



Southeastern Louisiana University

Honors Program

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Mission Statement

The Honors Program at Southeastern is designed to prepare students to know and understand the most significant ideas, deeds, and events that have shaped our world and will shape the future; to have confidence in their abilities to think independently, write clearly, and speak effectively; and to be leaders in their communities and professions. It aims to prepare responsible individuals to be perpetual learners who realize their potential for a fully human, ethical, and prosperous life.

The Honors experience at Southeastern, as many of our alumni have testified, can make a profound difference in the value and effect of one's undergraduate education by broadening perspectives on the world and strengthening credentials for graduate, law, and medical schools and careers in education, government, business, research, and the health fields.

To provide highly motivated students a strong foundation in liberal education and career preparation, the Program offers sequences of integrated courses. In small classes that average fifteen, students enjoy conditions for learning at the peak of their abilities. Four Honors curriculum options or "paths," distinguished by comprehensive and in-depth coverage of the material in a learning community environment, facilitate discussion, debate, and intellectual friendship among students and with their professors. Special scholarships, early-priority registration, travel opportunities, extracurricular events and lectures, an honors residence hall, membership in the Honors Student Organization, honors academic credit shown on the transcript, and achievement awards round out the benefits of honors education at Southeastern.

Honors Courses in the Core Curriculum

The Freshman Honors Seminar. This learning-community experience is centered in two sequences of four honors courses taught by professors recognized for their excellence in the classroom. A constellation of two English (121H and 122H) and two History (101H and 102H) courses, the Freshman Honors Seminar provides an excellent knowledge foundation through study of some of the most influential books written and the major historical events that have shaped Western civilization. In English, students read and discuss the culture-creating epics of Homer, Virgil, Dante, Milton, and selected modern authors. In History, with the aid of primary sources they learn about the intellectual, political, religious, artistic, social, scientific, and technological changes that have made our world possible. Students in all sections of the Seminar read the same books in chronological order, and at times all the different sections meet together for common lectures and activities. This sharing of course material and academic experience helps to create an actual academic community among honors students. They share their ideas beyond the classroom, whether over coffee or in the dorm, and extend their intellectual friendships from semester to semester.

Other Freshman and Sophomore Honors Courses. Students can satisfy some of their basic core curriculum requirements by taking Honors versions of introductory courses in math, biology, economics, interdisciplinary arts, U.S. History, dramatic literature, and modern fiction. Some academic departments also offer lower-division honors courses in majors.

The Ideas in Conflict Sequence. This sequence of four chronologically ordered courses familiarizes advanced students with great books written by thinkers whose ideas have sharpened human understanding of such central issues as the nature of justice, claims of truth, the structure of nature, the meaning of political right and obligation, and the forces of modern social, psychological, and cultural development.

The Senior Thesis. Each senior honors student selects a topic and plans a research project to carry out with the supervision of a faculty adviser.

Honors in the Major

Each of the University's colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business and Technology, Education and Human Development, and Nursing and Health Sciences offers upper-division honors curricula beyond the foundational courses in the University Honors Program (UHP). These upper-division curricula (which appear as Path One and Path Three in the chart following) allow students to earn an honors diploma in a major or discipline at graduation. After meeting a standard of participation in the UHP to qualify for promotion to an honors curriculum in a major or discipline, students take advanced honors courses designed especially to enhance their preparedness for success in their professions and careers. Please contact your academic department for information about requirements and honors courses in your major.

Admission Process. A composite score of 21 on the ACT and a 3.0 high school GPA qualifies an entering freshman to join; a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in 12 or more hours of university credit qualifies an advanced student to join. Freshman Honors Program students whose GPA at the end of their first semester is between 2.75 and 3.0

are allowed one probation semester in which they must establish a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA to continue in the Program. Honors active status is not granted automatically but depends on the student's submitting an Application to Join at the Honors Program office, which serves as an advisory center for students pursuing an honors diploma. Each college may have special criteria for accepting students into its upper-division honors curriculum. Transfer students, to earn awards, must meet minimum participation requirements in the UHP proportioned to the number of transfer hours they have when they enter Southeastern.

Alternate Core Curricula Paths One and Two

PATH ONE

For the HONORS DIPLOMA IN A DISCIPLINE	
<i>Freshman Honors Seminar</i>	
English 121H	
English 122H	
History 101H	
History 102H	
	12 hours
<i>One from the 12 courses below</i>	
English 291H	
English 292H	
History 201H	
History 202H	
Economics 201H	
Gen Biology 151H	
Math 161H	
Honors Arts 191	
Honors Ideas 311	
Honors Ideas 312	
Honors Ideas 313	
Honors Ideas 314	
	3 hours

PATH TWO

For the HONORS DIPLOMA IN THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM	
<i>Freshman Honors Seminar</i>	
English 121H	
English 122H	
History 101H	
History 102H	
	12 hours
<i>Four from the 12 courses below</i>	
English 291H	
English 292H	
History 201H	
History 202H	
Economics 201H	
Gen Biology 151H	
Math 161H	
Honors Arts 191	
Honors Ideas 311	
Honors Ideas 312	
Honors Ideas 313	
Honors Ideas 314	
	12 hours

Honors courses in Major (including 3 hours for thesis in major)	9-15 hours
Honors 300 (Thesis)	1 hour
Total Honors Hours	25-31 4
Also Add:	
*Foreign Language	6 hours

Thesis in Major 3	3 hours
Honors 300	1 hour
Total Honors Hours	28 hrs 4
*Foreign Language	12 hours

Alternate Core Curricula Paths Three and Four

PATH THREE

For the HONORS DIPLOMA IN A DISCIPLINE and THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM	
<i>Freshman Honors Seminar</i>	
English 121H	
English 122H	
History 101H	
History 102H	
	12 hours
<i>Four from the 12 courses below</i>	
English 291H	
English 292H	
History 201H	

PATH FOUR

For the HONORS DIPLOMA IN THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM IN LIBERAL STUDIES*	
<i>Freshman Honors Seminar</i>	
English 121H	
English 122H	
History 101H	
History 102H	
	12 hours
<i>All courses below</i>	
English 230, 232, or 291H	
English 230, 232, or 291H	
History 201H or 202H	

History 202H	
Economics 201H	
Gen Biology 151H	
Math 161H	
Honors Arts 191	
Honors Ideas 311	
Honors Ideas 312	
Honors Ideas 313	
Honors Ideas 314	
	12 hours
Honors courses in Major (including 3 hours for thesis in major)	9-15 hours
Honors 300 (Thesis)	1 hour
Total Honors Hours	34-40
Also Add:	
*Foreign Language Study	12 hours

History 201H or 202H	
	12 hours
Honors Ideas 311	
Honors Ideas 312	
Honors Ideas 313	
Honors Ideas 314	
	12 hours
Thesis in Major 3	3 hours
Honors 300	1 hour
Total Honors Hours	40 hrs 4
*Foreign Language Study	12 hours

Note 1: When the separate colleges grant diplomas to students who complete upper-division honors curricula, a college will recognize achievement in a "discipline" or in the college: Examples: Honors Diploma in Business Honors Diploma in Nursing Honors Diploma in Technology Honors Diploma in the Health Sciences Honors Diploma in Education Honors Diploma in Political Science Honors Diploma in Social Studies Honors Diploma in Arts and Sciences

Note 2: It is possible for students to compete Path Four and Honors in a discipline, for an Honors Diploma in Liberal Studies and a Discipline.

Note 3: All senior theses are done in the college in which a student majors. If a college does not designate a particular numbered course in which to do the senior thesis project (e.g. in the College of Business and

Technology, one course that serves all majors), its students may select an appropriate 300-400 level course in the student's major. A college may stipulate that the thesis be done in a "discipline" rather than a course in a "major."

Note 4: Students who plan to complete an Honors core curriculum have an additional opportunity to earn a separate academic award, the "Certificate of Excellence". Consult the Catalogue for the requirements, paying close attention to the 12-hour requirement in a foreign language and the criteria regarding approved science courses.

Each honors path requires foreign language study and a senior thesis in the student's major. Every student completes the 12-hour Freshman Honors Seminar and the remainder of one of four paths to graduation with an Honors Diploma.

* In degree programs with no free electives, the academic dean has the discretion to substitute a 3-hour H-option course in the major for 3 hours of the foreign language requirement.

Awards. Students who, by the time they reach a total of 76 hours, complete 21 Honors hours (UHP courses and/or Honors courses in a major) with a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA earn a Sophomore Honors Distinction award. Honors Program graduates receive a mark of recognition in the commencement brochure. Their highest recognition is the honors diploma awarded at commencement.

Contact. Dr. Jim Walter, Director, SLU Honors Program, 611 N. Pine St., SLU Box 10489, Hammond, Louisiana 70402. Telephone: 985-549-2135. E-mail: jwalter@selu.edu. For more detailed information about Honors Program curricula, courses, faculty, students, and opportunities, please see our website www.selu.edu/Academics/Honors/. Also contact us to ask for a copy of our Newsletter.



Southeastern's 2002-03 Curriculum Index
Southeastern's 2002-03 Catalog Honors Course Listing
Honors Program

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for additional information at

1-800-222-SELU or (985) 549-2000