



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 or 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 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 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 interactive intellectual contact with students.

Only students admitted to the Honors College may enroll in HON prefix courses or in 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 Transitions¹
- ENG 150 Honors Rhetoric, Composition and Research
- HON 251 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy

Two of the following²:

- 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 I³
or
- HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II³
- 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
- ¹HON 100T is only required for undeclared incoming honors students.
- ²HON 165 is required for business, education, or nursing majors.
- ³Choose 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 Transitions¹
 ENG 150 Honors Rhetoric, Composition and Research
 HON 251 Honors Seminar in Literature and Philosophy

Two of the following²:

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 I³

or

HON 202 Honors Seminar in World History II³
 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

¹HON 100T is only required for undeclared incoming honors students.

²HON 165 is required for business, education, or nursing majors.

³Choose 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

el 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

Complete a 102, 201, or 202 foreign language class. Note: 101 course in the same language is a prerequisite for the 102 course, 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 six hours of English literature, linguistics, or writing classes (excluding ENG 105/150) for the foreign language requirement by permission of the Honors Director.

Thesis requirement

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 must have a high school GPA of 3.70 or higher on a 4.00 scale 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 in-state 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 and must complete five hours of research each week under the guidance of a faculty advisor in order to retain the fellowship. They are also expected to live on campus and are encouraged to earn the Honors Diploma.

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.