

The Honors College

Administration

Juan Carlos Espinosa, *Interim Dean*

Lilian Solorzano, *Director of Academic Support Systems*

Rachelle Metcalfe, *Assistant Director of Enrollment Services*

Rosa Barredo, *Manager of Administrative Services*

Juan Lopez, *IT Manager*

Susan Davies, *Web Developer*

Maikel Alendy, *Senior Instructional Designer*

Umer Rahman, *Senior Coordinator of Housing & External Relations*

Grisel d'Elena, *Academic Advisor*

Isabel Green, *Coordinator of Career Services*

Ari Sernik, *Coordinator of Development*

Luli Szeinblum, *Coordinator of Study Abroad & Arts Programs*

Allen Varela, *Coordinator for Undergraduate Research*

Maria Calero, *Office Coordinator*

Jacqueline Chabo, *Office Associate*

Yessenia Lopez Reyes, *Office Assistant*

Faculty

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

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

Gorelick, Adam, M.A. (*Florida International University*), *Religious Studies*

Pfeiffer, Mary Lou, LL.M. (*St. Thomas University*),

Human Rights Law, M.A. (*Florida International University*), *Religious Studies*

Rodriguez, José, M.S.Ed. (*University of Miami*), *Higher Education and Enrollment Management*

Scharnagl, Gretchen, M.F.A. (*Florida International University*), *Art and Art History*

General Information

The Honors College is a vibrant, expanding, enthusiastic and engaged community of young scholars from every field, mentored to be tomorrow's leaders. A dynamic laboratory of cutting-edge teaching and learning, the College provides a transformative undergraduate education.

Privileges and Benefits

Honors College students enjoy certain privileges, including:

- Priority registration
- The notation "Graduated through the Honors College" on the transcript
- Honors housing in Honors College Hall
- Graduate-student library privileges
- Honors-only competitive scholarships
- Support to present work at national research conferences
- Unique internships and job opportunities
- Facilities and resources for innovative projects
- Special recognition at commencement

Location

The Honors College offices are located in DM 233 on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Admissions Criteria

Admission to the Honors College is selective. Students are admitted only in the 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.

Fully Online Students: Students pursuing a fully online degree through FIU 2.0 may be admitted to the Honors College on a case-by-case basis in their junior year.

Academic Standing Policy

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

Graduation Policy

Students will graduate through the Honors College 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;

Honors Opportunities

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

- The Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors (ARCH) undergraduate research program, which matches student and faculty researchers, showcases student research at the annual Conference for Undergraduate Research at FIU (CURFIU); subsidizes student participation in national and international conferences; and regularly hosts statewide and regional conferences.
- Study Abroad, which offers a kaleidoscope of options, currently comprising Cambodia-Vietnam, France, Italy, Japan, Costa Rica, South Africa, and Spain. These thematic programs include preparatory coursework and often include a service-research component.
- Honors Education in the Arts (HEARTS), a program that injects the arts throughout the curriculum and provides students with discounted quality cultural opportunities at the area's top venues. The program also sponsors student-led clubs, including a cappella group, a poetry club, a book club, a film club, and a student magazine, *Palate*. HEARTS also offers a one-week cultural trip to New York City.
- Truman Little White House scholarships for students to attend the annual Key West symposium on public affairs.

- A 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

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.

An important part of being a member of the Honors College is demonstrating leadership by serving the extended community. All Honors College students must complete at least **20** volunteer service hours per academic year (fall/spring). Qualifying community service activities include tutoring and other opportunities in Sweetwater, Honors service projects, university-wide projects, some kinds of religious service, and work with non-profit organizations.

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. In the upper division, students have several options:

- Participating in an Honors Study Abroad program. These require a 3-credit preparatory seminar and a 3-credit multi-week international experience that goes well beyond cultural tourism to explore serious themes in depth.
- Completing a 6-credit Honors seminar.
- Completing an Honors thesis or thesis-quality research project through the ARCH program, culminating in a presentation at the Conference for Undergraduate Research at FIU (CURFIU).

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 (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. (See website for this year’s offerings: <http://honors.fiu.edu/students/honors-course-offerings/schedule/>)

Year Four

Option 1

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

Option 2

Departmental Honors Thesis—Department honors courses, honors thesis, and/or capstone courses can satisfy the fourth-year requirement, with the proviso that students register their project with ARCH (see below) and present their work at the CURFIU conference in spring.

Option 3

ARCH Research—The Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors (ARCH) program pairs students and faculty for cutting-edge research. Students must present their research at the annual Conference for Undergraduate Research at FIU (CURFIU) in the spring.

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. Students take a three-credit preparatory course before traveling abroad. The student will earn the remaining three credits of Honors during the trip. See http://honors.fiu.edu/study_abrd_programs.htm for a list of current programs.

Honors Living-Learning Community

Living-learning in Honors comprises a welcoming community of students, faculty, and staff centered in Honors College Hall. All Honors students who apply by the deadline will be housed in the Hall, the university’s newest and most popular residence hall. This comprehensive community offers unique programming and academic opportunities, a convenient location and the most sought-after amenities on campus. For more information on how to be a part of Honors College Hall, visit <http://honors.fiu.edu/honorshall>.

The Edge Lab

The Honors Edge lab is located in the Honors College office at Deuxieme Maison. This space allows students to do research and design projects using advanced computing, 3D printing, CNC machining, and other cutting-edge technologies.

Student Information Technology Centers

The student information technology center is located in the Honors College offices. Honors students may use the computers and printers or study in the lounge area.

Honors also maintains a study room in the Green Library and a video lab in the Owa Eha (OE) building at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus

Honors College Career Center

Internship and job opportunities are available in our highly successful Career Center. Among other services, the Center arranges internship placements customized to student goals. It also provides resume and interviewing advice and preparation, as well as follow-up assistance.

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/>.

Graduate and Professional Pipeline Programs

The Honors College has pipeline programs with multiple professional and graduate schools, providing students an opportunity to know by the end of the sophomore year whether they will be accepted into the program of their choice (pending continued good academic performance and the outcome of pre-professional exams). These programs include:

- The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (FIU) Early Assurance Program
- The FIU College of Law Early Assurance Program
- The FIU College of Engineering and Computing Biomedical Engineering Ph.D.
- The Lake Erie College of Medicine Early Acceptance Programs in Dentistry, Pharmacy, or Osteopathy

3+3 Law School Program

This program with the College of Law allows eligible students to begin law school in lieu of their fourth year of undergraduate study, provided the student has completed all required courses for the undergraduate degree by the end of the junior year. The first year of law school qualifies as the final year of the bachelor's degree.

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 (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: Admission to Honors College.

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 3999 HONORS Internship (0).

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.

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
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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 College Faculty Fellows

Acevedo, Matthew, M.A. (*University of Central Florida*), Instructional Design and Technology

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

Alvarez-Romero, Michelle, J.D. (*University of Miami*), Law

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

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

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

Beers, Mayra, Ph.D. (*Florida International University*), Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Bell, Jason, M.B.A. (*University of Florida*), Business

Benjamin, Malik, M.Arch (*University of Miami*), Computing Design and Urban Design

Blanco, Richard, M.A. (*Florida International University*), Creative Writing

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

Castellano, Amilcar, M.D. (*Universidad Catolica Madre Ey Maestre*), Pathology

Christie, Michael, Ph.D. (*Rutgers University*), Materials, Science and Engineering

Dottin, Cynthia, M.A. (*University of South Florida*), Ancient and Medieval History

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

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

Fernandez, Wifredo, M.A. (*American University*), Teaching

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

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

Garcia, D. Maria, J.D. (*Florida International University*), Law

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

Hacker, Robert, M.B.A. (*Columbia University*), Finance

Hanly, Elizabeth, M.A. (*Columbia University*), Communication and Journalism

Klotz, Michael, M.A. (*The Julliard School*), Violin and Viola

Lavernia, Caryn, M.P.A. (*Florida International University*), Public Administration

Lichter, Joseph, Ph.D. (*Emory University*), Chemistry

Liguori, T.J., Ph.D. (*Florida International University*), Asian Studies

Loughlin, Liana, J.D., M.B.E. (*University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine*), Bioethics

Machonis, Peter, A., Ph.D. (*Pennsylvania State University*), Modern Languages

Maidique, Modesto, Ph.D. (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*), Electrical Engineering

Markowitz, Pete, E. C., Ph.D. (*College of William and Mary*), Physics

Marty, Aileen, M.D. (*University of Miami*), Infectious Diseases

McDaniel, Janet, M.A. (*University of Michigan*), Near Eastern Studies

Pliske, Thomas, Ph.D. (*Cornell University*), Evolutionary Biology

Puentes-Leon, Angela, J.D. (*University of Miami*), Law

Ramaswamy, Sharan, Ph.D. (*University of Iowa*), Biomedical Engineering

Rojas, Patria, Ph.D. (*Florida International University*),

- Social Welfare*
Riera, Jorge, Ph.D. (*University of Havana, Cuba*),
Physics
- Rionda, Anthony, M.P.A.** (*Florida International University*), *Public Administration*
- Roller, Barbra, Ph.D.** (*University of Pennsylvania*),
Biology
- Roque, Gustavo, M.S.** (*Florida International University*),
Curriculum and Instruction
- Rosales, Camilo, M.Arch.** (*Harvard University*), *Building Design*
- Sackman, Kate, M.A.** (*University of Chicago*), *Finance and Marketing*
- Sutton, James, Ph.D.** (*Yale University*), *Renaissance Studies*
- Tsalikis, John, Ph.D.** (*University of Mississippi*),
Marketing
- Valle-Riestra, Diana, Ph.D.** (*University of Miami*), *Special Education and Reading*
- Vitenson, Misha, M.M.** (*The Julliard School*), *Violin*
- Vu, Tony, M.A.** (*Florida International University*), *Finance*
- Winter, Pioneer, M.Ph.** (*Florida International University*),
Public Health
- Yawney, Michael, M.F.A.** (*Columbia University*), *Theater*