University Honors Program
Student Handbook
Revised 9/17/20
Curriculum
The University Honors Program (UHP) curriculum consists of 10 courses (or 7 courses for Sophomore Admits) that students must complete in order to graduate from the UHP. A very brief outline is provided below, but more detailed information can be found at https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/program-requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-Year Admits</th>
<th>Sophomore Admits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introductory Courses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Upper Level Courses</strong></td>
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| Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought I-II  
*HONR 1015-1016*  
Scientific Reasoning and Discovery I-II  
*HONR 1033-1034* | Enlightenment: East and West  
*HONR 2016*  
TWO Self and Society Courses  
*HONR 2047*  
TWO Arts and Humanities Courses  
*HONR 2053* |
| **Final Courses** | **Final Courses** |
| Honors Capstone  
*HONR 4199*  
Senior Thesis | Honors Capstone  
*HONR 4199*  
Senior Thesis |

**Total: 10 Classes**  
**Total: 7 Classes**
Students who complete all program requirements will receive a transcript notation of “Honors Program Graduate.”

Honors courses must be completed within the Honors Program and cannot be fulfilled by AP, IB, transfer, or study abroad credit. Exceptions to this policy include:

- Pre-approved alternatives can replace Scientific Reasoning & Discovery requirements and can be found at https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/scientific-reasoning-and-discovery
- Pre-approved alternatives can replace the Senior Thesis Requirement, and can be found in the Senior Thesis Information Packet

Please note: For students admitted prior to fall 2020, HONR 2048 will count as Self & Society and HONR 2054 will count as Arts & Humanities.

Curriculum Notes by School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Requirements satisfied by Honors courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier One Requirements:</td>
<td>University-Wide Gen Eds <em>(required of all GW students.)</em></td>
<td>– UW 1020: HONR 1015</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Critical or quantitative analysis in the social sciences: HONR 2044, and HONR 2047(W)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Scientific reasoning: HONR 1033, 1034</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Critical analysis in the humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2053(W)</td>
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<td>– Quantitative reasoning: (no Honors courses)</td>
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<td>Tier Two Requirements:</td>
<td>CCAS General Education Requirements</td>
<td>– Local or Civic Engagement: HONR 1033</td>
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<tr>
<td>(School-Specific Gen Eds)</td>
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<td>– Oral Communication: HONR 1034</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– One Additional Science w/ Lab: HONR 1033, 1034</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– One Additional Humanities Course: HONR 1016, HONR 2053(W)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– One Arts Course: (no Honors courses)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Global or Cross-Cultural Engagement: (no Honors courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elliott School Supporting</td>
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<td>– Science Course: HONR 1033, HONR 1034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courses in the Liberal Arts</td>
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<td>– Humanities / Creative Arts: HONR 1016, HONR 2016, HONR 2053(W)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Math Course: (no Honors courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Business</td>
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<td>All GWSB students must take Tier One + business prerequisite courses (see website for full list). All UHP-GWSB students are guaranteed a seat in HONR 2044 (Macroeconomics) should they want it (HONR 2044 is an Honors version of ECON 1012.)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### SEAS Humanities & Social Science Electives
- Humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2016, HONR 2053(W)
- Social Sciences: HONR 2044, HONR 2047(W)
- PHIL 2135 counts as an Honors Arts & Humanities requirement for SEAS students only.

### Milken School of Public Health
N/A. Students are not required to take additional general education requirements beyond Tier One.

### Tier Three Requirements: Major Requirements
Many upper level Honors courses fulfill various major and minor requirements. Please see the UHP Course Descriptions website for more information.

### Four-Year Timeline
Honors students explore many opportunities during their four years at GW. Some suggestions are outlined below, all of which can be discussed with Program Managers.

#### First Year
- First year requirements
- Complete 4-year plan
- Apply to be a Peer Advisor

#### Sophomore Year
- Upper level Honors course(s) (strongly recommended)
- Apply to be a research assistant
- Visit Study Abroad Office
- Visit Career Center

#### Junior Year
- Upper level Honors course(s)
- Pursue independent research
- Prepare for graduate admissions tests/fellowships
- Explore thesis options

#### Senior Year
- Upper level Honors course(s)
- Honors Thesis
- Honors Capstone

### Policies & Procedures
You, as a student of the Honors Program and of the University, are responsible for your academic choices and performance. If any policies of the Honors Program or of the University are unclear to you, ask for clarification!

### Scholastic Requirements
To remain in good academic standing in the Honors Program, you must fulfill the following program requirements:

- Minimum load of 12 credit hours every semester.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 at the end of the first year and a 3.0 cumulative GPA by time of graduation.
- Obtain a grade of C- or better in all Honors courses.
- Attend first-year advising events and meetings.
- Make continued progress towards completing program requirements.

Honors students’ academic performances are reviewed at the end of each semester. Students who have not met the GPA, curriculum, credit load, or any other requirements of the program will be notified and may be subject to probation and/or removal from the program. A grade review will not be conducted for students the semester they study abroad.

**Final Semester Credit Hour Exemption**

Students in their final semester of undergraduate study are exempt from the credit hour requirement, but should check to see if part-time status affects their financial and/or merit aid.

**Registration**

Typically, registration takes place during the first weeks of November and April. The official registration schedule is determined and posted by the Office of the Registrar.

**Early Registration**

Due to the structured Honors curriculum, Honors students will have early registration for their second, third, and fourth semesters. The early registration date is not posted on the official registration schedule and will be communicated to Honors students over email via the weekly newsletter and on the Honors blog (https://blogs.gwu.edu/honorsprogram/). It is the responsibility of all Honors students to read the newsletter and any communications pertaining to registration.

**Grades and Grading**

Honors Program students are required to earn a grade of C- or better in all Honors classes to receive credit for completing the corresponding curricular requirement. Note that the university’s "First-Year Academic Forgiveness Policy" cannot typically be applied to UHP courses, due to the changing nature of special topics courses and limited seats in first-year sections.

**Pass/No Pass**

With permission of the instructor, students can take Honors classes using the pass/no pass grading option, but courses taken with this option will not count toward fulfilling the Honors graduation requirements. Please check in with a Program Manager and your school advisor before taking a course pass/no pass, as some schools have additional policies regarding this grading option.

**Incompletes**
For all courses, including those in Honors, Students may seek the notation “I” to indicate their inability to complete the required course work in a timely fashion due to circumstances beyond their control. Students are responsible for informing the instructor of these circumstances, and for seeking the instructor’s approval before the date when grades must be reported. The student and professor are required to complete an Incomplete Grade Contract and encouraged to submit it to the student’s home school. Please also inform a Program Manager if you are taking an Incomplete. For more information, see the GW Bulletin: http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/#Incompletes.

Student Feedback on Honors Courses
All Honors courses use the University’s online Student Feedback system operated by the Office of Survey Research and Analysis. Students will receive notification of the availability of the feedback survey via email. Students should feel comfortable providing honest and constructive feedback as all feedback is completed anonymously and faculty do not receive student feedback until after grades are due.

Please take the feedback process seriously. Faculty place a high value on your anonymous comments, and feedback often plays an important role in promotion and hiring at GW and other universities. Your honest and thoughtful opinions are invaluable to the Honors Program and all the other departments at GW.

Student Code of Conduct
Participation in the UHP is a privilege that can be revoked if a student’s academic performance or general conduct does not live up to the ideals of a UHP member. The UHP seeks to foster a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all learners. Behavior inside or outside the classroom that disrupts this learning environment will be grounds for dismissal. The Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities adjudicates all alleged infractions of the Code of Student Conduct. Any UHP student found in violation of the Code of Student Conduct who receives a status sanction more severe than a warning will be dismissed from the program.

Bias Incident Reporting
Any student who experiences or witnesses an act of bias at GW and/or the UHP is encouraged to report the incident online, by phone, or in person. These reports are investigated by GW’s Bias Incident Response Team (BIRT). The BIRT was established to respond with resources, support, and actions.

Academic Integrity
The Honors Program is committed to the integrity of academic inquiry and scholarship. Academic dishonesty is contrary to its ideals and goals. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty whose sanction is more severe than the failure of a single assignment, or students found guilty of any second act of academic dishonesty, will be dismissed from the Honors Program. GW’s Code of Academic Integrity can be found at: https://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity.

Community & Support
The University Honors Program extends far beyond the classroom and strongly emphasizes its community of life-long learners. This community includes a plethora of community resources, including housing, advising, events, leadership opportunities, and more.

**Living & Learning Communities (LLCs)**
Under the guidance of Honors RAs, first-year students will participate in an Honors Living and Learning Community in West Hall at the Mount Vernon Campus. Afterward, students will have the option to live in an upper class Honors Living & Learning Community on the Foggy Bottom Campus.

**Advising**
Honors students have access to dedicated Honors advisors who are available to help with academic planning and personal support throughout their time in the program. Students are required to attend first-year advising events and meetings. Afterward, they are encouraged to check in at least once a semester about academic progress. Students can schedule an appointment on our website: [https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/make-appointment](https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/make-appointment)

**Peer Advisor Program**
Peer Advisors serve as the link between the University Honors Program and the rest of the George Washington University undergraduate student body. They volunteer at events like Inside GWU and New Student Orientation and also serve as advisors to their fellow Honors Program students, giving advice on Honors experiences, classes, housing, and all the facets of life at GW as a Honors student.

**Community Events**
The University Honors Program offers many community events throughout the year, ranging from guest speakers, hikes, and dinners. All Honors students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to attend.

**Stay Informed**
The Honors Program sends out a weekly e-newsletter, outlining important registration information, program announcements, and events and opportunities for Honors students. It is your responsibility to make sure you are receiving the newsletter and to read it in full each week. You can also stay up to date with the Honors program by liking us on Facebook (facebook.com/theUHP), following us on Twitter (twitter.com/theUHP) or Instagram (Instagram.com/theuhp), and reading our blog ([https://blogs.gwu.edu/honorsprogram/](https://blogs.gwu.edu/honorsprogram/)).
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