UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The mission of the University Honors Program (https://honorsprogram.gwu.edu/) (UHP) is to bring together outstanding students of wide academic interests and challenge them through rigorous engagement in and contributions to a diverse community of scholars. The program's distinctive curriculum promotes a broad liberal education that encourages students both to probe the most foundational questions of humanity and to apply their understanding to complex problems of the world today. Students enhance their coursework with research and other experiential opportunities and work with program faculty and staff to achieve intellectual and personal development throughout their undergraduate years.

Highlights of the program include:

- Students enroll in a series of unique courses, addressing questions and issues through cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary perspectives, drawing from the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. In their senior year, students complete a senior thesis and participate in an Honors capstone experience.
- Many UHP courses are taught as discussion-based seminars, typically with 15 to 20 students, allowing for the development of a collaborative academic environment between peers as well as strong relationships between students and faculty.
- The shared academic experience of the UHP is enhanced by the small size of the program, which is limited to approximately 500 students. All first-year UHP students live in an Honors Living-Learning community on the Mount Vernon campus. Upper-level Honors students have the option of living in an Honors residential community on the Foggy Bottom campus.
- Co-curricular programming includes on and off-campus activities with faculty, staff, and student peer-advisors. Examples include visits to local museums and theaters, film screenings, hikes, discussions in the program's club room, student–faculty dinners, and guest speakers.
- Supplemental to other advising at GW, Honors advisors assist students with academic planning and can also provide personal and career guidance.
- Honors students in good standing with the program are granted advanced registration during their second, third, and fourth semesters at GW.
- Many UHP courses count toward General Education Curriculum (GPAC) requirements.
- A student who successfully completes the program's curricular requirements will have that achievement indicated on their transcript.

REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
To remain in good standing, Honors Program students must enroll in at least 12 academic credits each semester, participate in all required advising activities, achieve a grade of C- or above in each of their HONR courses, and earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 by the end of their first year. After their first year, students must maintain a cumulative GPA that ensures it is mathematically possible to graduate with a GPA of 3.0 or above. Successful participation in the program is recognized and recorded on a student's official transcript.		
Curriculum requirements		
In their first year, along with their other courses, Honors students take the following: *		
HONR 1015	Honors Seminar: Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought	
HONR 1016	Honors Seminar: Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought	
HONR 1033	Honors Seminar: Scientific Reasoning and Discovery **	
HONR 1034	Honors Seminar: Scientific Reasoning and Discovery **	
At any time during their second, third, and fourth years, Honors students take the following:		
Two Self and Society courses (HONR 2047 or HONR 2047W). Topics cannot be repeated.		
Two Arts and Humanities courses (HONR 2053 or HONR 2053W). Topics cannot be repeated.		
In their final year at GW, all Honors Program students participate in an Honors Capstone Experience (HONR 4199) and complete an Honors Senior Thesis (HONR 4198) or an equivalent departmental thesis.		

*Students who join the Honors Program in the spring of their first year take HONR 2015 Seminar for Sophomore Admittees in the fall of their second year in place of the first-year seminars listed above.

**In place of HONR 1033 and/or HONR 1034, students can take pre-approved alternative science courses.

FACULTY AND STAFF

University Honors Program Core Faculty

- Eyal Aviv, *Associate Professor of Honors, Religion, and International Affairs*
- Theodore Christov, *Associate Professor of Honors, History, and International Affairs*
- Bethany Cobb Kung, *Associate Professor of Honors and Physics*

- Thiago da Silva Moreira, *Assistant Professor of Honors and Biology*
- Mark Ralkowski, *Professor of Honors and Philosophy*
- Elvira Maria Restrepo, *Associate Professor of Honors and International Affairs*
- Joseph Trullinger, *Assistant Professor of Honors and Philosophy*
- William Winstead, *Assistant Professor of Honors and Political Science*

University Honors Program Staff

- Jeffrey Brand, *Associate Provost of for Undergraduate Affairs and Special Programs*
- Bethany Cobb Kung, *Director, University Honors Program*
- Eydie Costantino, *Assistant Director of Finance and Administration*
- Jasmine Williams, *Program Manager*
- Tabitha Dean, *Program Manager*
- Olivia Franceschini, *Program Coordinator*

COURSES

Explanation of Course Numbers

- Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses
- Those in the 2000s to 4000s are upper-level undergraduate courses that can also be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work assigned
- Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master's, doctoral, and professional-level students
- The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office

HONR 1015. Honors Seminar: Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought. 4 Credits.
Exploration of exemplars, milestones, and developments of human thought. Foundational and representative thinkers/texts (Western and Eastern) reveal the diversity of attempts to articulate responses to universal questions, problems, and aspirations. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Credit cannot be earned for this course and UW 1020.

HONR 1016. Honors Seminar: Origins and Evolution of Modern Thought. 3 Credits.
Continuation of HONR 1015. Key developments and trajectories in human thought and inquiry into modern times. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program.

HONR 1033. Honors Seminar: Scientific Reasoning and Discovery. 4 Credits.
In-depth investigation in fields including biology, physics, or chemistry. Using an inquiry-based approach with a focus on problem solving and labs, students develop scientific and numerical literacy. Topics vary by semester. Restricted to students in the Honors program.

HONR 1034. Honors Seminar: Scientific Reasoning and Discovery. 4 Credits.
Continuation of HONR 1033. Using an inquiry-based approach with a focus on problem solving and labs, students develop scientific and numerical literacy. Topics vary by semester. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program.

HONR 2015. Seminar for Sophomore Admittees. 3 Credits.
Taken in lieu of HONR 1015 and HONR 1016 by students who enter the University Honors Program as sophomores.

HONR 2043. Honors Microeconomics. 3 Credits.
An introductory microeconomics course that considers both the philosophical basis of economics as well as its methods and applications. Same as ECON 1011.

HONR 2044. Honors Macroeconomics. 3 Credits.
Accelerated introductory macroeconomics course that includes the study of special topics. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Credit cannot be earned for this course and ECON 1012.

HONR 2047. Self and Society Seminar. 3 Credits.
Study of significant political and social phenomena using the tools and modes of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences. Topics vary by semester. Consult the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program.

HONR 2047W. Self and Society Seminar. 3 Credits.
Study of significant political and social phenomena using the tools and modes of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences. Topics vary by semester. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Consult the Schedule of Classes. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement.

HONR 2053. Arts and Humanities Seminar. 3 Credits.
Inter- or multi-disciplinary approaches to topics in the arts and humanities. Exploration of the relationship between literature, religion, art, film, photography, philosophy, or other humanistic fields of study. Can be repeated for credit. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Credit cannot be earned for this course and HONR 2053W.

HONR 2053W. Arts and Humanities Seminar. 3 Credits.
Inter- or multi-disciplinary approaches to topics in the arts and humanities. Exploration of the relationship between literature, religion, art, film, photography, philosophy, or other humanistic fields of study. Can be repeated for credit. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement. Credit cannot be earned for this course and HONR 2053.

HONR 2182. Honors Internship. 4 Credits.
Honors students can receive credit for academic work that puts an internship in a broader scholastic context. Each student must have a GW faculty member oversee and determine the final grade of their project. Can be repeated for credit. Restricted to students in the University Honors program.

HONR 2184. Honors Undergraduate Research. 4 Credits.
Independent or faculty-mentored research resulting in a significant written work or other product. Can be repeated for credit. Restricted to students in the University Honors program.

HONR 2185. Honors Research Assistantship. 4 Credits.
Students provide substantive assistance to a faculty member engaged in scholarly or scientific research. May be repeated for credit. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program.

HONR 4198. Honors Senior Thesis. 3-4 Credits.
Independent thesis research. Requires a senior thesis contract and a faculty mentor who assigns the final grade. Junior year planning required prior to enrollment. See an Honors Program manager. May be repeated for credit. Restricted to seniors in the University Honors Program.

HONR 4199. Honors Capstone Experience. 1 Credit.
Students re-engage with Honors faculty and peers via authentic discussions and reflect on their learning in the program and the enduring questions and challenges of our world. Topics vary by semester. Graded on a Pass/No Pass basis. Restricted to seniors in the University Honors Program.