

THE HONORS COLLEGE

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM GUIDE

VSYOU Valdosta State University





WHAT IS HONORS?

The Honors College offers unique courses and activities designed to help our students realize their full intellectual potential and to provide them opportunities for growth and greater understanding alongside their major degree programs.

Students have access to an exclusive residential and social community, scholarship and awards, experiential learning opportunities, and committed, involved faculty.

The Honors College encourages meaningful connections across disciplines, innovative approaches to subject matter, experiential learning, and global awareness. Completion of this interdisciplinary program leads to a Certificate of University Honors and special notation on official university transcripts.





EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING and GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

Here at the Honors College, we value experiential learning and the contributions that these opportunities make to our students' educations. Experiential learning challenges students to work outside the classroom and apply themselves through service, problem-solving and applied research. These activities can include internships, leadership, undergraduate research, or participation in one of our experiential student groups.

The Honors College offers a two-week study abroad trip to Waterford, Ireland, in collaboration with the Communication Arts department. Students spend two weeks in Ireland studying the culture and traditions of the country with a small group of peers.

HONORS OPTION

Courses not listed as Honors may also be available for Honors credit through the Honors Option Contract. These contracts provide students with the flexibility to enroll in their regular courses while completing additional assignments or projects that create a more profound learning experience. Assignments are preapproved by the instructor of the course and the Dean of the Honors College.

THE HONORS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Honors Student Association, commonly known as HSA, is a service and academic-oriented student group representing the Honors College, with students from every program of study. The student group hosts social events, participates in on-campus activities, provides service and leadership opportunities, and engages students in academic research. The HSA keeps students involved around campus, in the Honors College, and our local Valdosta community.





ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

High school GPA, SAT/ACT scores, an application essay, and a letter of recommendation from a teacher or academic advisor. All applicants are expected to have and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5. Current VSU students with a 3.5 GPA or higher may apply at any time. Students are provisionally accepted during their first semester in the Honors College. After successful completion of HONS 1990 and approval of an Honors committee, students will be considered for full admittance into the Honors College and will be qualified for funding and benefits.



PROGRAM OF STUDY

HONORS ORIENTATION

HONS 1990
Introductory Seminar
2 points

Required of incoming students as part of the Honors College admission requirements. Upon successful completion of HONS 1990, an Honors committee will make recommendations for full admission

HONS 2010
Honors Colloquium
2 points

Extended work in an area of academic research. Course materials address the processes, protocols, and formats of academic research. Departmental substitutions are acceptable if they meet the colloquium requirements and submit an Honors Option Contract

HONORS RESEARCH

One Honors core, two Honors major courses, research methods or capstone, and one research presentation

Honors Core Course
3 points

ENGL, HIST, COMM, PSYC

Honors Major Course
6 points

Honors Option Contract
Two courses

HONS 3999
Honors Research or
HONS 3990
Capstone
3 points

Departmental substitutions are acceptable if they meet the requirements and submit an Honors Option Contract

Research
Presentation
3 points

Interdisciplinary conference such as GCHC, SRHC, CUR, or University Symposium or discipline-specific conference

HONORS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

135 hours total. One activity from each area including portfolio materials. All activities must have Honors College approval. Must include portfolio artifacts and reflections

Honors Experiential Learning Activity

3 points - 45 hours

- a. Honors sanctioned activity
- b. Departmental sanctioned activity
- c. Faculty supervised activity
- d. Departmental supervised activity

Honors Leadership

3 points - 45 hours

- a. Honors sanctioned activity such as Honors Student Association or other Honors related leadership
- b. University sanctioned activity
- c. College or Departmental activity

Honors Global Experience

3 points - 45 hours

- a. Study Abroad Program
- b. Semester abroad exchange
- c. Language partners program
- d. Faculty supervised field experience

HONORS PORTFOLIO

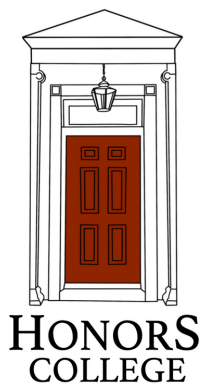
HONS 3999 Honors Senior Portfolio or Thesis *1 point*

Student selected faculty committee to review

29 total points and maintenance of a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher needed for Honors Certification



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Valdosta State University Honors College
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