

## UT CATALOG 2012-2013

# HONORS COLLEGE

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## **History of the Honors College**

The University of Toledo Honors College curriculum is designed to meet the needs of highly motivated and academically talented students. Established in 1963 as one of the earlier Honors Programs at a state university, the Honors Program moved into its own building, Sullivan Hall, in 1994. Sullivan Hall contains the offices of Honors College administration and faculty, seminar rooms for small discussion-based Honors classes, the Honors student lounge and computer lab, a first-floor gallery showcasing student art, and the University of Toledo Office of Graduate Research.

In 2010, the University of Toledo Honors Program became the Honors College and continues its strong tradition of excellence and providing University of Toledo students with the best of both worlds--the personal attention of a small liberal arts college combined with the resources of a large research university.

## **Mission Statement**

The University of Toledo Honors College offers enhanced academic and experiential opportunities to highly motivated and talented students in all of the undergraduate colleges of the University of Toledo. The Honors College provides a nurturing and challenging higher education experience within a small-group learning and intensive advising environment that is conducive to growth and discovery in an atmosphere of intellectual and cultural diversity.

## **Honors College Values**

To promote awareness of the ethical aspects of our college, we encourage consideration of the following statement, which we call “The UT Honors College Promise”: I will explore and consider the social, ethical, and environmental consequences of any job or career path I take and will strive to improve these aspects of any organization I join and any work I do. In doing so, may I bring honor to myself and the University of Toledo and advance its mission of improving the human condition.

## **Dual College Membership**

Students in the Honors College have dual membership in the Honors College and the college of their major, from which they receive their degree. If they complete all requirements of the Honors College (see below), they will also receive the Honors College medallion and diploma. In addition, their Honors and the title of their Honors thesis/project will be noted on their transcript.

## **Admission Criteria**

Admission to the Honors College is competitive and limited to academically talented students. Students entering directly from high school are admitted based on a review of application materials, which include a high school transcript, references, an essay, an extracurricular resume, and ACT or SAT scores. Students with an ACT composite score of 28 or higher (SAT composite of 1260 or higher) and a high school GPA of 3.75 or higher are encouraged to apply. Highly motivated students with an ACT composite of at least 25 (SAT composite of at least 1140) and a minimum high school GPA of 3.5 also are considered for admission to the program. Currently enrolled University of Toledo students and transfer students may apply for admission to the Honors College if they have completed at least 15 but not more than 60 graded semester hours of college work, and earned a minimum GPA of 3.3 (on a 4.0 scale).

Students are admitted to the Honors College on a space-available basis.

### **Graduation Requirements**

In order to graduate with the Honors College diploma and medallion, a student must:

- Complete all requirements for an approved degree program within the college of his or her major.
- Complete a minimum of 33 semester hours of Honors courses. Honors courses are of two kinds – those offered by the Honors College and those offered by various departments and colleges. Of the 33 hours required, six semester hours of Honors Readings Conference (HON 1010 and HON 1020) must be completed by all Honors College students. Depending upon the student's college and major, the remaining Honors hours may include:
  - a. HON 2020 (Multicultural Literatures: The North American Experience) or HON 2030 (Multicultural Literatures: The Non-European World).
  - b. One or more of the Honors upper-division interdisciplinary seminars offered through the Honors College (HON 4950 and 4960).
  - c. General education courses offered as Honors.
  - d. Honors courses offered in the student's major.
  - e. Non-Honors courses contracted with the course instructor for Honors credit.
- Earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.3.
- Complete an Honors thesis or project.
- Complete any additional requirements for Honors set by the major department or college of the major.

### **Retention Standards**

To remain in good standing in the Honors College, Honors student must maintain the overall gpa established by the college of their major and make satisfactory progress toward fulfillment of the requirements for a degree with Honors.

### **Benefits of Honors College Membership**

As part of the Honors Academic Village, Honors College students enjoy an environment that is both challenging and nurturing. Whether working on a research project with a faculty member, discussing interdisciplinary topics in Honors seminars, or participating in Honors social events, they are members of a community that is conducive to intellectual growth and discovery.

Some of the advantages of being a member of the Honors College include the following:

- Smaller, student-centered Honors courses
- Enhanced interaction with Honors faculty both in and out of the classroom setting
- Enhanced opportunities for research with the potential of summer research funding
- Sullivan and Hoch Awards to fund research, internships, and travel
- Honors study abroad course and trip and service learning opportunities
- Opportunities to share research at Honors “Brown Bag” presentations, regional/national conferences, and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research
- Social events sponsored by the Student Honors Council, such as the Honors Senior Banquet, the Homecoming Parade, and the Holiday gathering
- Special recognition at the Honors Banquet and the UT commencement ceremonies
- Honors College medallion awarded at the Honors Banquet
- Priority registration

### **Honors College Courses**

Readings Conference (HON 1010, 1020). This two-semester reading, writing, and discussion sequence examines chronologically and thematically great books and formative ideas, primarily from the Western tradition. With a grade of C or better, these courses fulfill the English Composition requirements.

Multicultural Literatures: The North American Experience (HN 2020) or The Non-European World (HON 2030). Students who select one or both of these courses can use them to fulfill the UT multicultural core requirements, the literature requirement in the UT humanities core, or the humanities elective.

Interdisciplinary Seminars (HON 4950, 4960). These seminars encourage students to synthesize information, engage in critical thinking, and move beyond disciplinary boundaries in their examination of important topics within humanities, natural science, or social science.

In addition to the above, various departments offer Honors courses to meet UT graduation requirements.

### **The Honors Living Learning Community**

Honors College students are eligible to live in the Honors Living Learning Community (HLLC), which is a key element of the Honors Academic Village. The HLLC offers a platform for community and individual growth through a greater sense of involvement and interaction.

The HLLC is housed in the Academic House Residence Hall, adjacent to Sullivan Hall, home of the Honors College. The Academic House is a traditional-style residence hall with both double and quad rooms. The HLLC is ideal for first-year Honors students interested in enhancing their Honors experience with an academic focus and sense of community. Opportunities include:

- Monthly events for engagement and entertainment
- Extended access to Sullivan Hall Lounge for study and discussion
- Participation in program planning and special events
- Close proximity to Honors classrooms and gatherings
- Opportunity to develop an academic-centered community

### **The Office of Undergraduate Research**

Undergraduate involvement in state-of-the-art research is an integral part of The University of Toledo. The Office of Undergraduate Research was created to be a central resource for undergraduate research at UT. The office is housed in Sullivan Hall, and its primary objectives are to

- Be a focal point for research opportunities for undergraduates.
- Be an advocate for increased funding of undergraduate research at UT.

- Showcase research accomplishments of our undergraduates.
- Be a resource for faculty members to increase undergraduate involvement in their research.
- Be a resource for the community and local industries to increase their involvement in undergraduate research.
- Aid in the integration of a research component to existing courses and/or development of new research-intensive courses.
- Coordinate undergraduate research involvement with the other offices at UT including: the Office of Research, the Honors Program, the Office of Service Learning, the various colleges, and the various departments and/or academic programs.

To encourage and help support undergraduate research, the Office of Undergraduate Research provides funding to UT students. Some of the research programs providing such funding include the First-Year Summer Research Experience (FYSRE), the Academic Year Research Program (AYRP), the Research Abroad Program, the STARS Program, the Undergraduate Summer Research and Creative Activity Program (USRCAP), the Volunteer Research Program, and the Work-Study Research Program (WSRP).

