

The Honors College

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General Information

The Honors College at FIU aims to provide a transformative undergraduate education by:

- providing cutting-edge academic and co-curricular opportunities;
- mentoring and inspiring students to excel and flourish through advanced research, community engagement, international study, and cultural literacy;
- providing the tools to develop a coherent worldview through higher-order reasoning, intellectual curiosity, and ethical judgment; and
- fostering integrity, responsibility, and civility in tomorrow's leaders.

Location

The Honors College operates primarily at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus in DM 233. Limited office hours and space are also available at the Biscayne Bay Campus in ACI 200.

Admissions Criteria

Admission to the Honors College is selective and limited. Students are admitted only at the beginning of each academic year (fall term).

Freshmen: Students with a 3.5 weighted high school GPA and commensurate scores on the SAT or ACT are eligible for admission to the College.

Transfer and Continuing FIU Students: Students who have maintained a 3.3 GPA in all college-level work are eligible for admission to the College. To be considered for admission, students must be able to complete at least 12 credits of Honors before graduating.

Academic Standing Policy

Students are required to maintain a cumulative 3.3 GPA for satisfactory standing in the Honors College.

Graduation Policy

Students are eligible for the transcript notation "*Graduated through the Honors College*" and other recognition if they have met the following criteria:

- completed all major and degree requirements for graduation from the University;

- remained continuously enrolled in Honors courses until the semester of graduation or the completion of the Honors College curriculum (whichever comes first);
- completed a minimum of six credits of Honors courses per year of enrollment in the College;
- maintained an overall minimum FIU GPA of 3.3;
- completed Honors citizenship and portfolio requirements.

Honor Policy

In the Honors College, the term "honor" refers to both academic achievement and character. Students in the College should therefore adhere to and will be held to the highest standards of personal accountability. Students whose behavior brings discredit upon themselves and/or the College or who commit acts of academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

For more information on additional Honors College policies, please visit <http://honors.fiu.edu>.

The Honors Curriculum

Honors students pursue any major in the university while simultaneously completing an independent Honors College curriculum of 6 credits annually. The first year addresses epistemology and ontology while stressing multi-disciplinary approaches to solving intellectual and practical problems. Students in the second year explore self and other in team-taught classes that incorporate the cutting edge "Reacting to the Past" and "City as Text" pedagogies. In the upper division, students have several options:

- Participating in an Honors Study Abroad program. These require a 3-credit spring seminar and a 3-credit four-week international experience that goes well beyond cultural tourism to explore serious themes in depth.
- Completing a 6-credit Honors seminar from over two dozen interdisciplinary Honors offerings, covering everything from social entrepreneurship to pre-med and pre-law prep to exploring the Everglades.
- Completing an Honors thesis-quality research project through the Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors (ARCH) program, culminating in conference presentation in an Honors Study Abroad program. These require a 3-credit spring seminar and a 3-credit four-week international experience that goes well beyond cultural tourism to explore serious themes in depth.

The Honors program specifically helps students to develop the following competencies:

1. Research Skill - Honors College students will learn the principles of conducting academic research, logical analysis and synthesis, and be able to communicate results fluently orally and in writing.
2. Interdisciplinarity and Connectivity - Students will learn to apply ideas, methods, and knowledge from multiple disciplines to a question; recognize connections among things learned inside and outside the classroom; comprehend the complexity of important questions; and contextualize ideas, knowledge, information, and experiences.
3. Global Learning - Students will understand the interconnectedness and interdependence of global

systems and issues; the historical, cultural, economic, and political forces that shape societies; and the nature and substance of various cultures.

4. **Appreciation of the Creative Arts** - Students will learn to articulate the importance of cultural artifacts and their production and to integrate knowledge and appreciation of the arts into their exploration of important questions and issues.
5. **Leadership and Community Engagement** - Students will develop awareness and application of ethical principles; assume leadership roles in the classroom, organization(s), and/or the larger community; and participate in activities that contribute to the common good.

Honors Opportunities

The Honors College has a wealth of co-curricular opportunities for its students. These include:

- The highly developed ARCH undergraduate research program, which showcases student research in an annual, two-day conference; subsidizes student participation in national and international conferences; provides stipends for selected students to work on faculty funded research; and regularly hosts statewide and regional conferences sponsored by external organizations.
- Study Abroad in a kaleidoscope of ever-changing locations, including Cambodia-Vietnam, the Peruvian Amazon, France, Italy, and Indonesia. These thematic programs include preparatory coursework and generally include a service-research component.
- Honors Education in the Arts (HEARTS), a program that injects the arts throughout the curriculum and provides students with free quality cultural opportunities at the area's top venues. The program has also spawned a student-led a cappella choir, a poetry club, and a film club.
- Internship and job opportunities provided by external partners specifically seeking Honors students.
- Community Engagement Partnership with the contiguous under-served small City of Sweetwater. This cutting-edge program includes student internships, service opportunities, jobs, and research components.
- Truman Little White House scholarships for students to attend the annual Key West symposium on public affairs.
- An Honors dorm, Everglades Hall, where students live, study, and socialize together.

Year One

IDH 1001, IDH 1002 The Origin of Ideas and the Idea of Origins (6). The course is designed to encourage students to become self-conscious learners, exploring not only the what, but also the how and why of knowing. The course focuses on the nature of truth and reality and our role in the world each of us has constructed.

IDH 1931 Honors Introduction and Leadership Seminar (1). The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the essentials needed for success at FIU and Honors. This year-long course will focus on writing, research, First-year, and leadership essentials.

Year Two

IDH 2003, IDH 2004 Inhabiting Other Lives (6). This seminar exposes students to issues of human commonality and diversity, and invites them to investigate and to understand the interconnectedness of various cultures, times and life experiences.

Year Three

IDH 3034, IDH 3035 Aesthetics, Values, and Authority (6). These seminars build on the work of the first two years and allow students to work in depth on a problem or subject of personal interest or professional relevance.

Year Four

Option 1

IDH 4007, IDH 4008 Aesthetics, Values, and Authority (6). Students may opt to take a second upper-division seminar course to complete their Honors requirements.

Option 2

Departmental Honors Thesis—Honors course work or honors thesis opportunities offered by individual departments will be accepted to satisfy the fourth-year requirement, with the proviso that students register their project with ARCH (see below) and present their work at the ARCH conference in spring.

Option 3

ARCH Research Project—Students may register for an individually mentored, in-depth research project under the direction of a faculty member with matching interests. The ARCH program engages students in advanced research or artistic projects by pairing students and faculty for cutting edge research. Students must present their research at the annual undergraduate research conference that is the culmination of the program.

Option 4

Honors College Study Abroad

Students may choose to complete the fourth year of the honors curriculum through one of the College's study abroad programs during the summer. Students take a three-credit preparatory course in the spring semester before traveling abroad. In the summer, the student will earn the remaining three credits of Honors. See http://honors.fiu.edu/study_abrd_programs.htm for a list of current programs.

Honors Service-Research Certificate

The Service-Research Certificate (SRC) provides an opportunity for Honors College students to integrate academic research, community partnerships, and service learning into a coherent program of study. This innovative, integrative, and transformational educational approach builds on the principles of community-based research (CRB), customizing it to undergraduate students from different fields of study in order to maximize students' research skills, knowledge, leadership growth, and civic engagement. It includes courses central to an understanding of community engagement in a social and historical context. The certificate also offers students the opportunity to participate in research that positively impacts the communities in which they live, work, and study. Significantly, the certificate allows students to

conduct applied research in their majors by drawing on courses offered both by the Honors College and by participating departments and/or colleges.

Requirements

To obtain this certificate, Honors College students will need to complete 18 credits, including:

Core I Prerequisite: (0 credit; one class meeting per week)

IDH 3639 Introduction to Service-Research 0

Core II Requirement: Honors-based service research course (6 credits)

Students may choose any one of the following year-long offerings (all numbered IDH 3034/4007, with varying section numbers), or new ones that may be added in the future as the service-research concept is developed further:

- Sweetwater Service-Research
- News Literacy: Making Sense of Community & World
- Aesthetic & Values: Art as Social Language
- The Everglades: Beginning to End
- Walk, Don't Run

Core III Requirement: Study Abroad Course (6 credits)

IDH 4007/4008 Peruvian Amazon: Environment, People, and Opportunity on a Rainforest Frontier 6

IDH 4007/4008 Cambodia & Vietnam: Their Place in American History 6

Electives (6 credits)

These credits can be earned either through taking another of the Honors seminars listed above, or through service-research courses offered by another unit. The list of such courses will change annually, based on the offerings of other units. The Honors College will determine which proposed courses from other units can be applied to the certificate.

For more information on the certificate, please visit our website <http://honors.fiu.edu/service-research>.

Honors Place

Has been named "Best Living and Learning Community" in the state of Florida by Florida Leader magazine, Honors Place is a close-knit and welcoming community of Honors College students who live and learn together. Honors College students who would like to live on campus will be housed in Everglades Hall at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. For more information on how to be a part of Honors Place, visit

<http://honors.fiu.edu/programs/honorsplace>.

Student Information Technology Centers

Student information technology centers are located in the Honors College offices on both the Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campuses. Honors students may use the computers and printers or study in the lounge areas. Honors also maintains a study room in the Green Library on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Student Organizations

One of the strengths of the Honors College is the selection of student-led organizations, ranging from pre-professional groups to honor societies to learning communities, which bring students with common ambitions together to learn, network, and develop as leaders. For more information on our student organizations, visit <http://honors.fiu.edu/programs/>.

Mentoring

Mentoring is an important component of the Honors College experience. Faculty are all expert, committed mentors. A close mentoring relationship with a faculty/staff member or community leader can facilitate and enhance the educational or professional experience. Mentoring in the Honors College is multi-faceted. Through ARCH, students develop a close, one-on-one relationship with a research professor. The Student Program Coordinator works with students to develop leadership skills, community service programs, sites for internships and part-time jobs, and college and employment recruitment opportunities. Corporate and community partners also offer unique mentoring for selected students.

Graduate and Professional School

The Honors College has special relationships with the university's professional schools that offer students unique opportunities. A 3+3 program with the College of Law allows eligible students to begin law school in lieu of their fourth year of undergraduate study, and the College of Medicine guarantees Honors College graduates a personal interview for admission, subject to minimum eligibility requirements.

The Honors to FIU Grad School Program

The H2G Research Fellowship is open to selected Honors students who are strongly interested in doing advanced research and remaining at FIU for their graduate work. These students will be matched with faculty with ongoing funded research projects and become full members of the research team. Students earn a stipend of \$4000 each semester they remain in good standing. Students completing the program are guaranteed an assistantship and stipend upon entering the FIU Graduate School.

Other Privileges

Because of the special nature of their contribution to the university, Honors College students enjoy other privileges as well, including

- Priority registration
- "Graduated through the Honors College" on the transcript
- Extended library privileges, equivalent to graduate students
- Honors-only competitive scholarships
- Participation in community partnerships for service learning and engagement
- Supplemental funding to present at conferences
- Internships and mentoring
- Special recognition at commencement ceremonies

Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes

IDH – Interdisciplinary Honors

Courses that meet the University's Global Learning requirement are identified as GL.

IDH 1001 Honors Seminar I (3). Focuses on origins and the various interpretations by the different disciplines, including the roles of technology, science, humanities, and social science. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 1002 Honors Seminar II: The Origin of Ideas and the Idea of Origins (3). The course is designed to explore not only the what, but also the how and why of knowing. Focuses on the nature of truth and reality and our role in the world each of us has constructed. Prerequisites: Admission to the Honors College and IDH 1001.

IDH 1931 Honors Introduction and Leadership Seminar (1). The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the essentials needed for success at FIU and Honors. This year-long course will focus on writing, research, First-year, and leadership essentials. Prerequisite: SLS 1501. Corequisite: IDH 1002.

IDH 2003 Honors Seminar III: Inhabiting Other Lives – GL (3). This seminar exposes students to issues of human commonality and diversity, and invites them to investigate and to understand the interconnectedness of various cultures, times and life experiences. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 2004 Honors Seminar IV (3). A continuation of Seminar III, this course is an interdisciplinary examination of other cultures and multicultural societies. Includes directed individual research projects. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 2910L Research/Lab Experience (1). Laboratory research experience in conjunction with the Honors College FIU/USF Medical Education Program.

IDH 3034 Honors Seminar V: Aesthetics, Values, and Authority – GL (3). Examines the aesthetic underpinnings of culture and foundations of what commonly are held to be "Western values". Discussion focuses not only on these paradigms but on the authority and power relation. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 3035 Honors Seminar VI (3). A continuation of Honors Seminar V, this course examines the interplay of various sources of authority in society and our system of values and aesthetics. Includes directed individual research projects. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 3125 Amazon Seminar: Environment, People and Opportunity on the Last Frontier (1). Introduction to the geological, ecological and human history of the Amazon; survey of its biodiversity, and review of current challenges facing the environment and its people.

IDH 3639 Introduction to Service-Research (0). Students explore the philosophical underpinnings of service-research and issues relating to community partnerships, research strategies, and the use of local knowledge for empowering social change.

IDH 3940 Honors College Internship (1-6). Structured practical training and work experience in programs to

which students have access as Honors College students. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 3955 Research Techniques: Applying Interdisciplinary Research in the Amazon (2). Interdisciplinary research of the Amazon with faculty guided development of student research proposal. Projects will be implemented in a study abroad course on the Peruvian Amazon during the summer. Prerequisite: IDH 3125.

IDH 4007 Honors Seminar VII (3). The first of a two semester sequence, this course is an interdisciplinary examination of expectations for the 21st Century. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 4008 Honors Seminar VIII (3). The second of a two semester sequence, this course is an interdisciplinary examination of expectations for the 21st Century. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

IDH 4905 Honors Independent Study (0-6). Directed independent study from an interdisciplinary perspective. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors College.

Fellows of the Honors College

Alonso, Irma, T., Ph.D. (*University of York, England*), *Economics*

Alvarez, Daniel, M.A. (*Harvard University*), *Religious Studies*

Bailey, Regina, M.F.A. (*Pratt Institute*), *Art*

Bailly, John, M.F.A. (*Yale University*), *Painting and Printmaking*

Baker, Jill, Ph.D. (*Brown University*), *Archaeology*

Baker, Joan, Ph.D. (*University of Washington*), *English*

Bauman, Whitney, Ph.D. (*Graduate Theological Union*), *Theology and Religious Studies*

Becker, David, Ph.D. (*M.I.T.*), *Chemistry*

Calloway, Jason, M.M. (*The Julliard School*), *Cello-Performance*

Clark, John, Ph.D. (*University of Virginia*), *Political Science*

Cornely, Helen, Ed.D., P.T. (*Florida International University*), *Adult Education and Human Resources Development*

D'Alessandro, Mark, M.A. (*New York University*), *Food Science*

DeFrancesco, Charmaine, Ph.D. (*Florida State University*), *Sports Psychology*

Delgado, Denise, M.F.A. (*Warren Wilson College*), *Fiction Writing*

Dottin, Cynthia, M.A. (*University of South Florida*), *Library Science*

Elbaum, Leonard, Ed.D., P.T. (*Florida International University*), *Physical Therapy*

Espinosa, Juan Carlos, Ph.D. (*University of Miami*), *International Studies*

Evans, Sian, Ph.D. (*University College of Wales*), *Zoology*

Fingerhut, H. Scott, J.D. (*Emory University*), *Law*

Fonseca, Brian, M.B.A. (*Florida International University*), *International Business*

Garrote, Ruben, M.A. (*Florida International University*), *Religious Studies and Philosophy*

Gerstman, Bernard, S., Ph.D. (*Princeton University*), *Physics*

Graham, Devon, Ph.D. (*University of Miami*), *Biology*
Hacker, Robert, M.B.A. (*Columbia University*), *Finance*
Hanly, Elizabeth, M.A. (*Columbia University*), *Journalism and Mass Communication*
Houry, Cecile, Ph.D. (*University of Miami*), *History*
Javadzadeh, Abdolrahim, Ph.D. (*Florida International University*), *Sociology*
Jimenez Belenguer, Marcos, Ph.D. (*University of Maryland*), *Sociology*
Kauffman, Mary Adelyn, D.M.A. (*University of Miami*), *Music*
Klotz, Michael, M.M. (*The Julliard School*), *Violin and Viola Performance*
Lichter, Joseph, Ph.D. (*Emory University*), *Chemistry*
Little, Marcia, B.M. (*The Julliard School*), *Violin-Performance*
Machonis, Peter, A., Ph.D. (*Pennsylvania State University*), *Modern Languages*
Macklakiewicz, Henry, Ph.D. (*Catholic University*), *Philosophy*
Markowitz, Pete, E. C., Ph.D. (*College of William and Mary*), *Physics*
McDaniel, Janet, M.A. (*University of Michigan*), *Near Eastern Studies*
McGoron, Anthony J., Ph.D. (*Louisiana Tech University*), *Biomedical Engineering*
Northup, Lesley, A., Ph.D. (*Catholic University*), *Religious Studies*
Peterson, Brian, Ph.D. (*University of Wisconsin, Madison*), *History*
Pfeiffer, Mary Lou, LL.M. (*St. Thomas University*), *Human Rights Law*, **M.A.** (*Florida International University*), *Religious Studies*
Pliske, Thomas, Ph.D. (*Cornell University*), *Evolutionary Biology*
Pupo, Thomas, M.Arch, M.A.A. (*Florida International University*), *Architecture, Fabrication and Design*
Rahman, Umer, M.A. (*Florida International University*), *Asian Studies*
Riach, James, Ph.D. (*University of Georgia*), *Anthropology*
Rodriguez, José, M.S.Ed. (*University of Miami*), *Higher Education and Enrollment Management*
Rosales, Camilo, M.Arch. (*Harvard University*), *Building Design*
Scharnagl, Gretchen, M.F.A. (*Florida International University*), *Art and Art History*
Schulze, Rebekah, Ed.D. (*Boston University*), *Educational Leadership and Development*
Tsalikis, John, Ph.D. (*University of Mississippi*), *Marketing*
Valle-Riestra, Diana, Ph.D. (*University of Miami*), *Special Education*
Vitenson, Misha, M.M. (*The Julliard School*), *Violin Performance*
Watson, Maida, Ph.D. (*University of Florida*), *Modern Languages*
Winter, Pioneer, M.Ph. (*Florida International University*), *Public Health*