

Information on the Honors Program at Clayton State University for students entering with 30 or more hours of course credit

The Clayton State University Honors Program creates opportunities for students to get a step ahead in developing their academic and leadership skills. Involvement in the Honors program offers students unique opportunities to make the most of their college experience. To fulfill its purposes, the Honors Program has academic requirements and service requirements.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Objectives of the Academic Part of the Program

- 1) To connect students with professors who can assist them in developing learning skills and academic interests. (contract course opportunity)
- 2) To connect the best and brightest students from different majors on campus to form an academic community within the Honors Program. (seminar requirement)

Those who enter the Program with 30 or more hours of course credit enter into the **College Honors Program**. (students who enter with fewer than 30 hours of course credit enter into the **University Honors Program**). Those who enter the College Honors Program must gain **9 hours** of Honors course credit. At least 3 of the 9 hours of Honors course credit must come from an Honors seminar. The remaining 6 hours may be completed via Course Contract, a second Honors Seminar, other Honors designated courses, Independent Study/Research Assistantship, or Study Abroad.

Honors Seminars

All College Honors students **must take one of the Honors Seminars** (which count for 3 credit hours each). The Fall Honors Seminar is Honors Critical Thinking (CRIT 1101). In the Spring, we offer Honors Humanities (HUMN 2111). The seminars utilize a discussion format, combine several academic disciplines, and sharpen reading, writing, and discussion skills. Honors CRIT 1101 fulfills Area B1. Honors HUMN 1111 fulfills area C2. **Only the Honors versions of these courses will count toward credit in the Honors Program.** If you have already fulfilled the B1 and C2 requirements with non-Honors coursework, you will still need to take either Honors CRIT 1101 or Honors HUMN 1111, but the course would in that case appear on your transcripts as an upper division elective.

Honors Course Contracts

Honors Course Contracts are ways of gaining Honors credit in upper-level courses. The student and the instructor negotiate a contract to transform a regular course into an Honors course. Students and instructors should work together to develop meaningful activities that enhance a course rather than just create extra work. Examples of contract assignments include the following:

- Allowing a student to take a unique or interdisciplinary approach in an assigned research paper.
- Combining several small assignments into one larger, more in-depth assignment.
- Allowing a student to lead a class session on an assigned topic.

Students obtain three units of Honors credit for fulfilling an Honors contract in a three credit hour course.

SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Objectives of the Service Part of the Program

1. To develop the habit of looking for ways to “give back” to those who have made opportunities for our education available.
2. To make Clayton State University a more vibrant place with strong student involvement and leadership.

All Honors Students, in order to remain members of the Program, must amass 12 service points each Fall and Spring semester. The Honors Student Association provides numerous opportunities for volunteer work each semester. Service points may also be obtained by attending lectures on campus and, with the approval of the Honors Director, other campus events. To check on your service point total, log into the [D2L](#) Honors page (you will have access to this page on [D2L](#) upon admission to the Program). Here you will also find various Honors Program forms (e.g., service point and course contract forms). This usually translates into 3 hours of service per month each semester.

HONORS PROGRAM PROBATION

Academic Probation

Honors students must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA to remain in good standing with the Honors Program. When an honors student's GPA falls below a 3.0, then he or she will be placed on Academic Probation. If their GPA is not brought up to a 3.0 by the end of the following semester, they will be dismissed from the Honors Program. If an Honors student's GPA falls below a 2.0, they immediately lose their scholarship and may be dismissed from the Honors Program

Activity Probation

As mentioned above, Honors students must earn 12 service points each semester to remain in good standing with the Honors Program. If they fail to earn the required points they will be placed on Activity Probation. If they do not meet the service requirements again the following semester, then they will be dismissed from the Honors Program.

HONORS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The benefits for students in the Honors Program include the following advantages:

- Enhanced course sections reserved for Honors students
- Early registration
- Study Abroad opportunities designed for Honors students
- Honors seal on diploma and recognition at commencement
- Guaranteed admission into the highly competitive upper division nursing/dental hygiene programs for pre-nursing and pre-dental hygiene majors meeting minimum criteria
- Campus and community leadership opportunities

APPLICANTS

Eligibility

The College Honors Program accepts students who have earned 30 or more hours of course credit and offers an enriched education as students complete the courses for their major. The minimum admission requirement is a 3.5 college GPA.

How to Apply

The Honors Program application may be found here: <http://www.clayton.edu/honorsprogram/Apply>

Contact

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