single rooms, air-conditioning, and cluster-style living.

Honors Frost and Diehl are designed for first-year honors students. Special programming, such as optional study sessions for select honors courses, is offered for residents of the hall. Also, students already living in Frost or Diehl will have priority when openings arise in Honors/International Housing.

The popularity of honors housing is such that it might not be possible to accommodate all first-year students who request it.

Timely completion of housing forms is necessary to secure honors housing. Students need to complete FSU's Residence Life housing form (online) and submit it by the Residence Life Office deadline. Students must also complete the Honors Program Housing Application (Appendix H).

Honors Housing is *optional*. We believe that students will enjoy and benefit from living/learning in Honors/International or Honors Frost and Diehl; however, Frostburg State has a number of other exciting and excellent housing options: e.g., STEM, ECHOStars. Honors Program students in these programs' housing options, as well as commuters, have flourished in the Honors Program.

# **PRIORITY REGISTRATION & OTHER PERKS**

Priority Registration allows students to enroll in classes earlier during the University's registration period. Students are eligible for Priority Registration if they are progressing towards completion of the requirements for graduating with Honors in General Education. (See the chart below.)

The student's cumulative GPA and Honors GPA must not be below 3.0. For first year students (those with fewer than 30 credits), the required cumulative GPA is 2.75 or above.

Priority Registration must be done online with PAWS. Honors Program students who qualify for Priority Registration may register on the second day. Incoming freshmen cannot receive priority registration at Preview FSU.

Students and their advisors are informed of the student's priority registration status prior to advising and registration. Students who seek an exception to the above criteria must file a written appeal. Written appeals should specify in detail the reasons why the student has not progressed towards the completion of requirements. Forward the appeal to the Honors Program Advisory Group (c/o Dr. Greg Wood, Fuller House, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532).

# Requirements for Honors Housing and Priority Registration

| Credit Hours | Requirement                                     |
|--------------|---|
| 0 - 14       | completed/enrolled in at least 2 Honors courses |
| 15 - 29      | completed/enrolled in at least 3 Honors courses |
| 30 - 44      | completed/enrolled in at least 4 Honors courses |
| 45 - 59      | completed/enrolled in at least 5 Honors courses |
| 60 - 89      | completed/enrolled in at least 6 Honors courses |
| 90+          | completed/enrolled in at least 7 Honors courses |

# **Honors Student Association (HSA)**

Any student who is a member of the Honors Program is automatically a member of the Honors Student Association. The purpose of the HSA is to aid in the evaluation and development of the Honors Program, to select representatives to the Honors Program Advisory Group, and to offer extracurricular enrichment activities. Past extracurricular activities have included white water rafting, paint ball excursions, snow tubing at the WISP, and trips to professional baseball games.

## **Undergraduate Research**

The Honors Program tries to support students who are presenting at academic conferences. In addition, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Stipend program (UROS) offers students research experiences with faculty mentors and funds for travel to a professional conference.

## **Course Co-Facilitating Opportunities**

University Honors Program students are sometimes selected to assist FSU faculty with introductory-level courses. The students are not graders or clerical aids; rather, they function as role models and discussion leaders for beginner students. The program allows University Honors Program students to take a very active role in their own (and others') education.

## **Cultural Passport**

Cultural Passport provides Honors students with free admission to select cultural events on campus. Tickets have been provided for Cirque Du Soleil, The Capitol Steps, Into the Woods, Forbidden Broadway "Special Victims Unit," and Tomáseen Foley's "A Celtic Christmas."

# **Scholarship Availability**

The Nelson P. Guild Scholarship is available for juniors participating in the Honors Program. The scholarship is awarded for the student's senior year. Students are nominated by the Honors Program Director based upon their GPA, their involvement in the Honors Program, and their leadership on campus.

# Facebook



Find us on Facebook! Become a friend of "Honors Frostburg." During your time at FSU, keep up with events, check out pictures from trips and picnics, and receive information about opportunities and events. Once you graduate, you can stay connected with the Honors Program and other alumni.



# Twitter

Follow us on Twitter! Find our page, @HonorsProg, and stay updated with the latest Honors Program news and announcements, as well as interesting articles and retweets.



# Undergraduate Research Opportunity Stipend

Begun in 1997, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Stipends (UROS) give students an opportunity to collaborate with an FSU professor on original research. The students receive a \$1000 stipend to assist the faculty member with a research project.

A unique feature of the UROS program is that students and faculty also receive a stipend of \$500 each to travel to a professional conference.

The student's work for the project should form the basis for a senior thesis.

Student and faculty recipients of the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Stipend have presented research at professional meetings as part of the UROS grant:

Autumn Athey and Dr. Amy Branam (English)

Edgar Allen Poe

Laura Skipper and Dr. Alan Bensley (Psychology)

Decision Making Strategies

Jeffrey Tharp and Dr. George White (Geography)

National Identity in the Balkans

Karen Taluskie and Dr. Durland Shumway (Biology)

Hemlock Dendroecology

Sarah Husman and Dr. Patricia Santoro (Psychology)

Domestic Violence in Allegany County

Jonathan Winter and Dr. Amy Harman (Biology)

New Nematode Species

Zack Bensley and Dr. James Saku (Geography)

Socio Economic Changes: Nunuvat Land Claims Agreement

# **UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM FAQ**

## Is the University Honors Program something freshmen should do?

Freshmen should definitely take advantage of this opportunity. In order to complete the program, one only has to take a total of 8 honors courses, all of which satisfy General Education program requirements.

# How does the University Honors Program fit into my major?

Because the University Honors Program offers GEP courses, any major can complete the program. Music, Education, and Engineering majors may find it more challenging, but it has often been done in the past.

## What if I can't fit an Honors class into my schedule?

As long as you are on your way to completing the 8 courses, 1 semester of no Honors classes is okay. If you need more Honors classes, there's always the option of an enhancement. With the instructor's permission, you "enhance" a non-honors course by doing work above and beyond the normal class requirements. This could be a research paper, a presentation, or anything the professor and the Director of the Honors Program deem acceptable. Any course can be enhanced for variant credit, but a student may do only 2 enhancements total.

# What are the differences between Honors and non-Honors courses?

Many of our students feel that Honors courses tend to be more discussion-driven and active. For example, our Honors: World Politics course hosts debates and Model UN, and our Honors: Introduction to Sociology course, as well as our Honors: Contemporary World in Historical Perspective, course uses simulations and "Reacting to the Past" games.

## How much extra work do Honors courses give compared to regular classes?

Honors is really a different way of working, emphasizing active learning rather than passive learning.

## Is it hard to combine Honors courses and sports?

It can be difficult because sports practices are during some class times. However, it's no harder than trying to schedule non-Honors classes with your sports schedule.

## What is the average student-to-instructor ratio?

Last semester, our ratio was 1 instructor to every 15 students; yet, it isn't uncommon to have an Honors class with 7-10 students.

#### Is there a learning community for Honors students?

Yes! The Honors Learning Community has been taught by our Director, Dr. Greg Wood of the History Department, and Dr. Steve Simpson in Political Science. It combines Freshmen Orientation, Honors: Introduction to American Politics, and Honors: Exploring American Culture. Meet other Honors students and get to know them through a series of simulations and class activities in a seminar environment.

# Besides taking a certain number of Honors courses, are there any other requirements?

Other than courses, there is only a GPA requirement (see next question).

## Does a certain GPA need to be maintained to remain in the Honors Program?

All Honors students must maintain a 3.0 overall cumulative GPA along with a cumulative 3.0 GPA in Honors classes.

#### What scores do you accept on AP Exams?

All scores of 5 on AP exams for which there is a corresponding Honors Course will receive credit for the Honors course. For example, a student with a score of 5 on the AP Psychology test will receive credit for PYSC 151: Honors: General Psychology.

# Will the Honors Program affect my involvement with the ECHOStars or other programs?

We have students in both the Honors program and other programs who are successful in both. The only potential drawback is some of these activities require you to live in their dorms. Therefore, you could not live in an Honors dorm.

# Is there a curfew in Honors housing or any other rules that wouldn't apply in a regular dorm?

There is no curfew or other rules that are different from other dorms. As long as you are an active member of the Honors Program, you may live in Honors Housing.

#### Are there any special study areas in honors Housing?

As in every dorm, there are lounges that are available. They are a common site for hall activities but can be used for study groups. Parts of Fuller House may also be availiable for study purposes, upon request. We have a conference room with big tables and a lounge area that students can reserve for study sessions or just for a quiet place to study on their own.

#### Are the Honors dorms larger than normal dorms?

Frost Hall is a renovated hall. The rooms used to be doubles, so they make a good sized single. Cambridge offers small and large singles.

# Does Honors housing cost more than other housing offered on campus?

The double rooms in Frost cost the same as other double rooms across campus. Single dorms are more expensive and the exact price difference varies annually.

#### Do Honors students have time for extracurricular activities?

Of course! Many Honors students work on campus, participate in (and even lead) many organizations on campus, such as SGA, *The Bottom Line*, and various Greek Life organizations.

# Are there any Study Abroad programs available for Honors Students?

There are numerous Study Abroad programs available for all FSU students. If interested please contact Victoria Gearhart, also located in Fuller House, at 301-687-4714. If an Honors Program student participates, he/ she is permitted to substitute one of the Study Abroad courses for an honors interdisciplinary course. Other Study Abroad programs specifically designed for Honors students are available through other institutions, and the Honors Program routinely sends out information about these opportunities, as well.

#### If I find the classes to be too challenging or I cannot keep up with the work, may I quit the Honors Program?

If you find that you are not satisfied with the Honors Program, or if you are having difficulty in the Honors courses, you may withdraw from the program. Please send an email to honorsprog@frostburg.edu if you would like to be removed. Remember that most of the Honors Program courses are part of the GEP, so they still will be counted towards General Education Program requirements.

## Appendix A: Progression Toward Completion of the Honors Program

| Last Smith   |  | First Joh                      | n   | Middle                                    | т   |                 |  |  |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Campus ID 1001001  | Enro   | olled 2088                     | Major PSYC  | Mino                                      | MinorMUSC   |                 |  |  |  |
| Admiss<br>HS GPA 4.000<br>SAT Math 650<br>SAT Verbal 700<br>SAT Writing 800<br>SAT Total 2150<br>Advisor Song, D<br>Office 101 Dur | Pr. River  | <u> </u>                       | Contact Information<br>Home Address 100 Broadway<br>Frostburg, MD 21532<br>Local Address Cambridge 111<br>FSU<br>Campus Home Phone 123-456-7890<br>On Local Phone 5555<br>Campus Email jtsmith0@frostburg.edu<br>Personal Email tardislol@aol.com |   |   |                 |  |  |  |
| GPA 3.789  | Honors GPA 4   | .000 c                         | redits Earned 96  | AP/Transfer C                             | redit 12  |                 |  |  |  |
| Variants<br>PSYC 151<br>PHIL 111<br>COSC 110<br>IDIS 151<br>HIST 100 enhanced  | Semester<br>2088<br>2092<br>2098<br>2098<br>2098<br>2102 | Grade<br>A<br>A<br>A<br>A<br>A | Upper Level Require<br>Human Maps of T<br>Honors Thesis<br>Enrolled ULRs 0<br>English<br>111<br>Graduate With Ho<br>Yes   | Time<br>Complet<br>Semes<br>2088<br>nors? | Semester<br>2108<br>2112<br>ted ULRs 2<br>ter Grade<br>A<br>Eligible fo | Grade<br>A<br>A |  |  |  |
| Enrolled Variants O  | Completed Vari   | ants 5                         | Graduation Semeste  |   | Yes   |                 |  |  |  |

#### Reminders:

Congratulations! You have completed the necessary requirements for the Honors Program and are on track to Graduate with Honors in General Education!

#### Notes:

To Graduate with Honors you must complete 5 Honors variants, 2 Honors Upper Level Requirements, 1 Honors English, AND maintain a 3.0 GPA & 3.0 Honors GPA.

Please check this record to verify all information is correct.

If you Enhanced a course in the past it should be listed under the variants section.

If there are any errors in this record please contact the Honors Program at honorsprog@frostburg.edu or 301-687-4998 as soon as possible.

# Appendix B: Honors Course Enhancement Proposal

|                              |            |                         |   | z o -  | - <b>-</b> >       | 0-5             | עטט≻         |                    |   |  |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---|--|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|---|--|
|                              | Instructor | Student Signature       | INSTRUCTOR'S explanation of how this project is over and above the regular course work in accordance with criteria on back of contract. | DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:<br>(Attach paper if more space is needed)   | TITLE OF ACTIVITY: | INSTRUCTOR NAME | COURSE NO.   | STUDENT NAME: Last | Piease Type or Print Neatly             | Frostburg State University Honors Program  |
| Watte Copy - tastructor      | Date       | Date                    | of how this project is over an  | Y:<br>Is needed)   |                    |                 | Section No.  | First              | HONORS COU                              | Honors Program   |
| Yallow Copy - Honora Program | ,          | Ŧ                       | d above the regi  | and a state of the |                    |                 |              | Middle             | <b>RSE ENHAN</b>                        | •  |
| on Pogram Pok Capy - Student |            | Honors Program Director | Jar course work in accorda  |  |                    |                 | Course Title | Cumulative GPA     | HONORS COURSE ENHANCEMENT PROPOSAL FORM | Term   |
| udent                        |            |                         | nee with criteria co b  |  |                    |                 |              | PAWS ID            | SAL FORM                                | CDD Angeler of the state of the |
|                              |            | Date                    | ack of contract,  |  |                    |                 |              |                    |   | Year   |

# **Appendix C: Honors Course Enhancement Completion Form**

To finalize the enhancement process the student must fill out the Honors Course Enhancement Completion Form, have it signed by the director of the Honors Program and the professor of the course, and submit a copy of the work to the Honors Program.

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| zo-                                 | ~ -+                    | >の-ヨー-マの  | a  | 7290               |   | حرن                             |                                     |   |   |
|                                     | Instructor              | I certify the above-named student has satisfactorily completed the Honors to the standards of the Honors Program listed on the back of this contract.   | Honors Course Enhancement Completed and Accepted: NO | TITLE OF ACTIVITY: | INSTRUCTOR NAME   | COURSE NO.                      | STUDENT NAME: (Last, First, Middle) | Please Type or Print Neatly               | Frostburg State University Honors Program |
| White Copy - Instructor Ye          | Date                    | dent has satisfactorily comple<br>'s Program listed on the back   | t Completed and Accepted:                            |                    | a de ser en a d | Section No.                     | st, Middle)                         | HONORS COURS                              | Honors Program                            |
| Үенин Сару - Чолога Резделт – Рик Ф | Honors Program Director | I certify the above-named student has satisfactorily completed the Honors Course Enhancement Contract in this course, according to the standards of the Honors Program listed on the back of this contract. | NO YES   |                    | prospensity hele (13) (4) - yan salwa yang di salwan ya na canangara di yaka ya na ya ya ya ya ya ya ya ya ya y | v1, <sup>2</sup> - 40 - 60 - 60 | Cumulative GPA                      | HONORS COURSE ENHANCEMENT COMPLETION FORM |   |
| Pink Copy - Student                 | C101                    | coment Contract in t  | Final Course Grade Earned                            |                    | արտուստությունները։   | Course Title                    | DAWS ID                             | <b>APLETION FOI</b>                       | Term                                      |
|                                     | Date                    | his course, according   | Earneo:  |                    | л   |                                 | ō                                   | RM  | Year                                      |

# **Appendix D: Honors Thesis Proposal**

| đ  |   |  |                          |  |                   |  |               |   | z 0 -   | -1 Þ           | 0 - r  | <br>⊲⊳                                 |                    |  |   |
|--|---|--|--------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------|---|---|----------------|--------|--|--------------------|--|---|
| To Snalize the thesis project process the student must fill out the Honors Thesis Completion Form, have it signed by the director of the Honors Program and the instructor of the course, and submit a copy of the work to the Honors Program. | 1   | Name                                     | HONORS PROGRAM DIRECTOR: | Name   | COMMITTEE MEMBER: | Namo   | THESIS CHAIR: | The following faculty have agreed to serve on the thesis committee:   | TITLE OF THESIS PROJECT: (A   | EMAIL ADORESS: |        | MAJOR(S):                              | STUDENT NAME: Last | Please Type or Print Neetly            | Frosthurn State University Honore Program |
| to student must fill out the He<br>e instructor of the course, an  | White Copy - Instanto Yollow Co                   | Signature                                | ~~                       | Signaturo  |                   | Signature  |               | ed to serve on the thesis c   | so, please attach a descripti   |                |        |  | First Middle       | HONORS THESIS (ID                      | nore Dinniam                              |
| thesis project process the student must fill out the Honors Thesis Completion Form, have it signed by the<br>Honors Program and the instructor of the course, and submit a copy of the work to the Honors Program.                             | Yellaw Capy - Honors Program Prine Capy - Student | an a |                          | Al Ayers way to share and that a ship is the design of the same second second providence and the second provid |                   | tier (1970), One Mondale Barradonia, An Alian and Anno Alian and An Alianeera and Anjandara adapted to start |               | sommittee:  | TITLE OF THESIS PROJECT: (Also, please attach a description of the thesis and its methodology Approximately 100 words.) |                |        | <br>MINOR(S):                          | GRADUATION DATE:   | HONORS THESIS (IDIS 493) PROPOSAL FORM | Torr                                      |
| ve it signed by the director of the<br>Henors Program.   |   | Date                                     |                          | Date   |                   | Date   |               | A menopole - menopole (COMA) 1000 BA consideration and a more statement to statement of the second of the second of the | py Approximately 100 words.)  |                | PHONE: | na Anna an an Anna Anna Anna Anna Anna | PAWS ID:           | 3Year                                  | 1   |

# **Appendix E: Honors Thesis Completion**

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|---|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|---------------|---|---|--|----------------|-----------|---------------------------|---|
| Name Sign   | HONORS PROGRAM DIRECTOR: | Name      | COMMITTEE MEMBER; |  | THESIS CHAIR: | The following faculty have served on the thesis committee and accept the work submitted | TITLE OF THESIS PROJECT: (Please attach a copy of the thesis to this form.) | EMAIL ADDRESS:   | LOCAL ADDRESS: | MAJOR(S): | 1                         | Please Type of Phill Nextly HONORS                                    |
| Signature   |                          | Signature |                   | Signature  |               | he thesis committee and a   | ttach a copy of the thesis  | n Ang ta she they benefit with the institution and a to C.C. C.C.C. We conserve the model of the to C.C. |                |           | First Middle              | ORS THESIS (IDIS 493  |
| n mahaya an da katangka katangkan katangkan katangkan katangkan (Katang) (Katang) (Katang) (Katang) |                          |           |                   | ny may ng may an ang ka dan baha dan bar mang ang ng mang ng m |               | accept the work submitted:  | to this form.)  |  | PHONE          | MINOR(S): | GRADUATION DATE: PAWS ID: | HONORS THESIS (IDIS 493) COMPLETION FORM                              |
| Date  |                          | Date      |                   | Date   |               |   |   |  |                |           | Đ                         | nando mante mante da constante en |

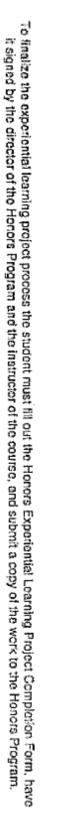
To finalize the thesis project process the student must fill out the Honors Thesis Completion Form, have it signed by the director of the Honors Honors Program and the instructor of the course, and submit a copy of the work to the Honors Program.



|   |                              |   | <br>zo  | 1>0                            | <b>ב</b> מי מי                      |        |
|---|------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Instructor De<br>White Cupy - Instructor                        | Student Signature            | Explanation of how this project warrants Honors credit: | DESCRIPTION OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECT:<br>(Allach paper if more space is needed) | INSTRUCTOR SUPERVISING PROJECT | STUDENT NAME: Last First            | 212 1  |
| Date<br>nation Yellow Copy - Honors Program Fink Copy - Student | Date Honors Program Director | prs credil:   | ig project:   |                                | First Middle Cumulative GPA PAWS ID | m Term |
|   | Date                         |   |   |                                | PAWS ID                             | mYear  |

# Appendix F: Honors Experiential Learning Proposal

# **Appendix G: Honors Experiential Learning Completion Form**



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|--|-------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Yahae Cosy - Instructor – Yeltaw Copy - ∺oneus Program | Instructor Date H       | I certify the above-named student has satisfactorily completed the Honors Course Experiential Learning Project Contract in the course, according to the standards of the Honors Program listed on the back of this contract. | Honors Course EL Project Completed and Accepted: NO | TIFLE OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECT: | INSTRUCTOR SUPERVISING PROJECT | STUDENT NAME: (Last, First, Middle) | Please Type or Pont Nearly HONORS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECT COMPLETION FORM | Frostburg State University Honors Program |
| ions Program – Pink Capy - Skutent                     | Honors Program Director | nors Course Experiential Learning<br>to back of this contract.   | YES Final Course Grade Earned                       |   |                                | Cumulative GPA P                    | IG PROJECT COMPLETI   | Term                                      |
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# University Honors Program Application

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University Honors Housing Application

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# **University Honors Program: Academic Requirements**

## A. Honors Variants of GEP courses (15 credits required)\*

ART 111, ECON 211, ENGL 250, GEOG 113, GEOG 114, IDIS 151, HIST 111, MATH 110, PHIL 111, SOCI 111, PSYC 151, POSC 112, POSC 114\*\*

| Course 1 | <br> |      |
|----------|------|------|
| Course 2 | <br> |      |
| Course 3 |      | <br> |
| Course 4 |      | <br> |
| Course 5 | <br> |      |

+

## B. Composition (3 creits required)\*\*\*

ENGL 111, ENGL 312

Course \_\_\_\_\_

+

## C. Advanced (6 credits required)

IDIS 491 Honors Seminar, IDIS 351 Advanced Colloquium, Experiential Learning Option (ELO), Honors Thesis\*\*\*\*

Course 1\_\_\_\_\_ Course 2\_\_\_\_\_

## 24 credits required for Honors in General Education upon graduation

\* COSC 111 counts toward credits in Honors and for Tech Fluency, but not within the GEP itself. The overall structure of the GEP is found on p. 32 of the undergraduate catalog.

\*\* If taken in the place of an Honors Variant, Enhancements should be listed here as well.

\*\*\*AP score of 5 counts for ENGL 111; AP score of 4 counts for ENGL 100 only.

\*\*\*\* Honors Thesis is a 6 credit sequence.

<sup>=</sup> 

#### **UPDATED SPRING 2015**

A number of individuals assisted in the development of this handbook: Dr. Maureen Connelly, Dr. Anthony Lo Giudice, Dr. Greg Wood, Mrs. Mary Jane O'Rourke, Ashley Andersen, PJ Boch, Aaron Blough, Hannah Deprey-Severance, Aidan Krautner, Sarah Deprey-Severance, Nick DeMichele, and Harley Wade.