Honors College
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Paul Prill, Director

The Honors College seeks to provide superior students with unique opportunities for intellectual challenge and growth. Classes are kept small in order that students and faculty members may exchange ideas in a format conducive to free discussion. Professors are chosen for their ability to inspire bright students to think and work independently and creatively, to develop intellectual curiosity, to express their ideas clearly and logically, and to respect the ideas of others. The college also encourages students to develop significant research interests and provides them with outlets on campus and at state and regional conferences to share their research with other students and faculty. In addition to the formal academic areas, the college seeks to help students develop by providing opportunities to attend musicals, plays, concerts, operas, lectures and art exhibits. The college is affiliated with the National Collegiate Honors Conference and is listed in Peterson's Guide to Honors Colleges, 4th edition. For more information about Honors College visit the website at honors.lipscomb.edu. Students can also contact the director by email at paul.prill@lipscomb.edu.

Requirements for Admission

Freshmen

Admission to The Honors College is competitive. Those seeking admission to the college must complete an application process. Incoming students must have a minimum ACT composite of 27 (SAT of 1220). Applications for The Honors College are available on the website noted above.

Other Students

Any student who has a 3.5 or higher GPA after the first semester may apply to be admitted to the college. Transfer students who have participated in an Honors College or Honors Program at their previous institution may also apply to be admitted. Those entering the college after the first semester will need to meet with the director to determine how they will satisfy the requirements for graduation.

Requirements for Completing The Honors College

Students may opt to finish The Honors College either as an Honors College Graduate or as an Honors College Scholar. In either case, a student must complete the core curriculum and must have at least a cumulative 3.5 GPA in all courses at graduation. The core reflects the philosophy of The Honors College that all courses should adopt an interdisciplinary approach to learning. The following core curriculum for The Honors College does not add any additional hours to a student's normal course load.

HN 1003 Communication, Technology and Society
HN 1103 Honors Freshman Seminar
HN 2103 Honors Integrated Literature
HN 3413 Honors Engagements - Solving Complex Social Problems

Honors sections of the following courses are also available for accumulating credit hours in The Honors College, but they are not required.

BI 1073 The Story of Jesus
BI 1083 The Story of the Church
BI 1093 The Story of Israel
CM 1211/1221 General Chemistry Lab I and II
The Honors College Graduate must complete an additional six hours for a total of 18 hours beyond the core, either by taking honors courses or by doing honors contracts as explained below. The Honors College Graduate must make a presentation at the Lipscomb University Student Scholars Symposium or at a state or regional conference.

The Honors College Scholar must complete an additional four hours of course work, for a total of 22, to plan, prepare and defend an honors thesis or complete the SALT Scholar program. Students who plan to pursue a research-oriented graduate program should seriously consider the thesis option. Students who opt to become a Lipscomb University SALT Scholar must complete honors requirements in their SALT capstone to qualify as an Honors College Scholar. In addition, The Honors College Scholar must have at least two scholarly presentations either at the on-campus undergraduate research celebration or at a state or regional academic conference.

Students who complete The Honors College requirements will receive recognition on their transcript and in the commencement program at graduation. They will also receive a cord (Honors College Graduate) or a medallion (Honors College Scholar) to wear at the graduation ceremony.

**Honors Contracts**

Students can obtain honors credit by doing extra work in regular 2000-, 3000-, and 4000-level courses in their major or minor by means of a contract arrangement with the course instructor. After the first semester, students can only obtain honors credit in 1000-level courses if the course involves travel abroad. The honors contract seeks to foster creativity and independence of scholarship as well as to develop a mentoring relationship with the faculty member. The contract project should add to the academic dimension of the course by introducing new material or by allowing the student to pursue in greater depth one of the topics on the syllabus. The project should be of sufficient scope for the student to present its results at a conference. The proposed contract must be approved by the Advisory Committee by the end of the sixth week of the semester.

**Honors Caveat**

If an honors student fails to maintain a cumulative 3.5 GPA in all courses, the student will be notified of his or her provisional status in The Honors College. Students who fail to achieve a 3.5 GPA after two additional semesters will be suspended from the college. A student may reapply once he or she has achieved a 3.5 GPA. A student who fails to attend the minimum extracurricular activities or who fails to maintain the electronic portfolio will also be notified of his or her provisional status in The Honors College. Students will have one semester to rectify the extracurricular requirements before being suspended from The Honors College.

**Course Descriptions**

The Honors College curriculum serves as a substitute for much of the general education requirements for the university. The approach is deliberately interdisciplinary, inviting students to explore and understand how each of the various branches of learning in the university talk to each other and how learning several disciplinary “languages” can encourage both a broader and deeper understanding of the questions and answers offered inside of all courses. Students in The Honors College should not think that they are getting rid of general education requirements. Rather they should focus on how this integrated curriculum encourages them to develop their abilities to learn, to speak and to write about the significant issues within academic disciplines and within the civil society of which they are a part.

**Honors (HN)**

1103  **Honors Freshman Seminar (3)**

This course sharpens a student’s ability to read, write and speak at the collegiate level. The course focuses on helping students explore new ways of using different tools of thinking (analytics, imagination, metaphor, complexity, etc.) to focus on meeting the challenges of contemporary society. This course meets the requirements for LU 1103, Lipscomb Seminar.

1113  **Communication, Technology and Society (3)**

This course will examine the influence of new communication technologies and medical technologies on experience of human communication. In addition to covering some basic communication theory at the outset of the course, we will examine how cell phones, computers, Skype, social networking, PowerPoint, etc., have altered the landscape of interpersonal relationships, political campaigns and public speaking. We will explore how the newest developments in biomedical technologies, such as fMRI, influence the ways in which we understand and detect human intention in communication. Finally, we will discuss the ethical implications of the brave new world of communication technology. Students will make several presentations during the class so that they practice the skills necessary to advance in their majors and careers. This course meets the general education requirement for CO 1003, Introduction to Communication.

2103  **Honors Integrated Literature (3)**

Students will explore literature and another discipline around a particular topic. The instructors will select a topic and appropriate literature and other materials from different time periods and from Western and non-Western traditions. In addition to reading the literature, students will read at least one non-fiction work addressing the topic under consideration. Topics for the class will be suggested by students at the end of each semester, by the professor and/or by The Honors College Council. This course satisfies the LULT Integrated Literature general education requirement.
3111  Preparing the Senior Project (1)
Preparing the Senior Project is required of all students finishing as Honors College Scholars. Two semesters before students plan to graduate, they must enroll in this course designed to aid them in developing and defending a proposal for a SALT III project or for a research-based thesis. Students will develop a bibliography, select an advisory committee and submit a written proposal for the project.

3413  Solving Complex Social Problems (3)
The class will focus on one social problem, say population and sustainability, and explore it from economic, political, scientific and moral/theological perspectives. The course will be managed by one faculty member from one of these disciplines who will invite colleagues in for a week to discuss the particular perspective in which he/she has a specialty. Students will have in-class discussions about the problem from each perspective and about approaches which might address significant aspects of the problem. Students will also select a social problem which they wish to explore from these perspectives. This course satisfies the Engagements general education requirement.

4003  Senior Project (3)
The Senior Project is required of all students finishing as Honors College Scholars. The project must be of sufficient scope to warrant three hours credit. As part of the requirements for this course, the student will defend the thesis before his/her committee at the end of the semester. A student may apply for an extension should he/she fail to complete the thesis during the semester of registration for this course. Once the thesis is approved, it will be copied, bound and catalogued in the library. In addition, The Honors College will retain a copy of the thesis and the student and his/her adviser will receive a copy.