



Honors Program

Newsletter

Fall 2022



A note from the Director:

The Honors Program has focused on creating new post-covid routines and goals this Fall. It's been a season of transition as we welcomed 115 new Honors students representing a broad cross-section of Maryland and the surrounding region. Having spent their formative high school years at the height of Covid, these students are eager for new and engaging experiences here at FSU. I've been pleased to see them at community events such as the FSU Appalachian Festival, the Frostburg Arts Walk, and programs and performances hosted by FSU's Cultural Events Series.

We have new members of our Honors Advisory Group as well. Dr. Matthew Ramspott, Geography; Dr. Sheri Whalen, Mass Communication, and Dr. Kevin Knott, English, joined returning member, Dr. Rochelle Smith, English, to provide the Honors Program recommendations and support. I look forward to implementing many of their ideas in the future, including a brown bag luncheon series where Honors Faculty can discuss engaging Honors pedagogy.

It's been a great pleasure to get to know students better in settings beyond the classroom this semester. A fieldtrip to Luray Caverns in Luray, Virginia, was a wonderful way to cap off the Fall semester. The Honors Program hopes to offer more trips this Spring. It's also been fun to see Honors students make good use of our Student Lounge. I'm delighted to report that an Honors Study Abroad Trip to Italy and Greece in Summer 2024 is currently in the works. The exploration of archaeology, art, architecture, mythology, religion, and worldview will provide the framework for students' experiences. Highlights of the trip will include two days in Florence, three days in Rome, two days in Delphi, and two days in Athens. Recruitment for the trip will begin in earnest this January.

Ten students will graduate this Fall having completed the requirements for our Honors in General Education Program. I'm impressed with their tenacity in completing the program given the impact of Covid on their academic progress. I'm confident in their ability to thrive in meeting their future academic and professional goals.

Thanks for a great semester!

-Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas.



Appalachian Conference

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) hosted 160 students from 16 Appalachian colleges and universities for the 22nd annual Appalachian Teaching Project Symposium at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View in Arlington, Virginia,, Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3, 2022

This fall, FSU Honors Students enrolled in IDIS 151: Experiencing Appalachia participated in the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) Community Research Symposium. Students shared their progress on the experiential learning- community listening project they've been doing in partnership with the Allegany Museum. Over the course of the semester, students set up Community Listening Stations at the FSU Appalachian Festival, the Evergreen Heritage Center, Cumberland's N. Centre Street Festival, the Frostburg Arts Walk, the Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase, and the Lane University Center asking area residents to describe what they believe to be the region's most valuable assets and most pressing challenges; and their recommendations for creating a positive future for the region. Students then created templates for an exhibit design and planned events that will be hosted by the Allegany Museum as a companion piece to the Smithsonian's Museums on Main Street Exhibit, Crossroads: Change in Rural America, which will be hosted by the Allegany Museum with the support of Maryland Humanities, January 7-February 17.



Pictured (left to right): Ava Ebersole, Lindsay Aldridge, Aniya Schmidt, Ava Rankin, Meghan Farrar, Jason Lipscomb, and Avery Holmes.

Honors Field Trips

FSU students from the Honors Program visited Luray Caverns on December 10th. We departed from the university around 10:00 AM and arrived back on campus around 8:00 PM.

Students were given the opportunity to explore the beautiful caverns through a self guided tour. They also were able to see some of the other attractions that the site had to offer, including a museum. This was such a wonderful way for students to wrap up the semester and enjoy themselves before finals week!

If you have any interest in attending a field trip this Spring, please let us know!



Honors Field Trips

Students enrolled in the Honors Fall Learning Connection have been exploring the region and discussing the importance of civic engagement. The FSU Appalachian Festival provided a springboard for an introduction to Appalachian history, culture, and environment.

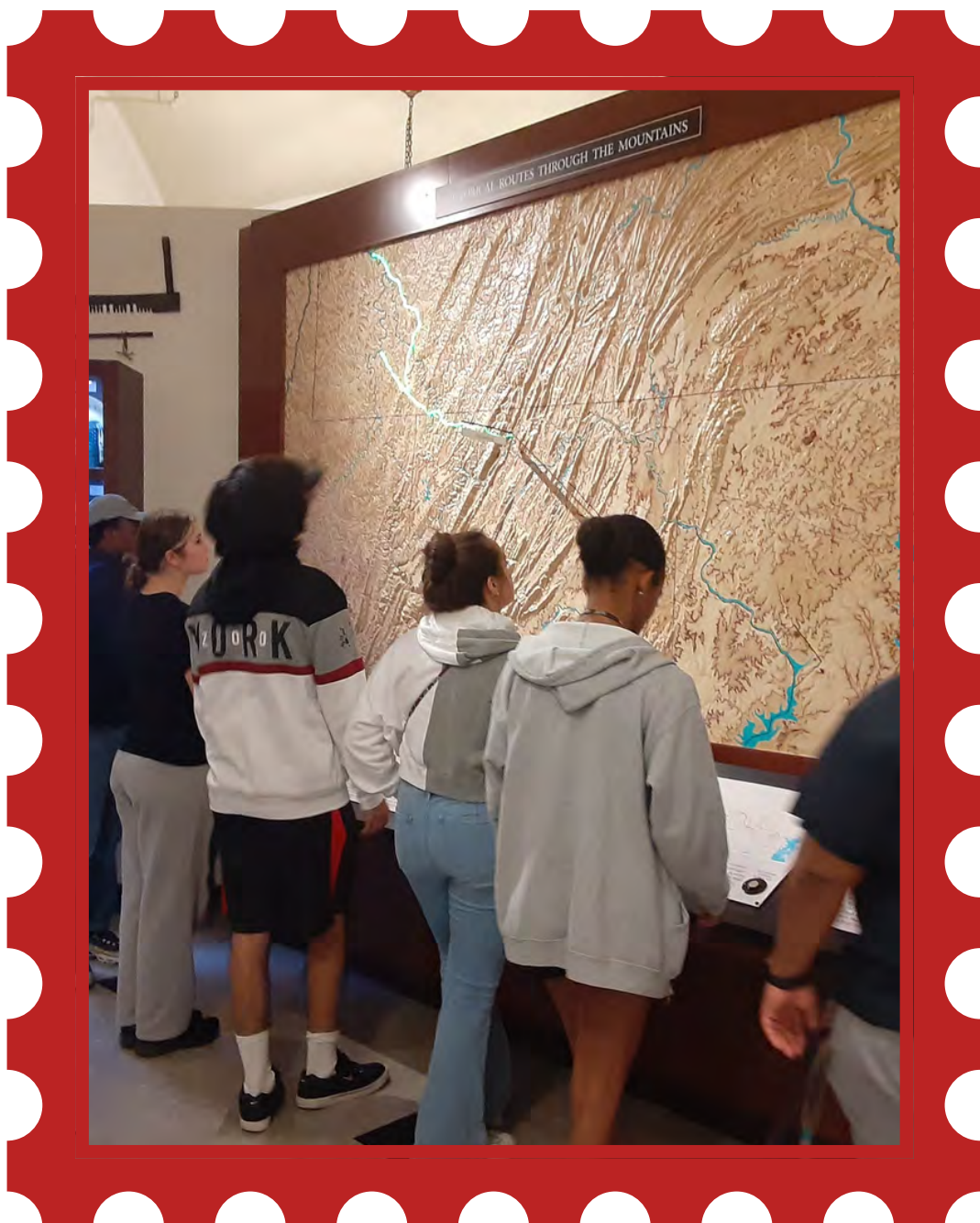
Their work also included visits to the Evergreen Heritage Center, where they learned about agricultural practices, Maryland's early settlement history and the coal industry that dominated the regional economy through the mid-twentieth century. Students toured the lower level of the Evergreen's Bank Barn, established in 1780. That exhibit, "Living off the Land," shares 200 years of rural Western Maryland farm life through the display of dozens of handmade tools and implements to tell the story of the history of the farm; demonstrate how the barn was built; document the farm's bounty including fruits, vegetables, grains, wild foods, and animal products; and various farming processes including planting, harvesting, milling, preserving, baking, and cooking. Students also toured the Evergreen's newest exhibit installation, the Miners' Coal Museum and Trail. Part of the former coal camp on the property, the Coal Museum includes artifacts, historical maps, and photography. Other exhibits in the coal camp include: the boarding house, blacksmith shop, and mine opening.

Students also visited the Allegany Museum in Cumberland, MD, where they toured its Crossroads of America exhibit. That space highlights the evolution of transportation from about 1750 to 1900 and includes scale models of canal boats and trains, a fully restored 1825 Conestoga wagon, a to scale Paleoindian hut, a model of Fort Cumberland, models of what George Washington looked like when he visited our area in the 1750s, and in 1794, and displays about the National Road, the C&O canal, and the railroad.

Together, that material complemented the interdisciplinary framework of the course, "Experiencing Appalachia," which takes a historical approach to examining the Appalachian region focusing on its culture, environment and



Evergreen Heritage Center in Mt. Savage, MD



Allegany Museum in Cumberland, MD



Lacey Moyers participates in a Community Listening Project exploring the push and pull of Appalachia.

Spring Course Offerings, Enhancements, and More!

Our course offerings for next semester can be found attached at the end of this newsletter.

As students move into their Junior and Senior years, they sometimes have difficulty balancing Honors Program Requirements with the requirements of their majors. The good news is that more often than not students are already doing work in their majors that can satisfy the upper-level Honors Requirements. Please reach out to the Honors Program to discuss those possibilities.

Students should remember that internships and study abroad experiences can count toward upper level Honors Credit through our Experiential Learning Opportunities. Please keep us updated and remember to close the loop on ELO's and Course Enhancements by notifying the Honors Program of your accomplishments.

Keep in mind that each Honors student only gets to utilize two ELO's and two enhancements, so use them wisely!

Study Abroad Summer 2024

The FSU Honors Program is planning a Study Abroad Program to Italy and Greece in the Summer of 2024. The overarching goal of the trip is to allow students to gain a stronger understanding of and appreciation for the relationship between world cultures and humankind's creative legacy. The exploration of archaeology, art, architecture, mythology, religion, and worldview will provide the framework for students' experiences. Highlights of the trip will include two days in Florence, three days in Rome, two days in Delphi, and two days in Athens. Given students' enthusiasm for the trip, we're capping off the experience with a three-day cruise visiting the Greek Islands of Mykonos, Patmos, and Crete. To receive Experiential Learning Credit, students will develop reflective essays on their experience. The trip is coordinated through a partnership between FSU and EF College Study. An early registration discount is available for students who sign up by the end of February, 2022. For more information, please contact Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas, krogersthomas@frostburg.edu.



FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

2022 Fall Graduates



We would like to congratulate these hardworking students on their accomplishment of graduating with Honors in General Education. Good luck in your future endeavors and thank you for your commitment to honors!



Jenna Alexander

International Studies Major,
Concentration in International Politics
Delta Zeta (President, Omicron Pi Chapter),
National Society of Leadership and Success

Alyssa Bonner

Secure Computing and Information
Assurance Major, Computer Science
Minor

National Society of Leadership and Success,
Accounts Payable Student Worker



Noah Campbell

Computer Science Major
Computer Science Club (Chair), Women in
Computer Science Club

Joel Cockerham

Wildlife & Fisheries Major, Biology,
Animal Behavior, and Mathematics
Minors

Resident Assistant, Cru (Team Leader)



Cynthia Collins

Psychology Major, Sociology Minor
National Society of Leadership and Success

Drew Dunathan

Health & Physical Education Major



Brittany Ebersole

Elementary & Middle School Education
Dual Major, Mathematic Specialization
Frostburg Student Education Association, Phi Eta
Sigma, National Society of Leadership and Success

Jennifer Gallegos

Biology and Interpretive Biology &
Natural History Majors, Animal Behavior
Minor

Frostburg's Natural History Museum Attendant



Draven Kidwell

Art & Design Major, Art History Minor

Koda Murphy

Social Work and Psychology Majors,
Addictions Counseling Emphasis



SPRING 2023 HONORS COURSES

PRIORITY REGISTRATION BEGINS OCTOBER 31ST

VARIANTS

ART 111 Honors: Art Appreciation

GEOG 114 Honors: Human Geography

HIST 111 | Honors: The Contemporary World in Historical Perspective

IDIS 151: Honors: First-Year Colloquium - Classics Remixed

MATH 110 Honors: Elements of App. Probability & Statistics

PHIL 112 Honors: Contemporary Ethical Problems

POSC 114 Honors: Introduction to World Politics

PSYC 151 Honors: General Psychology

SOCI 111 Honors: Introduction to Sociology

ENGLISH

ENGL 111 | Honors: First Year Composition

ENGL 300 | Critical Writing About Literature

UPPER-LEVELS

IDIS 351 | Honors: Advanced Colloquium - Exploring American Culture

IDIS 491/SOCI 345 | Honors: Seminar - Sociology of the Environment

IDIS 491/ART 370 | Honors: Seminar - Women and Gender

IDIS 491/ENGL 490 | Honors: Seminar - Song Lyrics as Lyric Poems

Honors Variants

Each honors student must complete five variant level courses. For students who entered the university with credits covering the variant level courses and/or those who cannot fit a variant course into their schedule should reach out to the Honors Program about enhancing other courses in order to meet Honors requirements.

ART 111 Honors: Art Appreciation

Introduction to the appreciation and understanding of the representational and visual arts. What is Art? How does it work? What agency (and therefore meaning) did it have and continues to have? The class explores this through hands-on creation of visual imagery. We deal with the very concept of effective design. We look at using imagery to communicate on a symbolic level. We explore the concepts of appealing to group identity and of subject groups. While examining the standard art appreciation subjects (the Visual Elements and Principles of Design, 2D and 3D Media, and the historical context of Art), we look through the lenses of economic and social structures as well. Prerequisite: acceptance into the Honors Program or permission of instructor. GEP Group A. 3 credits. *Professor Pat Faville, M/W/F 3-3:50.*

GEOG 114 Honors: Human Geography

Systematic consideration of factors influencing the distribution of human beings in relation to population dynamics and migration, economic development and urbanization, and cultural diversity. Credit cannot be earned for both GEOG 104 and GEOG 114. Spring. Prerequisite: acceptance into the Honors Program or permission of instructor. GEP Group D or F. 3 credits. *Professor William Wetherholt, Tu/Th 12:30-1:45.*

HIST 111 Honors: The Contemporary World

A consideration of major historical developments of the last century in diverse areas of the world that illuminate contemporary problems. Both reading and writing assignments are more challenging than those in HIST 100. Credit cannot be earned for both HIST 100 and HIST 111. Every semester. Prerequisite: enrollment in the Honors Program or permission of the instructor. GEP Group B or F. 3 credits. *Professor Gregory Wood, M/W/F 10-10:50*

Honors Variants

MATH 110 Honors: Elements of App. Probability & Statistics

Introduction to statistics, with emphasis on probability theory and inferential statistics. More rigorous and broader than MATH 109/209. Use of the computer as a tool in statistical analyses. Probability theory, sampling distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing, parametric and nonparametric tests, correlation, regression and analysis of variance. Written research project required. Credit cannot be earned for both MATH 109/209 and MATH 110/219. Spring. MAY NOT BE USED TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR OR MINOR IN MATHEMATICS. MAY BE USED TO FULFILL CORE SKILL 3. 3 credits. *Professor Mark Hughes, Tu/Th 2-3:15.*

PHIL 112 Honors: Contemporary Ethical Problems

Contemporary ethical issues such as abortion, euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, the death penalty, censorship of pornography and hate speech, sex and marriage, social and economic justice, world hunger and global poverty, the environment and the treatment of animals. Credit cannot be earned for both PHIL 102 and PHIL 112. Variable. Prerequisite: acceptance into Honors Program or permission of instructor. GEP Group B. 3 credits. *Professor Skott Brill, Tu/Th 8-9:15.*

POSC 114 Honors: Introduction to World Politics

Accelerated study of major issues in world politics including evolution of the international system, political actors in world politics, patterns of conflict and cooperation, power; nationalism, international political economy, and international organizations. Credit cannot be earned for both POSC 113 and POSC 114. Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Honors Program or permission of the instructor. GEP Group D. 3 credits. *Professor Stephen Hartlaub, TuTh 9:30-10:45.*

PSYC 151 Honors: General Psychology

Introduction to the scientific study of human and animal behavior. Basic research findings, methodology, and theoretical, social, and ethical issues. Oral presentations and written reports on outside readings in psychology required. Credit may not be earned for both PSYC 150 and PSYC 151. Fall. Prerequisite: acceptance into the University Honors Program or permission of instructor. GEP Group D. 3 credits. *Professor Paul Bernhardt, Tu/Th 2-3:15.*

SOCI 111 Honors: Introduction to Sociology

Basic concepts, methods of study, and theories about societal structures and processes. Sociological analysis through simulations, selected readings, discussions, and special topics projects. 3 credits. *Professor Kara Rogers Thomas, Tu/Th 11-12:15.*

Honors English Courses

Each honors student needs to take at least one honors level English course. Every FSU student must take one first-year composition and an advanced composition, so these can cover GEP course requirements as. For students who entered the university with first-year composition credit and/or who need a special English for their major should reach out to the Honors Program about enhancing their major-specific English in order to meet Honors and major-specific requirements.

ENGL 111 | Honors: First Year Composition

Development of intermediate skills in writing based on readings for general audiences. Preparation for honors-level courses. Credit cannot be earned for both ENGL 101 and ENGL 111. Core Skill 1. 3 credits. *Professor Farhad Idris, M/W/F 10-10:50.*

ENGL 300 | Critical Writing About Literature

Introduction to literary theory to develop critical perspectives on literary works and provide flexible writing strategies. Advanced writing about literature. Required of English majors and minors. Readings involve literary analysis and criticism. Core Skill 2. 3 credits. *Professor Rochelle Smith, Tu/Th 9:30-10:45.*

IDIS Courses

IDIS 151 courses satisfy an honors variant credit. They are based on fostering a sense of understanding through exploration of a current issue or other unifying principle through interdisciplinary study, discussion and activities. Activities emphasize student discussions of assigned readings, oral and written reports more challenging than those in other first-year colloquium classes. Readings emphasize primary rather than secondary sources. Assignments emphasize active learning experiences. Every semester. Topics vary. You cannot receive credit for both *IDIS 151* and *IDIS 150*. Repeatable for maximum of 6 credits if topics are substantially different. GEP Group E.

IDIS 151 | Classics Remixed

This course is about creativity and artistic influence. We will explore the theme of adaptation, grounding our inquiry in classic literary texts and then branching out to examine imitations, adaptations, and transformations of the classics in modern works of literature, theater, film, music, and art. The distinction between imitation and inspiration will be considered from the perspectives of literature, law, and the art. 3 credits. *Professor Rochelle Smith, Tu/Th 12:30-1:45.*

IDIS 351 courses satisfy an honors upper-level credit. They are based on fostering a sense of understanding through exploration of a current issue, theme, problem, person or persons, cultural or historical period, world area or national region, or other unifying principle through interdisciplinary inquiry and research. Variable. Activities emphasize student discussions of assigned readings, oral and written reports. Topics vary. You cannot receive credit for both *IDIS 351* and *IDIS 350*. Repeatable for maximum of 6 credits if topics are substantially different. GEP Group E.

IDIS 351 | Exploring American Culture

This course teaches undergraduates how to think about race, gender, war, and class as analytical categories. It continues the conversation started in *IDIS-150 Exploring American Culture* by providing more in-depth examinations of race, gender, war, and class - helping advance undergraduate students think in more complex ways about how popular culture reflects social conflicts and cultural divides. To be completed after earning 45 hours. Activities emphasize student discussions of assigned readings, oral and written reports. Topics vary. You cannot receive credit for both *IDIS 351* and *IDIS 350*. Repeatable for maximum of 6 credits if topics are substantially different. Prerequisites: Participation in the Honors Program and junior or senior standing or permission of the instructor(s). 3 credits. *Professor Gregory Wood, M/W/F 1-1:50.*

IDIS Courses

IDIS 491 courses satisfy an honors upper-level credit. They focus on an interdisciplinary study of a particular topic. Activities emphasize student discussions of assigned readings, oral and written reports. Topics vary. Repeatable for maximum of 9 credits if topics are substantially different. When cross-listed, students may enroll in either listing to receive credit through the Honors Program.

IDIS 491/ SOCI 345 | Sociology of the Environment

Examines the ambivalent relationship between human society and the natural world. Frames contemporary concerns of environmental crisis within an investigation of societies' multifaceted attitudes toward and interactions with the natural landscape, focusing on the social dimensions of the surrounding natural and human-made environments. - Prerequisites waived for Honors Students- contact Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas for permission if needed. 3 credits. *Professor Kara Rogers Thomas, M/W/F 12-12:50.*

IDIS 491/ ART 370 | Women and Gender

A survey and analysis of the roles of women and gender in artistic production, spectatorship, and critical discourse. This course will survey feminist approaches that have influenced the way in which we perceive art that was created from the early 14th century to the present. We will examine women as artists and critics, images of women in art and society, as well as feminist methodology and women as patrons of art. We will also examine the way by which gender identities—male, female, and others—are formed and disseminated through visual culture. This course will concentrate on Western art and art forms; however, students are encouraged to consider these concepts and applications for other areas. This course will include one field trip scheduled for a Saturday in April to a museum in Pittsburgh or Washington. 3 credits. *Professor Travis English, Tu/Th 9:30-10:45.*

IDIS 491/ ENGL 490 | Song Lyrics as Lyric Poems

For many people, song lyrics are their first engagement with some of the devices we associate with poetry, and yet they exist distinct from "poetry." This class will examine the relationship between song lyrics and poetry, looking at the history of the ballad, the blues, the Great American Song Book, jazz poetry, mixed genre artists (i.e., Patti Smith), and contemporary song lyrics in a variety of genres. We will also look at critical discussions of song lyrics and engage the question of what makes certain song lyrics "poetic." 3 credits. *Professor Gerard LaFemina, Tu/Th 12:30-1:45.*