

# THE HONORS COLLEGE

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Oklahoma State University is an active member of the National Collegiate Honors Council and the Great Plains Honors Council. The Honors College Degree is composed of a university-wide General Honors component and specialized upper-division components at the departmental or college levels. The Honors College provides academically talented students with the opportunity to study, conduct research and exchange ideas in an exciting and supportive academic environment. Honors sections are offered in many general education courses, and special honors seminars, add-ons and interdisciplinary honors courses also are available. Honors classes are taught by outstanding faculty members and the classes are small in size to facilitate active student involvement. Additionally, the honors experiential learning program allows students to earn honors credit for meaningful, substantive activities that take them beyond the classroom. A wide range of specified activities (arranged under the headings Academics, Arts, Leadership, Study Away, and Service) can qualify for honors points (equivalent to hours) that can be applied toward the general honors award (GHA), to maintain active status, and/or toward additional hours needed for the honors degree after completion of the GHA and departmental/college awards.

Completion of the requirements for the General Honors Award leads to special designation on the student's OSU transcript, as does completion of the requirements for the Departmental or College Honors Award in the student's academic major. Students who earn a minimum of 36 honors credit hours and complete the Departmental or College Honors Award, as well as the General Honors Award, with a 3.50 cumulative grade-point average at graduation, receive the Honors College Degree, including a special entry on their transcripts and special honors diplomas.

Additional advantages for active participants in The Honors College (minimum of three honors credit hours per semester and nine honors credit hours for each two consecutive semesters for freshmen and sophomores and three honors credit hours per semester for juniors and seniors) include use of The Honors College Study Lounge in Old Central, extended check-out privileges for library materials, priority enrollment for the following semester and an honors housing option in Stout Hall (on a rooms-available basis).

Admission of new freshmen to The Honors College is based on a high school unweighted grade-point average of 3.85 or higher OR high school unweighted grade-point average of 3.75 and an ACT composite score of 27 (or comparable SAT-R score). If a student has a high school unweighted grade-point average of at least 3.75 and does not have a standardized test score or would like to be considered for Honors College admission without a standardized test score being taken into consideration, the student may petition for admission. The petition form

is available when the student applies to The Honors College through the OSU admissions application. Students other than new freshmen may be admitted to The Honors College on the basis of their graduation/retention grade-point average (7-59 hours earned: 3.30; 60-93 hours earned: 3.40; 94 or more hours earned: 3.50). Transfer freshmen must have completed at least seven college credit hours (not including concurrent enrollment while in high school) to be eligible on the basis of college performance if they do not have the required high school grade-point average and ACT score. In addition to meeting the Honors criteria, admission to The Honors College is contingent on space being available. Please apply as early as possible for the best consideration. Students must be admitted to OSU to apply to The Honors College. Apply online at [admissions.okstate.edu/apply](https://admissions.okstate.edu/apply) (<https://admissions.okstate.edu/apply/>). There is no additional fee to apply to The Honors College. Honors eligibility is subject to periodic review, so be sure to check with The Honors College for current requirements.

For additional information about The Honors College, interested students should consult the Interim Dean or Program Manager of The Honors College, 101 Old Central or visit <https://honors.okstate.edu> (<http://honors.okstate.edu>).

## OSU-Tulsa Honors Award

This award was created for OSU-Tulsa students and is ideal for transfer students. In general, the OSU-Tulsa Honors Award requires a minimum of 21 honors credit hours with a grade of "A" or "B", including a 3-hour thesis prep and 3-hour thesis or creative component, with a cumulative graduation/retention GPA of 3.50 or higher. Up to nine of the 21 honors credit hours can be transferred in from eligible honors programs. Students who earn the OSU-Tulsa Honors Award receive a certificate and the award is posted to their undergraduate transcripts.

For additional information about the OSU-Tulsa Honors Award, interested students should consult the Program Manager of The Honors College, 101 Old Central or visit <https://honors.okstate.edu>.

## Courses

### HONR 1000 Introductory Honors Topics

**Prerequisites:** Introductory Honors Topics.

**Description:** Introduction to topics in various disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours.

**Credit hours:** 1-3

**Contact hours:** Contact: 1-3 Other: 1-3

**Levels:** Undergraduate

**Schedule types:** Independent Study

**Department/School:** Honors College

**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit

### HONR 1093 Patterns and Symmetry in Mathematics (A)

**Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.

**Description:** Tessellations, or repetitive patterns in the plane and in space, and the symmetries, or rigid motions, that preserve them. Illustrations from art, architecture, science, and nature. For the Honors student.

**Credit hours:** 3

**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3

**Levels:** Undergraduate

**Schedule types:** Lecture

**Department/School:** Honors College

**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Analytical & Quant Thought, Honors Credit

**HONR 1103 The US Presidency (as seen on TV) (S)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** This course will focus on the relationship between the U.S. Presidency and the media, starting from the Roosevelt administration. The course also examines the unique communication opportunities Presidents (and those seeking the office) can utilize, from news conferences to debates. Special consideration will be given to the impact of new and social media and whether it is diminishing the impact of television on coverage of the office.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 1113 Active Aging for L.I.F.E (DS)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** Active aging allows people to realize their potential for physical, social and mental well-being throughout the life course. In this honors seminar you will acquire a great deal of information on a wide range of topics in order to build your personal understanding of the relationships between Longevity, Independence, Fitness and Engagement for active aging.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 1123 The Art of Mindful Living (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College Participation.**Description:** Meditation and mindfulness are becoming ever-more relevant and important in our busy modern world and life. This course presents the basics for both understanding and practicing mindfulness so to live a more peaceful and fulfilled life.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 1133 Place-As-Text Seminar (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College Participation.**Description:** Place-as-Text™ is a curriculum developed and taught by honors colleges and programs around the country. These courses focus on a place, often a city, and explore life and culture there through immersive, experience-based activities. Students will learn to observe closely, "read" what they encounter and experience, and independently analyze how cultural ideas create real living conditions.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 1153 Sex in College Culture Honors (S)****Prerequisites:** Honors College Participation.**Description:** Within college culture, individual identity and behavior, social expectations, and campus policies coalesce to influence the sexual experiences of college students. This course examines gender; sexual scripts; dating, hooking up, and relationships; sexual orientation; Greek life; and sexual violence as confined within and ultimately shaped by college culture.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 1503 Integrative Biology: The Mind (N)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** The Mind connects biopsychology to real world behavior and shows how millions of years of cognitive evolution have shaped how we see the world and how we make decisions based on our perceptions. This is a natural science course that addresses important contemporary social issues and will be uniquely effective at helping prepare students to not only be successful young academics, but conscientious thoughtful members of society as well.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit, Natural Sciences**HONR 2013 Honors Law and Legal Institutions (S)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** An introduction to law in American society with reference to its European origins; its political, economic, psychological, and sociological dimensions; and the substantive law in selected areas. Introduction to legal reasoning and legal research techniques. For the Honors student.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 2023 Constitutional Dimensions of Diversity (DS)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** An introduction to American constitutional law as it relates to diversity issues through the study of landmark Supreme Court decisions affecting the rights of various minorities. Introduction to legal research techniques.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences

**HONR 2063 Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** An introduction to reasoned methods of evaluating ideas and arguments as they pertain to ethical issues from a global perspective. Concepts including obligation, justice, and ethnicity from Lao Tzu, Maimonides, Kant, and Indian wisdom stories. Environmentalism, technology, and cultural knowledge. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2073 The Story of Lizzie Borden: Axe Murder in American Culture (DH)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** In 1892, Lizzie Borden was accused of killing her father and stepmother with an axe. She was eventually acquitted, but her story had captured the American cultural imagination. This course examines representations of the Lizzie Borden story in news reports, true crime, short fiction, poems, novels, plays, a ballet, and multiple films, exploring how changing concepts of gender shape the way in which the story is told in different media and in different moments in American history.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2083 Honors Flash Fiction: A Tiny Genre with a Big Impact (DH)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** This honors seminar explores diversity in contemporary American culture through the lens of flash fiction; very short stories.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2093 Tornadoes in American Culture Honors (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** This honors seminar will explore how tornadoes shape regional identities, produce diverse narratives, and influence art, literature and film.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2303 Magic Rings Symbol and Allegory (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** A study of magic rings as symbols in Western philosophy, literature, and music. Works will include Plato's Republic, Wagner's Ring on the Nibelung, and Tolkien's Lord of the Rings.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2313 Don Juan: His Lives and Times (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** A cultural history of the Don Juan figure in literature and music from the 17th century to the present. Works studied include those by Tirso de Molina, Molière, Mozart, Pushkin, Byron, Shaw, and Walcott.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2323 Witches, Murderers, Pirates, and Thieves: Early American Crime Narratives (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** Tales of crimes – real, alleged and fictional – were very popular with readers in the 17th, 18th and 19th century Atlantic world, as they are today. As we work our way through tales of sensational crime, we will think about the cultural work that crime stories do; that is, we will consider how they explore ideas about human nature, civil society, authority, transgression, and the origins of evil.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2413 The Ancient World (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from ancient Greece and Rome as well as the religious ideas central to Judaism and Christianity. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. No degree credit for students with prior credit in HONR 2113. Previously offered as HONR 1013.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit

**HONR 2423 The Middle Ages and Renaissance (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from the Middle Ages to the early Renaissance. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2113. Previously offered as HONR 1023.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2433 The Early Modern World (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from the late Renaissance to the mid-19th century. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2223. Previously offered as HONR 1033.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2443 Honors Romanticism to Postmodernism: 19th & 20th Centuries (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from the 19th century to the present. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2223. Previously offered as HONR 1043.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 2503 Confronting Pseudoscience****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** Using the tools of evidential reasoning and critical thinking this course examines the difference between a true scientific endeavor and pseudoscientific belief systems. In doing so it provides students with an understanding of scientific reasoning and its application in everyday life while exposing students to content from a range of the natural sciences.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit**HONR 2514 Honors Scientific Inquiry****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** A team-taught interdisciplinary course dealing with philosophy of science and the application of the scientific method in the natural and social sciences. Selected topics that involve interdisciplinary scientific inquiry. For the Honors student.**Credit hours:** 4**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Lab: 2 Contact: 5**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lab, Lecture, Combined lecture and lab**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit**HONR 2890 Introductory Honors Add-On****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation and concurrent enrollment in a designated course.**Description:** A supplemental introductory honors experience to partner concurrently with designated course(s). This course adds a different intellectual dimension to the designated course(s). Offered for fixed credit, 1 credit hour.**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 1-3 Contact: 1-3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit**HONR 3000 Advanced Honors Topics****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation, junior standing.**Description:** Topical study in various disciplines taught by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for junior and senior students in the University Honors Program. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 6 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Contact: 1-3 Other: 1-3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit**HONR 3013 Holocaust Studies Seminar (HI)****Prerequisites:** Junior standing and Honors College participation.**Description:** An interdisciplinary study of one of the great atrocities of human history – the Holocaust. Addresses questions of good and evil, divinity and humanity, and truth and responsibility that arise from this event. For the Honors Student.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit, International Dimension

**HONR 3023 Contemporary Cultures of the Western World: Honors (HI)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary examination of one or more cultures of Europe and/or the western hemisphere. The course will explore characteristics of "Western" cultures and their manifestations in modern societies. Topics of study include diversity in social and cultural practices.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit, International Dimension**HONR 3033 Contemporary Cultures of the Non-Western World: Honors (IS)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of contemporary cultures of non-western world including lifestyle, housing and food. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit, International Dimension, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 3043 Contemporary Cultures of the United States (DS)****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation.**Description:** Interdisciplinary study of racial and ethnic diversity in the United States in context of social, political, and economic systems to promote knowledge of racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States and appreciation of their contributions to the mosaic of contemporary American life. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Honors Credit, Social & Behavioral Sciences**HONR 3053 Biology, Race, and Gender: Honors (DH)****Prerequisites:** Junior standing and Honors College participation.**Description:** Critical interdisciplinary investigation of relationships between biological theory (especially Darwinism) and social and ethical issues. Attention to views of alleged biological aspects of perceived racial and gender differences and attempts to implement these views socially, legally, and medically in the United States and elsewhere.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 3063 Jane Austen: Life, Art, and Influence (H)****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation and concurrent enrollment in a designated course.**Description:** An author who continues to speak to generations of readers centuries after her death, Jane Austen wrote a half dozen novels that became classics within a few decades of their creation. This course examines the distinct features of the writing that accounts for her significant accomplishments - not just on the development of the novel but her influence on those novelists who followed her.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3 Contact: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, Honors Credit**HONR 3890 Advanced Honors Add-On****Prerequisites:** Honors College participation and concurrent enrollment in a designated course.**Description:** A supplemental advanced honors experience to partner concurrently with designated course(s). This course adds a different intellectual dimension to the designated course(s).**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 1-3 Contact: 1-3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit**HONR 4993 Honors Creative Component****Prerequisites:** Honors Program participation, senior standing.**Description:** A guided creative component for students completing the requirements for college or departmental honors awards leading to an honors thesis, project or report under the direction of a faculty member from one of the undergraduate colleges, with a second faculty reader and oral examination.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Contact: 3 Other: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Honors College**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Honors Credit