

University Honors and Scholars Center Guidelines for the Proposal of Semester-Based Honors Programs

Approval Process: Unit>College>University Honors & Scholars Center (Honors Faculty Advisory Committee)> Approval> Council on Academic Affairs

Introduction: In accordance with the mission of the University Honors Program of developing and supporting the intellectual and personal development of high ability undergraduate students, the following expectations should be dealt with in some fashion in your responses below. Honors programs should

- promote significant interaction between faculty and students
- develop the creative abilities of honors students
- require high standards of academic achievement
- include Honors courses that require enhanced breadth and depth of material
- expose students to use of methodology and research techniques
- promise intellectual exchange among students
- promote interdisciplinary work and study

Please address the following:

A. Goal of the Program:

The goal of the Honors program at Ohio State University – Mansfield is to identify talented students, invite them to participate in intellectually challenging courses with other high ability students or regular courses with higher expectations. The program is also designed to facilitate strong relationships with the faculty who guide their progress, as well as to develop a strong community of high caliber students.

B. Students to be served (number to be advised, enrollment process, eligibility for continuance, reinstatement process (if applicable), communication with students, etc.)

Most students enter the Honors Program at OSU-Mansfield directly out of high school. Of students who register for each of several orientation sessions, those who meet the minimum criteria for ACT scores (in this case, 26) are identified by staff in the business office. These students, with their corresponding class rank, are forwarded to the honors director. She invites those with the highest class rank (usually 80 percentile or higher) to enter the honors program. Beginning in Autumn 2011, students will be invited to apply for the honors program and required to submit an application. Students are also provided a FAQ sheet which briefly explains the program requirements.

Also beginning summer 2011, the honors director will attend every orientation. A table with information will be set up so that those who have been invited can meet and talk to the director about the program. At several of these events, the director will serve on a faculty panel as well.

Entering students are usually directed to take English H110.01 with the other incoming students. This helps build solidarity among the honors cohort. In addition, a welcome luncheon is offered for all new and current honors students on campus during the first week or two of the quarter.

C. Specific structure of the Honors Program Requirements (Note: the proposed college standards must be equal to or greater than the university standards listed below. If the college wishes to propose a substitution for a standard, a description and explanation of how this would fulfill the goals of the Honors requirement would be necessary)

1. GPA requirement to maintain Honors status:

University standard: 3.4 at end of every year (if desired, 3.3. at end of first year only)

Proposed college standard: Same as University

2. Requirements to enter Honors program after matriculation or transfer to the university:

University standard: 3.4 GPA
Minimum 1 semesters of credits earned (15 credits) at Ohio State University

Proposed college standard: Same as University

3. Course requirements to maintain Honors status:

University standards: Six honors courses, upper division (500+), or graduate level courses over the first two years (maximum of 2 honors embedded courses)

Proposed regional campus standard: Four honors courses during the first two years, plus one A&S 100 H seminar each year in the program while on the regional campus. Students in majors not on the Mansfield campus meet with their departments in Columbus to finalize their honors requirements prior to graduation.

Note: If requesting an exception to your college program or for specific major(s) within your college, please describe the proposed equivalent Honors experience and provide a rationale.

D. Honors Courses (if applicable – new, modified)

We offer English 101.01 H every autumn. Other courses include Psychology 100 H, Music 251 E, Theater 100E, Chemistry 101E and 102 E, Psychology 549 E, Psychology

220 E, Sociology 101 E and Arts & Science 101 H.. Students also rely on 500 + level courses to fulfill expectations.

E. Staffing of program (Honors committee, honors advisors, faculty mentors, etc.)

We have an honors committee of 6 tenured faculty (including the director and the associate dean), an academic advisor (who manages the honors registration) and one or two student members. The director oversees the program and also manages travel grants and plans the honors convocation each spring. Honors courses are taught by tenured or tenure-track faculty.

F. Letter of support from unit head (dean, chair, director, etc.)

Letter requested, and will follow.

This completed form and supporting materials should be sent electronically to Anne Krabacher (krabacher.4@osu.edu), Associate Director, University Honors and Scholars Center, for approval, and then forwarded to the Office of Academic Affairs for review by the CAA. Questions? Contact Anne Krabacher at 292-3135.