



# Honors College

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Honors College

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## Honors College

The Honors College offers a unique educational experience designed to teach students how to learn, how to think critically and creatively, and how to communicate effectively. Students with evidence of high achievement may qualify for the Murray State Honors College. This program has been designed to provide future social and professional leaders with exceptional thinking and communication skills, an appropriate breadth and depth of knowledge, and a sense of cultural and social responsibility.

Entering freshmen with an ACT composite score of 28 or above and exceptional high school records are invited to apply for admission to the Honors College. Acceptance is based on such factors as standardized test scores, grade point average, and evidence of creative and leadership abilities as displayed in extracurricular interests and activities.

Accepted students must participate in at least one Honors Seminar a semester until the sequence is complete unless arrangements are made with the director of the Honors College. In order to receive an Honors Diploma, an honors student must complete the Honors Sequence described below, fulfill the required competencies, maintain a 3.2 grade point average, and satisfy all Murray State graduation requirements including the completion of an area or a major and minor. In the programs they choose, honors students will be expected to select the more challenging courses offered.

The Honors College encourages intellectual exchange among students, professors, and visiting scholars. Ample opportunity is provided for dialogue.

The hallmarks of the Honors College are small class size and the resulting individual attention available to its students. Professors and guest lecturers are readily available to all students in developing a full understanding of the course materials. The faculty are selected partly on the basis of their commitment to fostering productive, interactive intellectual contact with students.

Only students admitted to the Honors College may enroll in HON prefix courses, including ENG 150 Honors English.

### Honors Diploma Curricula

#### Honors Sequence - Arts

**Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)**

**Bachelor of Arts in Business (B.A.B.)**

**Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)**

**Bachelor of Music (B.M.)**

HON 100T Transitions<sup>1</sup>

ENG 150 Honors Rhetoric, Composition and Research

HON 251 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy

*Two of the following<sup>2</sup>:*

HON 109 Interdisciplinary Humanities and Fine Arts

HON 161 Honors Seminar in Visual Arts

HON 162 Honors Seminar in Music

HON 163 Honors Seminar in Theatre

HON 164 Honors Seminar in Fine Arts and Culture Abroad

HON 165 Honors Seminar in Communication

*One of the following:*

HON 201 Honors Seminar in World History I

HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II

*One of the following:*

HON 261 Honors Seminar in Science

HON 262 Honors Seminar in Mathematics

*Three of the following:*

HON 133 Honors Seminar in Sociology

HON 140 Honors Seminar in American National Government

HON 150 Honors Seminar in Archaeology

HON 180 Honors Seminar in Psychology

HON 201 Honors Seminar in World History I<sup>3</sup>

*or*

HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II<sup>3</sup>

HON 203 Honors Seminar in American History

HON 232 Honors Seminar in Economics

HON 212 Honors Seminar in Ethics

*or*

HON 252 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy II

HON 270 Honors Seminar in International Relations

or

- HON 272 Honors Seminar in Comparative Politics  
 HON 290 Honors Seminar in Service and the Nonprofit Sector

*One of the following:*

- HON 437 Senior Honors Thesis  
 HON 440 Honors Professional Engagement Project  
 HON 444 Honors Internship Research and Analysis  
<sup>1</sup>HON 100T is only required for undeclared incoming honors students.  
<sup>2</sup>HON 165 is required for business, education, or nursing majors.  
<sup>3</sup>Choose whichever was not taken previously.

**Additional Honors Diploma Requirements**

**Competency in Mathematics** - The student must complete three hours of mathematics chosen from the University Studies mathematics category (not including HON 262) at STA 135 or MAT 140 or higher. This course can serve as the prerequisite for HON 262.

**Competency in Science** - The student must complete one lab science chosen from the University Studies science category. This course can serve as the prerequisite for HON 261.

**Competency in Modern Language - 12-hour sequence** (excluding 105) **in one modern language culminating no lower than a 202-level course**—Example: SPA 101, SPA 102, SPA 201, SPA 202. International students who are non-native English speakers may substitute 12 hours of English literature, linguistics, or writing classes (excluding ENG 105/150) for the modern language requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

**Study Abroad** - Students must participate in a year, semester, or summer study abroad program (9 day minimum). Courses taken abroad may be used towards the Honors Sequence, modern language competency, major, or minor. International students may substitute a Study USA experience of at least nine days for the study abroad requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

**Honors Sequence - Science**

- Bachelor of Science (B.S.)**
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.S.A.)**
- Bachelor of Science in Business (B.S.B.)**
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.)**
- Bachelor of Integrated Studies (B.I.S)**
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)**
- Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.)**

- HON 100T Transitions<sup>1</sup>  
 ENG 150 Honors Rhetoric, Composition and Research  
 HON 251 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy

*Two of the following<sup>2</sup>:*

- HON 109 Interdisciplinary Humanities and Fine Arts  
 HON 161 Honors Seminar in Visual Arts  
 HON 162 Honors Seminar in Music  
 HON 163 Honors Seminar in Theatre  
 HON 164 Honors Seminar in Fine Arts and Culture Abroad  
 HON 165 Honors Seminar in Communication

*One of the following:*

- HON 201 Honors Seminar in World History I  
 HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II

*One of the following:*

- HON 212 Honors Seminar in Ethics  
 HON 252 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy II

*Two of the following:*

- HON 133 Honors Seminar in Sociology  
 HON 140 Honors Seminar in American National Government  
 HON 150 Honors Seminar in Archaeology  
 HON 180 Honors Seminar in Psychology  
 HON 201 Honors Seminar in World History I<sup>3</sup>

or

- HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II<sup>3</sup>  
 HON 203 Honors Seminar in American History

- HON 232 Honors Seminar in Economics  
 HON 270 Honors Seminar in International Relations  
 or  
 HON 272 Honors Seminar in Comparative Politics  
 HON 290 Honors Seminar in Service and the Nonprofit Sector

*One of the following:*

- HON 437 Senior Honors Thesis  
 HON 440 Honors Professional Engagement Project  
 HON 444 Honors Internship Research and Analysis  
<sup>1</sup>HON 100T is only required for undeclared incoming honors students.  
<sup>2</sup>HON 165 is required for business, education, or nursing majors.  
<sup>3</sup>Choose whichever was not taken previously.

### Additional Honors Diploma Requirements

**Competency in Mathematics** - The student must complete three hours of mathematics chosen from the University Studies mathematics category (not including HON 262) at STA 135 or MAT 140 or higher.

**Competency in Science** - The student must complete one lab science chosen from the University Studies science category.

**Competency in Modern Language - 6-hour sequence** (excluding 105) **in one modern language culminating no lower than a 102-level course**—Example: SPA 101, SPA 102. International students who are non-native English speakers may substitute six hours of English literature, linguistics, or writing classes (excluding ENG 105/150) for the modern language requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

**Additional Hours of University Studies Science, Math, or Language** - Nine hours in addition to the competency courses mentioned above; students should consult their major advisors in deciding which courses to take, as specific courses are often needed to fulfill general education requirements for some majors. Either **HON 261** or **HON 262** may be taken for three of these hours.

**Study Abroad** - Students must participate in a year, semester, or summer study abroad program (9 day minimum). Courses taken abroad may be used towards the Honors Sequence, modern language competency, major, or minor. International students may substitute a Study USA experience of at least nine days for the study abroad requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

### Honors Focus

Students who complete the following requirements but who are unable to finish the complete Honors Sequence for the Honors Diploma will receive their Bachelor's Degree with an Honors Focus. Unlike Honors Diploma graduates, *students receiving credit for the Honors Focus must satisfy the appropriate University Studies curriculum for their major.* Students must graduate with a 3.2 GPA to receive the Honors Focus.

**Take six of the following seminars while at Murray State. At least three of these seminars must be at the 200-level. Only one of these seminar credits can be a substitution from another institution. ENG 150 may be substituted for one of the Honors seminars by permission of the director.**

- HON 133 Honors Seminar in Sociology  
 HON 140 Honors Seminar in American National Government  
 HON 150 Honors Seminar in Archaeology  
 HON 161 Honors Seminar in Visual Arts  
 HON 162 Honors Seminar in Music  
 HON 163 Honors Seminar in Theatre  
 HON 164 Honors Seminar in Fine Arts and Culture Abroad  
 HON 165 Honors Seminar in Communication  
 HON 180 Honors Seminar in Psychology  
 HON 201 Honors Seminar in World History I  
 HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II  
 HON 203 Honors Seminar in American History  
 HON 212 Honors Seminar in Ethics  
 HON 232 Honors Seminar in Economics  
 HON 251 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy I  
 HON 252 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy II  
 HON 261 Honors Seminar in Science  
 HON 262 Honors Seminar in Mathematics  
 HON 270 Honors Seminar in International Relations  
 HON 272 Honors Seminar in Comparative Politics  
 HON 290 Honors Seminar in Service and the Nonprofit Sector

### **and complete two of the following requirements**

A modern language class at the 202, 301, or 302 level. Note: 101, 102, and 201 courses in the same language are prerequisites for the 202 courses, but the student may place out or test out of these prior credits with sufficient prior instruction. International students who are non-native English speakers may substitute 12 hours of English literature, linguistics, or writing classes (excluding ENG 105/150) for the modern language requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

*One of the following thesis courses:*

HON 437 Senior Honors Thesis

HON 440 Honors Professional Engagement Project

HON 444 Honors Internship Research and Analysis

**Study Abroad** - Students must participate in a year, semester, or summer study abroad program (9 day minimum). International students may substitute a Study USA experience of at least nine days for the study abroad requirement by permission of the Honors Executive Director.

### **Presidential Fellows**

This program is for graduating high school seniors of exceptional ability. Applicants should rank in the upper ten percent of their class and have a minimum ACT composite score of 28. In addition to excellent academic records, they must have demonstrated leadership abilities. An on-campus interview is required as part of the final selection process. This scholarship includes instate tuition (no course/health fees), a 10 meal per week board plan, and a semiprivate residential college room. This award is renewable for three additional years (eight semesters total) or until graduation, provided the student meets the requirements of the program and meets specified academic standards.

A Presidential Fellow must enroll in and successfully complete at least one Honors seminar each semester either until graduation or until the sequence has been completed. A Presidential Fellow is not required to complete the University Studies requirements but is required to complete the Honors Seminar sequence, including prerequisites and competencies. However, students who fail to complete the Honors Sequence must complete University Studies requirements for graduation. Presidential Fellows must maintain a 3.20 grade point average in order to retain the fellowship. They are also expected to live on campus and are encouraged to earn the Honors Diploma. Presidential Fellows must complete five hours of research each week under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

### **Trustee Scholars Program**

Like Presidential Fellows, Trustee Scholars must also enroll in and successfully complete at least one Honors Seminar each semester either until graduation or until the sequence has been completed. Trustee Scholars are not required to complete the University Studies requirements but are required to complete the Honors Sequence, including prerequisites and competencies. However, students who fail to complete the Honors Sequence must complete University Studies requirements for graduation. Trustee Scholars must maintain a 3.20 grade point average in order to retain the scholarship. They are also expected to live on campus and are encouraged to earn the Honors Diploma.

