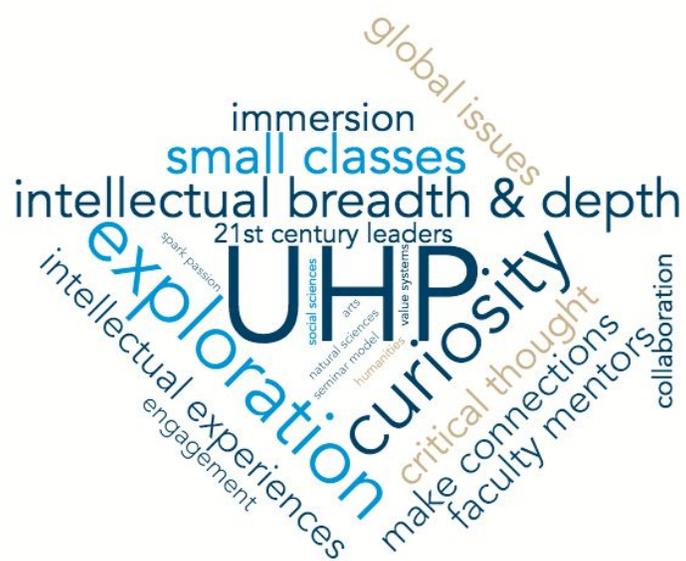# University Honors Program
Student Handbook
Revised 8/10/2018

Curriculum

The University Honors Program (UHP) curriculum is comprised of approximately 10 courses 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.

Introductory Level Classes

- HONR 1015 & HONR 1016, Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought
- HONR 1033* & HONR 1034*, Scientific Reasoning & Discovery
- HONR 2016**, Enlightenment East & West

Upper Level Classes

- HONR 2047/2048, Self & Society, any two
- HONR 2053/2054, Arts & Humanities, any two
- HONR 4198*, Honors Senior Thesis
- HONR 4199, Honors Capstone Experience

These requirements can also be satisfied with non-Honors courses. Talk to a Program Manager or visit https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/program-requirements for more information.

** This course is only for students who join the Honors Program as rising sophomores.

Curriculum Notes by School

HONR 1015 fulfills the UW 1020 writing requirement for students in every school. Other courses fill varying general education requirements by school.

Columbian College of Arts & Sciences

- Humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2053, HONR 2054
- Lab Sciences: HONR 1033, 1034
- Social Sciences: HONR 2047, 2048
- Local/Civic Engagement: HONR 1033
- Oral Communication: HONR 1034

Elliott School of International Affairs

- Humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2053, HONR 2054
- Science: HONR 1033, HONR 1034

School of Business

- Humanities: HONR 1016, 2053
- Sciences: HONR 1033, HONR 1034
- Electives: HONR 2047, HONR 2048, HONR 2054
- NOTE: Completing the Honors Program satisfies the GWSB requirement to complete a minor

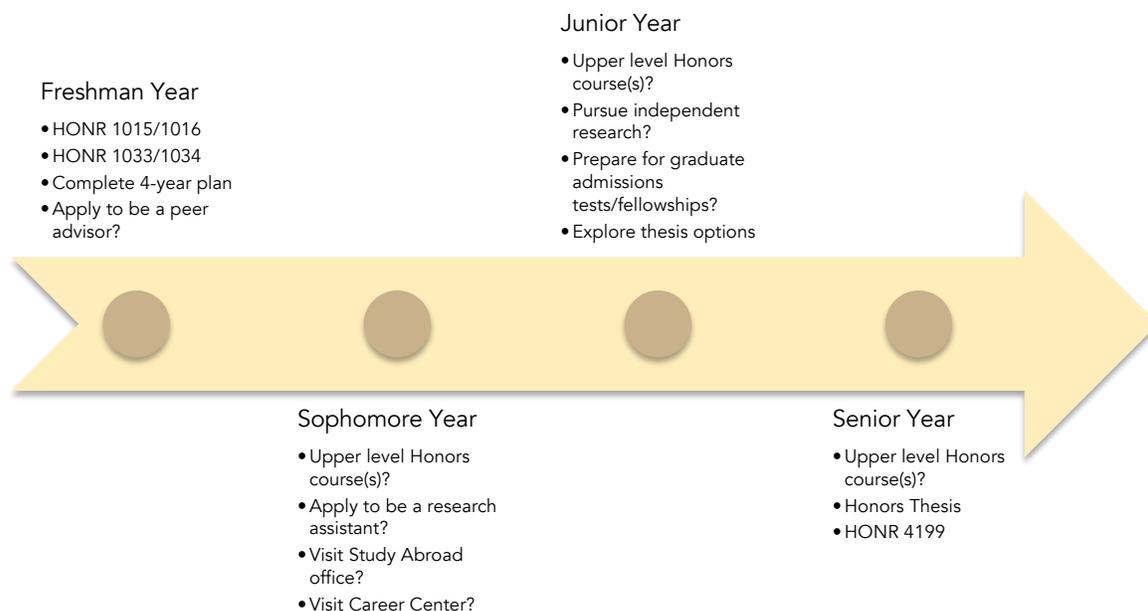### School of Engineering & Applied Sciences

- Humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2053, HONR 2054
  - PHIL 2135 can replace HONR 2054 for engineering students in the following majors: Biomedical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, & Computer Engineering
- Social Sciences: HONR 2047, HONR 2048

Milken Institute School of Public Health

- Humanities: HONR 1016, HONR 2053
- Science: HONR 1033, HONR 1034
- Social Science: HONR 2047

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.

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

Freshman Year
- HONR 1015/1016
- HONR 1033/1034
- Complete 4-year plan
- Apply to be a peer advisor?

Sophomore Year
- Upper level Honors course(s)?
- Apply to be a research assistant?
- Visit Study Abroad office?
- Visit Career Center?

Senior Year
- Upper level Honors course(s)?
- Honors Thesis
- HONR 4199

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 standing in the Honors Program, you must fulfill the following program requirements.

- Minimum load of 12 academic credit hours every semester *(exercise and sport activity classes do not count as academic credit)*
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 at the end of freshman year and a 3.0 at graduation
- Obtain a grade of C- or better in all Honors courses
- Successful completion of the Honors Program curriculum and fulfillment of all Honors thesis 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 subject to probation and/or removal from the program. A grade review will not be conducted for students the semester they study abroad.

Credit Hours

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. Students enrolled part-time due to medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances must speak with an Honors Program Manager at the start of the semester in question to receive written approval for a reduced course load.

In addition, please note that Honors students have been granted special permission to take up to 18 credits each semester at no extra charge during their first and second years. Honors students will adhere to regular GW policy in their junior and senior years.

Curriculum

Honors courses must be completed within the Honors Program and cannot be fulfilled by AP, IB, transfer, or study abroad credit. The <u>only</u> exceptions to this policy include:

- Pre-approved alternatives can replace HONR 1033 & 1034, Scientific Reasoning & Discovery, and can be found at https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/scientific-reasoning-and-discovery
- Pre-approved alternatives can replace HONR 4198, Senior Thesis Requirement, and can be found in the Senior Thesis Information Packet

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.

Privileged Registration

Due to the structured Honors curriculum, Honors students will have privileged registration for their second, third, and fourth semesters. The privileged 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 (honorsprogram.gwublogs.com). 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.

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 filling the Honors graduation requirements. Please check in with a Program Manager <u>and</u> your school advisor before taking a course pass/no pass, as some schools have additional policies regarding this grading option.

Incomplete

Students may seek the notation "I" to indicate the 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 should submit an Incomplete Grade Contract from the student's home school to an Honors Program Manager. 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 <u>anonymously</u> and faculty do not receive evaluation results until <u>after</u> grades are due.

Please take the feedback process very seriously. Faculty place a high value on your anonymous comments, and evaluation results often play 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!

Academic Integrity

The Honors Program is committed to the integrity of academic inquiry and scholarship. Academic dishonesty is contrary to its ideals and goals. Therefore, it is expected that the work of all Honors students will be original, their own, and that the work of others will be properly attributed to them. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty may be expelled from the Honors Program. GW's Code of Academic Integrity can be found at: https://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity.

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 <u>your</u> 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 (honorsprogram.gwublogs.com).

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