

Honors College

Purpose and Focus

The Honors College plays a unique role in UNLV's educational mission. It is a selective undergraduate college that offers an educational experience focusing on a solid liberal arts and sciences foundation, but in the context of a major research university with extensive academic and cultural opportunities. The Honors College is an educational partner with the "discipline" colleges of the University, in which Honors students pursue their academic majors. The combination of a central intellectual core in Honors, combined with advanced learning in a major field, helps fully develop graduates prepared for graduate education, professional school, and rewarding life careers. With a diverse student body, a strong curriculum taught in collaboration with UNLV's outstanding faculty, intense advising, research, service and leadership opportunities, scholarships and special residential arrangements, the Honors College offers an exceptional value in higher education. The College attracts excellent students from around the globe who together with faculty and staff form a unique learning community supporting educational achievement and excellence.

Objectives of the Honors College

The Honors College prepares students for academic, professional, and personal success after they graduate from UNLV. That preparation is achieved through a curriculum for University and Departmental Honors that:

- Strengthens written and oral communication skills.
- Strengthens inquiry and critical-thinking ability.
- Develops abilities to analyze carefully and synthesize a broad range of information.
- Develops intellectual breadth and instills patterns of behavior that lead to lifelong learning.
- Prepares informed, engaged, ethical citizens that possess global and multicultural awareness.
- Allows students to create and produce original research and creative works in collaboration with faculty members.

College Programs

Students in the College enroll in the University Honors or Department Honors programs, or both. University Honors students complete the Honors College core curriculum, which automatically fulfills the core curriculum requirements of UNLV. Department Honors students complete a special research project culminating in senior thesis within their major disciplines. All Honors College students complete a series of interdisciplinary seminars taught by outstanding UNLV faculty members. These programs are described in more detail later in this section.

Advising

The college has extensive personal advising, with full-time academic advisors and other staff who support students' work toward their career goals.

Pre-Professional Students and Students Planning Post-graduate Study

Many students in the Honors College plan to attend professional or graduate schools. The Honors College focuses on preparing Honors College students to apply for various types of postgraduate studies, with our graduates attending many of the best professional and graduate schools in the country. Pre-professional advising in the College of Sciences, advising for pre-law studies through the College of Liberal Arts, and one-on-one advising are important components in developing student success.

Admission to the College

The Honors College Admissions Committee considers applications to the Honors College at any time, but applications for Fall submitted by the date of February 1 receive scholarship priority consideration. The goal of the College is to admit excellent, committed, and academically talented students who will succeed in and benefit from the College's rigorous curriculum and programs. Each candidate for admission has a unique record of achievement, in the context of his or her life experiences, and will therefore be individually evaluated. The College Admissions Committee considers application essays, high school transcripts (considering the difficulty of the courses taken, the nature of courses taken, and grade trends, among other elements), extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, and college admission test scores. In some cases, candidates are asked to interview. These criteria are designed to select fine students who will enhance their demonstrated talents in the context of a diverse college of excellent peers. The College expects that applicants will display in their applications strong academic abilities, advanced writing skills, a critical intellect, and a commitment to excellence, leadership potential, and educational values.

First year applicants to the College must submit an essay, two letters of recommendation, high school and any college transcripts, ACT or SAT test scores, and a summary of activities in which they have participated. Applicants should know that a large number of applications are submitted to the College and the limited ability to accommodate new students make the admissions process competitive. Therefore, it is expected that students will provide their best work.

Transfer and current non-honors UNLV students are required to submit transcripts of all post-secondary work completed, a writing sample, and one letter of reference from a college or university faculty member. Transfer students are expected to have at least a 3.50 overall GPA from the institutions from which they are transferring. Non-honors UNLV students that apply are expected to have at least a 3.50 overall GPA from courses taken at UNLV.

Honors College Scholarships

The Honors College administers scholarships funded by special endowments to the College on a competitive basis, with priority consideration given to applications received by February 1. A number of scholarships are available to incoming freshmen, and others are made available to transfer and continuing students, depending on available funding. Nevada residents may be eligible for State

of Nevada Millennium Scholarships and can receive it along with scholarships from the Honors College. Additionally, UNLV has a number of academic scholarships for which honors students typically compete with great success. The university's top scholarships are independently awarded to students in the Honors College by the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office. Contact the Honors College for further information.

Nationally and Internationally Competitive Scholarships

Each year, students from across the United States apply for a select group of awards and fellowships to support their undergraduate and graduate efforts. Since there are few of these relative to the number of students applying, they are highly competitive, and therefore, very prestigious. Students who receive such scholarships demonstrate potential for great success in their postgraduate studies and subsequent careers.

The Honors College provides information about and advice on how to apply for major national and international scholarships and fellowships. Such prestigious scholarships and fellowships as the Rhodes, British Marshall, Mitchell, Truman, Goldwater, Rotary Ambassadorial, Udall, Jack Kent Cooke, Mellon, and Gates-Cambridge Scholarships are highly competitive. The Honors College is committed to working with new and continuing students to prepare them to apply for these scholarships at appropriate times during their college years. The college also provides this type of support for UNLV students who are not in the Honors College.

Other awards for which Honors College students are often competitive (e.g., Fulbright, Boren and Gilman) are administered by the International Programs Office at UNLV.

Interested students should contact the Honors College or visit the Honors College website for more information.

Academic Policies

Students must remain in good standing in the Honors College in order to retain their Honors College scholarships and to have the benefits of Honors College participation.

Students in good standing satisfy the following conditions:

- Enroll as a student at UNLV or participate in an official UNLV educational program (e.g., study abroad, student teaching, special internships) during each semester of the academic year from their admission until graduation, unless special arrangements are made with the Honors College.
- Complete an average of three Honors College credit hours during each semester they are registered as full-time students at UNLV, unless special arrangements are made with the Honors College.
- Maintain an overall GPA of 3.30. Maintain an Honors College GPA of 3.00

Honors and Second Degree Seeking Students

The Honors College allows former UNLV Honors students who are pursuing a second baccalaureate degree to receive University Honors on their second diploma if the good standing conditions for University Honors are met during the second degree.

Second degree seeking students will enjoy the benefits of other honors students, including use of the Honors Suite and priority registration, but will not be eligible for Honors College scholarships.

Department Honors may not be earned by second degree seeking

students unless a new thesis in the new major is completed. Please see the Associate Dean of the Honors College for details.

Probation and Suspension

Students GPA's are evaluated at the end of every academic year to determine whether or not students are in good standing, as per the conditions stated above. Students who are not in good standing are placed on probation for one academic year or suspended from the Honors College. Below are conditions for suspension and probation. Any one of the following conditions results in suspension:

- UNLV GPA below 2.00 at the end of freshman year (defined by their time of residence)
- UNLV GPA below 2.50 at the end of subsequent years (sophomore, junior, senior)
- Failure to complete an average of 3-credit hours of Honors College courses each semester (until all such courses are completed)
- Failure to raise UNLV GPA to at least 3.30 after a one year probation period
- Failure to raise Honors College GPA to a least 3.00 after a one year probation period

When suspended, students will lose priority registration and all other Honors College privileges. Students who have been suspended from the Honors College may petition the college for readmission. Any such petitions will be considered by the Honors College Admissions Committee and Dean of the College.

Any one of the following conditions results in probation:

- UNLV GPA below 3.30
- Honors College course GPA below 3.00

Probation lasts for one academic year and will be lifted at the end of the academic year if the student raises their UNLV GPA to at least a 3.30 and their Honors College course GPA to at least a 3.00.

Repeating HON 400 Seminars

The College does not recommend the repeat of HON 400 seminars since the intent of the curriculum is to encourage continuing exploration of diverse realms of knowledge and inquiry. Any Honors student wishing to repeat an HON 400 seminar as provided for in the university's academic policies must register for an offering of the same subject title as listed in the original and the current UNLV class schedule. This is, in any case, an unlikely probability as HON 400 seminars differ from year to year and many are only given once.

Graduation Honors and Latin Honor Designations

Students who successfully complete the Honors College programs graduate with honors if they:

- Complete the requirements for the University Honors and/or the Department Honors program, the requirements of their major, and applicable UNLV graduation requirements.
- Graduate with a final GPA of at least 3.30
- Graduate with a final Honors College GPA of at least 3.00, and
- Graduate with at least 60 credits earned at UNLV.

The distinction University Honors and/or Department Honors will appear on final transcripts and diplomas.

Latin honors designations, Cum Laude, Magna cum Laude, and Summa cum Laude, which appear on final transcripts and diplomas, are awarded by the Honors College to college graduates as follows:

Students graduating from the University Honors program graduate Cum Laude if their final GPAs are 3.50 - 3.69; Magna cum Laude

if their final GPAs are 3.70 or higher. (Note: The Honors College awards Summa cum Laude only to students who complete the requirements for Department Honors Scholar.) Students graduating from the Department Honors program graduate Cum Laude if their final GPAs are 3.30 - 3.49, Magna cum Laude if their final GPAs are 3.50 - 3.69, and Summa cum Laude if their final GPAs are 3.70 or higher and they receive a grade of A in HON 499H.

Honors Core Requirements: Students admitted to the Honors College are admitted into University Honors, Department Honors, or both.

Students in University Honors are required to complete a minimum of 31 credits of HON-prefixed courses and at least 6 credits of Foreign Language. Students entering University Honors directly from high school can satisfy most of the requirements in the honors core curriculum with honors courses and at least 6 credits of Foreign Language. Students who enroll after entering UNLV or who transfer to UNLV may apply some of their regular courses toward the honors core but must still meet the 31-credit HON requirement and the requirements in the core.

Students transferring from other honors programs or colleges can petition to have up to six honors credits earned at the previous institution applied towards the 31-credit requirement. Although advanced placement credits earned by scoring a three, four, or five can be used to replace certain honors courses, those credits do not count toward the 31-credit HON minimum.

Students must fulfill the honors core requirements in order to become University Honors Scholars. The honors core curriculum replaces and satisfies the university's general education core requirements. Honors RequirementsTotal: 50-57 (see note 1)

All Honors College students must take the following nine classes:

Honors Composition..... 3 credits

- HON 100 - Honors Rhetoric (must be taken during the first year)

Honors Persuasive Speaking Credits: 3

- HON 101 - Honors Public Speaking (must be taken during the first year)

Honors OrientationCredits: 1

- HON 105 - Honors Orientation Seminar (must be taken during the first year)

Perspectives on the Western Experience..... Credits:6

- HON 110 - Perspectives on the Western Experience I

- HON 115 - Perspectives on the Western Experience II

HON 400 level classes, four separate classes..... Credits: 12

In addition, all UNLV students must satisfy the following:

Mathematics..... Credits: 3 or 4

- HON 181 - Honors Calculus I

- MATH 126 - Precalculus I

an appropriate math course (MATH 124 or higher)

Laboratory Science..... Credits: 4

- HON 230 - Scientific World View I

or

- HON 231 - Scientific World View II

or approved General Education sciences courses spelled out elsewhere in this catalogue

The Development of Science Credits: 3

- HON 280 - The Development of Science

or approved General Education sciences courses spelled out elsewhere in this catalogue

US and Nevada Constitutions

Themes in American Civilization Credits: 3

- HON 111 - Themes in American Civilization

- HON 112 - Exploring American Politics

or approved General Education sciences courses spelled out elsewhere in this catalogue

Social Science..... Credits: 3

- HON 202 - Honors Microeconomics

- HON 203 - Honors Macroeconomics

- HON 204 - Individual, Society, and Freedom

- HON 205 - Honors Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

or approved General Education sciences courses spelled out elsewhere in this catalogue

Foreign Languages.....Credits: 6-12

(An Approved foreign language through the intermediate two level or two foreign languages, each through the elementary two level)

Fine Arts Credits: 3

- HON 210 H - Introduction to Performance

or any HON 420 seminar

or approved General Education Fine Arts courses spelled out elsewhere in this catalogue

Total Credits: 50-57

One seminar can be replaced by an appropriate 700-level course from a department other than the student's major. Students who participate in one of UNLV's semester abroad programs or a National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) honors seminar may replace one honors seminar for each semester off campus. Students must complete a minimum of two HON 400 level seminars, and replaced seminars do not count toward the 31-credit minimum.

Department Honors: Students in Department Honors take four 400 level seminars and complete a six-credit honors thesis/project during their senior year (HON 498 and HON 499). Many of the seminars can be used to satisfy general education core requirements in social science, humanities, or fine arts. The thesis/project may satisfy elective credits in the student's department.

Honors Courses

HON 100 - Honors Rhetoric

Study and practice of writing at the college level with the primary emphasis on persuasive rhetoric. Requirements include library research paper. Must be completed by the end of the student's first year in the Honors College. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 101 - Honors Public Speaking

Theory and performance work in extemporaneous and related persuasive speaking. Emphasis placed on developing critical thinking, research, and performance skills necessary for effective public speaking. Must be completed by the end of the student's first year in the Honors College. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 102 - Honors Critical Thinking

Introduction to analysis and evaluation of arguments, construction of logically sound arguments, and to logic as the theory of argument. Emphasizes arguments of current or general interest. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 103 H - SAGE Academy Seminar

Intensive accelerated summer seminar for advanced secondary school students, offering a variety of challenging topics in the humanities and natural sciences. Open only to students admitted to the SAGE Academy. Consult summer schedule for current topics. Prerequisite(s): Acceptance to UNLV SAGE Academy. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. 1-3 credit(s)

HON 105 - Honors Orientation Seminar

Provides students in the Honors College with information about the college and the university. Major areas of focus are University and Honors College core requirements, campus resources, campus organizations, various college presentations, and study skills. Must be completed during the student's first semester in the Honors College. Prerequisite(s): Enrolled in the Honors College. Note(s): Fulfills First Year Seminar requirement. S/F grading only. 1 credit(s)

HON 106 H - Introduction to Literary Analysis

Study of lyric, dramatic, and narrative techniques including metaphor and narrative form and distinctions among the literary kinds. Readings from masterworks of western culture, works in western culture often overlooked, and works from other less often-studied cultures. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 110 - Perspectives on the Western Experience I

Survey of Western civilization from its origins in Egypt and Mesopotamia to the beginning of the modern world. Major periods and cultures considered include the Hebrew, Ancient Greek, Roman, Christian, Medieval, Renaissance and Reformation. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. Note(s): Fulfills Second Year Seminar requirement. 3 credit(s)

HON 111 - Themes in American Civilization

Explores a very important question: How did Americans become what they are in the early twenty-first century. Traces the development of the American people within the broader framework of western civilization, using an analytical rather than factual approach. Satisfies both the United States and Nevada Constitutions requirements. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 112 - Exploring American Politics

Exploration of unique features of the American political system. Particular attention paid to federalism and the role of states in the American polity using theoretical and analytical approaches. Satisfies both the United States and Nevada Constitutions requirements. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 115 - Perspectives on the Western Experience II

Survey of Western civilization from the Reformation to the present including: the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, the American, French, and Russian Revolutions, nineteenth-century systems of thought, World Wars I and II, fascism, and contemporary issues in art, science, technology, politics and philosophy. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. Note(s): Fulfills First Year Seminar requirement. 3 credit(s)

HON 125 - Adventures in Data Analysis

Introduction to the basic terminology and methods of both modern information technology and statistical methods, coupled with detailed examples from campus researchers and community practitioners of statistical applications, typically with reference to the computer technology required to support these analysis. Prerequisite(s): MATH 124 or higher with a minimum grade of C or better. 3 credit(s)

HON 140 H - Honors Mathematics I

Topics include the study of functions at the intermediate level, analytic geometry, matrices, linear programming combinatorics, discrete probability, and other topics with applications. Problem solving emphasized. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College and MATH 127 or equivalent in high school. 3 credit(s)

HON 141 H - Honors Mathematics II

Topics include differential and integral calculus maxima/minima problems, and other applications in probability and differential/difference equations. Problem solving emphasized. Prerequisite(s): HON 140 or equivalent. 3 credit(s)

HON 181 - Honors Calculus I

In-depth coverage of differentiation and integration of algebraic and transcendental functions including computational and physical applications. Prerequisite(s): MATH 128 or equivalent and admission to the Honors College. 4 credit(s)

HON 182 - Honors Calculus II

Integration, polynomial approximations, sequences, series, and introduction to differential equations including computational and physical applications. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College and HON 181. 4 credit(s)

HON 190 - Honors Introduction to Philosophy

Study of selected philosophers or basic problems involving imaginative and critical interpretations of experience and reality. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 200 H - Topics in Social Science

Variety of honors courses from different disciplines in the social sciences. 3 credit(s)

HON 201 - HonoHrs General Psychology

Formerly Listed as HON 200 AH

Introduction to psychology, including introductory treatment of sensation-perception-cognition, physiological psychology, learning, personality, development, social psychology, abnormal psychology, assessment, psychological interventions, and the history of psychology. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 202 - Honors Microeconomics

Considers how prices guide and direct economic activity under both perfect and imperfect competition. Consumer theory, producer theory, management decision making and government policy formulation. Theoretical models and their assumptions. Solving problems using the methodologies developed. Prerequisite(s): MATH 124 or higher with a minimum grade of C or better. 3 credit(s)

HON 203 - Honors Macroeconomics

Study of the relationships and implications of the level of employment and production, interest rates, inflation rate, government budget deficit and national debt, trade deficit and trade indebtedness, international finance and exchange rates, long-run growth in productivity and living standards, and government policies that affect the macro economy. Prerequisite(s): HON 202 or ECON 102. 3 credit(s)

HON 204 - Individual, Society, and Freedom

Survey of the major approaches in the social sciences and humanities that deal with the relationship of the individual and the social milieu. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 205 - Honors Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Survey of the nature of culture with emphasis on the variation in human behavior in contemporary societies, including a review on the alternative theoretical frameworks used to explain and interpret human variation. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 210 H - Introduction to Performance

Focuses on the nature of performance in a variety of disciplines in the fine and performing arts, including the visual arts, music, dance, theatre, film, and architecture. Disciplines covered vary from semester to semester. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. Note(s): Meets the general education fine arts requirement. 3 credit(s)

HON 230 - Scientific World View I

Examination of the scientific world view, including scientific methodologies and paradigms. Emphasis on the origin and development of the physical universe. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. Lab/Lecture/Studio Hours: One three-hour laboratory per week or equivalent. 4 credit(s)

HON 231 - Scientific World View II

Formerly Listed as HON 235H

Continuation of HON 230, with emphasis on the earth and life. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College and HON 230. Lab/Lecture/Studio Hours One three-hour laboratory per week or equivalent. 4 credit(s)

HON 280 - The Development of Science

Formerly Listed as HON 280 H

Historical survey of science, emphasizing major developments leading to the application of mathematics and experimentation to theories about the natural world. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 283 H - Honors Calculus III

Vectors, vector-valued functions, multivariable calculus, partial derivatives, and multiple integrals. Introduction to vector analysis (line and surface integrals, Green's and Stoke's Theorems, the Jacobian). Computational methods and physical applications emphasized. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College and HON 182 or MATH 182. 4 credit(s)

HON 299 H - Honors Book Forum

Faculty and students read selected works and interact in small discussion groups. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. May be repeated to a maximum of eight credits. 1 credit(s)

HON 349 H - Lessons in Leadership

Concepts, theories and case studies concerning the leadership of people in modern organizations as learned from lessons in popular writing, popular cinema, and history. Participation and observation and analyzing of leadership behavior. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. 3 credit(s)

HON 395 - Honors Internship

Formerly Listed as HON 395H

Students gain off-campus experience designed to familiarize them with different careers. Mentors are chosen from the business, medical, professional, and technical community in Las Vegas. Before registering for this course, students must have a proposal outlining the objectives of the mentorship signed by the mentor and student, and approved by the College. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. May be repeated to a maximum of three credits. Note(s): S/F grading only. 1-3 credit(s)

HON 410 - Special Topics Seminars

Formerly Listed as HON 400 H

Opportunity for students and faculty to be innovative and explore a wide range of topics not covered by regular honors courses. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the Honors College. May be repeated to a maximum of thirty credits with different topics. 3 credit(s)

HON 420 - Special Topics Seminars0-Fine Arts

Formerly Listed as HON 400 FH

Seminar with a special topic approved to satisfy the UNLV Fine Arts Requirement. May be repeated to a maximum of thirty credits. 3 credit(s)

HON 440 - Special Topics Seminars- Multicultural

Formerly Listed as HON 400 IM

Seminar with a special topic approved to satisfy the UNLV Multicultural Requirement. Prerequisite(s): Good standing in the honors college. May be repeated to a maximum of thirty credits. 3 credit(s)

HON 493 - Self-Directed Study

Formerly Listed as HON 493 H

Students submit a proposal to the Honors College listing tentative readings and outlining the objectives of the self-directed study. They keep a weekly journal and are encouraged to let the focus of the study evolve in response to the earlier readings and discussions with a faculty mentor. Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior in good standing in the Honors College. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Note(s): S/F grading only. 3 credit(s)

HON 498 H - Honors Thesis/Project I

Required senior thesis/project for students in Department Honors. Student works under the supervision of a faculty mentor and must have an approved Proposal For Honors Project form on file with the Honors College before registering. Prerequisite(s): Upper-division standing in the Honors College. Note(s): S/F grading only. 1-3 credit(s)

HON 499 - Honors Thesis/Project II

Required senior thesis/project for students in Department Honors. Student works under the supervision of a faculty mentor. Students are required to give a presentation based on their thesis/project to an appropriate audience at UNLV. Prerequisite(s): Honors student, junior or senior standing, HON 498. 3 credit(s)