

University Honors Program--Courses for Fall Semester 2000

**Honors Introduction to Visual Arts, taught by Dr. Richard Bjornseth:
ART 1100H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 11:00-11:50 MWF, FA 129, CRN: 81596**

An introductory survey of world art, at the Honors level, from the prehistoric to the contemporary period, set in the context of historical, political, economic, and social events. Meets Area C core curriculum requirement.

**Honors Composition I, taught by Dr. David Buehrer
ENGL 1101H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 9:00-9:50 MWF, WH 258, CRN: 80294**

This course, even more so than its non-Honors counterpart, will emphasize critical thinking, reading, and writing, the various modes of expository writing, and other general grammar and composition skills. Through group discussion, individual work, peer review sessions, and conferences with the instructor, we will stress writing as a process of prewriting/brainstorming, drafting, and rewriting/revising. We will also examine numerous professionally-written essays as loose stylistic and intellectual models for your own. Many of the assignments will involve analytical reading skills and an understanding of basic English grammar and usage. Meets Area A core curriculum requirement.

**Honors Composition I, taught by Dr. Julie Armstrong
ENGL 1101H, Section B, 3 Credit Hours, 10:00-10:50 MWF, WH 258, CRN: 80295**

Topic: "American Youth Cultures From the 1980s to Now." This course uses film, music, and selected readings to examine recent depictions of American youth. Are today's young people really as spoiled, apathetic, and morally bankrupt as the media makes them out to be? Do they really care only about video games, violence, sex, drugs,

and loud music? Have traditional moral values really declined so far? We will cover these issues and more through discussions about selected groups and a variety of writing assignments. The course's end result will be a student-produced magazine that defines and represents the views of the contemporary under-25 set at VSU. Meets Area A core curriculum requirement.

Honors Composition II, taught by Dr. Patricia Marks

ENGL 1102H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 9:30-10:45 TR, WH 203, CRN: 80304

Honors students will embark on a study of American myths and cultural icons and the ethical, social, and political issues they raise. By reading and discussing short literary works, and by writing essays, response papers, and a library paper, students will polish writing skills and enhance clarity of expression, develop more advanced analytical and evaluative skills, and learn to engage in effective research. The class will be held in the electronic classroom, and basic instruction in internet skills will be available, so that students may engage in email discussions, elementary web construction, and effective use of technology. Many of the readings as well as the grammar and rhetorical resources will be web-based. The course will include special presentations and projects, including a class web page on cultural myths and icons. Meets Area A core curriculum requirement. Prerequisite: AP credit or ENGL 1101 or 1101H.

Honors History of Civilization I, taught by Dr. Ray Mensing

HIST 1011H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 11:00-11:50 MWF, WH 257, CRN: 80369

A study of the major topics in the history of civilization from the ancient period until the middle of the fourteenth century with emphasis on the most significant forces shaping western society. Students will have ample opportunity for independent research, study, and the sharing of ideas. Extraordinary attention will be given to social and cultural history. Meets Area E core curriculum requirement.

Honors Precalculus, taught by Dr. Jun Ji

MATH 1113H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 11-11:50 MWF, NH 2147, CRN: 80942

Study of polynomial, rational, and transcendental functions and applications, conic sections, polar coordinates, parametric equations, and mathematical induction. We will focus on concepts and real-world applications. We will explore concepts with technology and use technology to investigate applications or mathematical topics. We will emphasize problem-solving skills through applications from many disciplines, including agriculture, architecture, biology, business, earth science, economics, engineering, and physics. Meets Area A or D core curriculum requirement.

Honors Calculus, taught by Dr. Charles Kicey

MATH 2261H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 8:00-8:50 MTWR, NH 2162, CRN 80955

Not only will this course prepare students for success -- in other math and science courses, but it will also introduce students to mathematics as a dynamic, living discipline. In this enriched version of Math 2261, the student will gain a new outlook and appreciation of mathematics. The topics are traditional and include limits, differentiation, and integration, as well as applications. However, a "reform" approach will be used. Each topic will be investigated analytically, geometrically, and numerically whenever possible, and technology will be incorporated into the teaching/learning process. Laboratory and group work will be an essential component of this course. Meets Area A or D core curriculum requirement. Prerequisite: Both a Mathematics SAT score greater than 599 and a strong background in high school mathematics including the equivalent of Math 1113, OR either Math 1113 or 1113H with a grade of A, OR permission of the instructor.

Honors Introduction to Global Issues, taught by Dr. Michael Baun

POLS 2401H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 12:30-1:45 TR, WH 305, CRN: 80039

Demonstrators rioting in the streets of Seattle against free trade, a right-wing politician with Nazi sympathies leads his party into a government coalition in Austria, and a prolonged economic boom of historic proportions in the United States--these events are all, in part, connected to the current phenomenon of globalization. The world is getting smaller and more interdependent, in economic, political, social, and cultural terms. What this means for the United States, and for you personally, is the subject of this course, which examines such globalization-related issues as ethnic nationalism, global warming

and the environment, arms proliferation and control, and global poverty and the struggle between rich and poor. The course also examines international efforts to deal with such problems through multilateral cooperation and the emergence of new forms of global governance. Meets Area E core curriculum requirement.

Honors Introduction to Sociology, taught by Dr. Michael Brooks
SOC 1101H, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 8:00-9:15 TR, UC 1149, CRN: 80176

In introductory sociology, we will learn about the origins and basic perspectives that characterize the "science of society". We will look at the ideas of people such as Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, Max Weber, Jane Addams, W. E. B. DuBois, George Herbert Mead, C. Wright Mills, and Anthony Giddens . From there we will delve into the ways that social life provides meaning and context for our daily lives. We will look at culture, the social self, and the ways people structure their everyday social interaction. Surrounding our every day lives are the structures of society including political, economic, and bureaucratic structures as well as those such as family and community that are thought to be more personal. Issues of social change such as population and environmental concerns as well as urban development will also be examined. Throughout the course, the operative goal will be to develop and enhance the sociological imaginations of students in the hope that each will become a more effective participant in their daily lives. Meets Area E core curriculum requirement.

Honors Introductory Seminar, taught by Dr. Brian Adler
HONS 1990, Section A, 2 Credit Hours, 9:30-11:10 T, Honors House, CRN: 80416
HONS 1990, Section B, 2 Credit Hours, 9:30-11:10 R, Honors House, CRN: 80471
HONS 1990, Section C, 2 Credit Hours, 2:00-3:40 R, Honors House, CRN: 80418

This course will examine in various ways how we construct ourselves and our senses of society, community, nation, world, and reality, with an exploration, collectively and individually, of major issues that have an effect on the qualities of our lives, with the aim of developing policy positions that will be good preparation for various kinds of scholarship applications. A major goal of this course is to become comfortable with the statement offered by the Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, who says, "The essence of [human being] is to question and the essence of the question is

to be without answer." Given this, our course will work at proposing the important questions to be asked in order to make life meaningful (and meaning-full). One last purpose of this course is to develop a sense of community among students in the VSU Honors Program. This course is required for all Honors Program students and should be taken in the freshman year, if possible.

Honors Capstone Seminar, taught by Dr. Charles Johnson
HONS 3990, Section A, 3 Credit Hours, 3:00-5:30, M, WH 145, CRN: 80411

Topic: "Spreading Germs of Hate: Ethnic, Racial, and Religious Intolerance in the 20th Century." This course will focus on examples of ethnic, racial and religious intolerance during the 20th century. Specifically we will look at the holocaust in Germany, the conflict between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland and examples of ethnic and racial intolerance in the United States. A fourth module of the course will explore how technology, specifically the Web, has helped to perpetuate and even increase the levels of intolerance and hatred in our present-day culture. This is a required course for completing the Honors Program Certificate, and is open to sophomore and above Honors Program students. Fuller description of the course.

[Return to Honors Main](#)