Dean of Arts and Sciences
Change: University Honors Program Requirements – College of Arts and Sciences

The honors program offers challenging experiences of unusual breadth in the arts and humanities and in the social-behavioral and natural sciences. By stressing liberal studies in the freshman and sophomore year, interdisciplinary study in the junior year, and independent study in the senior year, the honors program enables students to develop both broad and focused intellectual interests.

The program further enriches the experiences of its members by creating opportunities to develop a sense of community and to meet faculty and university guests in informal settings.

Students with high ACT scores are invited to enter the honors program during the freshman year. A student who has a GPA of 3.3 and who receives a positive evaluation by the director may be admitted to the program as late as the beginning of the junior year. Students who wish to be considered for late admission should contact the director.

Students are expected to complete both university and college honors requirements, including a senior project.

The senior project culminates in an honors thesis or other documentation of performance, which is filed with the director. This project is invaluable as evidence of a student’s ability to organize and complete a study independently. It provides evidence of capability to do well in graduate studies and may enable the student to strengthen significantly an application to graduate school. It may also help make the case for a scholarship application or serve as the impetus for more detailed investigation later in the student’s career.

For more information, contact the director of the honors program, College of Arts and Sciences dean’s office, or the director of the university honors program, Office of the Provost.

Minimum of 15 Credit Hours
I. University Level.................................................................7 credit hours required
RETREAT for new students prior to fall semester (optional)
DAS 020—Students enroll in program each semester (0 credit)
DAS 189—Introduction to University Honors Program (1 credit)
Other Requirements (6 credits)
• University honors courses and new courses generated by departments—These courses can be honors sections of required courses or elective seminars (most are 3-credit hours).
• Alternative opportunities (e.g., study abroad) to generate university-level honor credit hours must be approved by both the Director of the University Honors Program and the college coordinator (or appropriate college representative). Students cannot use a given activity for both university and college level. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to arrange for credit after the experience is completed.
II. College Level

Minimum of 8 credit hours or equivalent required

Required experiences

The College of Arts & Sciences will generate the courses and experiences that will be required of their students. This plan will be approved by the college faculty, the Director of the University Honors Program (working with the Honors Advisory Council), and Faculty Senate.

- The program includes a capstone Honors Project for each student, an activity that represents a significant body of work and supervised by a faculty member.
- The total credit hours and/or equivalent credit must add to a minimum of 8 hours.
- Alternative opportunities (study abroad, internships, community service, etc.) can be used to fulfill this requirement, whether it for academic credit or an equivalent. As noted above, these alternative opportunities must be approved by both the appropriate college representative and the University Honors Program Director and must be in place before the activity occurs.

For information about the university honors program, available to all students entering K-State in fall 2006 or later, see the Degrees section of this catalog. Check the honors program website for applications, requirements, current classes, and more: www.k-state.edu/ksuhonors.

TO: University Honors Program Requirements - College of Arts and Sciences

The honors program offers challenging experiences of unusual breadth in the arts and humanities and in the social-behavioral and natural sciences. By stressing liberal studies in the freshman and sophomore year, interdisciplinary study in the junior year, and independent study in the senior year, the honors program enables students to develop both broad and focused intellectual interests.

The program further enriches the experiences of its members by creating opportunities to develop a sense of community and to meet faculty and university guests in informal settings.

Students with high ACT scores are invited to enter the honors program during the freshman year.

To remain an active member in the University Honors Program, a student must maintain an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The Honors Project culminates in an honors thesis or other documentation of performance, which is filed with the director. This project is invaluable as evidence of a student’s ability to organize and complete a study independently. It provides evidence of capability to do well in graduate studies and may enable the student to strengthen significantly an application to graduate school. It may also help make the case for a scholarship application or serve as the impetus for more detailed investigation later in the student’s career.
For more information, contact the director of the honors program, College of Arts and Sciences dean’s office, or the director of the university honors program, Office of the Provost.

16 Credit Hours

I. University Level.........................................................7 credit hours required

RETREAT for new students prior to fall semester (optional)

DAS 020 University Honors Program (0 credit)

• Students enroll in this course each semester

DAS 189 Introduction to University Honors Program (1 credit)

Other Requirements (6 credits)

• University honors courses and new courses generated by departments. These courses can be honors sections of required courses or elective seminars (most are 3 credit hours).
• Alternative opportunities (e.g., study abroad) to generate university level honor credit hours must be approved by both the Director of the University Honors Program and the College coordinator. Students cannot use a given activity for both university and college level. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to arrange for credit after the experience is completed.

II. College Level.........................................................9 credit hours required

Capstone Honors Project in either the student's major or the student's minor (2-3 credits)

• In most cases this will likely take the form of an Honors Thesis conducted with the supervision of a faculty advisor.

Honors coursework either within or outside the major (6-7 credits)

• This coursework may include
  o College Honors courses
  o Other courses identified as appropriate for Honors students but not restricted to Honors enrollment (e.g., Great Books, Origins, etc.)*
  o Service Learning opportunities (most likely under the faculty guidance of an independent study in an appropriate discipline)*
  o Study Abroad opportunities*

• *Non-Honors coursework/opportunities must be approved by both the Director of the University Honors Program and the College coordinator. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to arrange for credit
after the experience is completed. The same courses or experiences cannot be used to satisfy both the University level and College level portions of the program.

For more information please contact the Director of the University Honors Program, Dr. Steven Kiefer at ksuhonors@ksu.edu or stop by Leasure Hall room 7, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66502. Phone number 785-532-2642.

RATIONALE: To modify language in the undergraduate catalog to reflect development of the college-specific portion of the University Honors Program and make the introduction consistent with the new program.

IMPACT: No impact on other colleges.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2009