

University Honors College

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The University Honors College

The University Honors College is an interdisciplinary program with courses and activities leading to a certificate of completion in University Honors.

The University Honors College offers special courses and activities designed to help qualified students realize their full intellectual potential and to provide them the best possible preparation for their major degree programs. It does so through a wide range of special classes and interdisciplinary seminars supported by departments and faculty across campus. University Honors is characterized by three dimensions: creating a sense of community; enhancing academic competency; and providing students with the opportunity to develop a unique and challenging program of study.

A student who completes all certificate requirements also receives recognition at the Honors Recognition Ceremony as well as at graduation ceremonies. In addition, the students receive a Certificate of University Honors and special notation on official university transcripts.

Admission into the Honors College is based on the following criteria: high school GPA, SAT/ACT scores, an application, and a letter of recommendation from a teacher or academic advisor. All applicants are expected to have a minimum high school GPA of 3.5. Current VSU students who achieve a 3.5 GPA or better may be considered. Special consideration is given to diverse and motivated students eager to engage in Honors level work. The admissions process is based on an incoming first-year cohort, and students are expected to take INQR 1001H in their first semester as part of their provisional acceptance. After successful completion of INQR1001H and approval of the Honors College, students will be considered for full admittance into the Honors College and qualified for funding and benefits such as support for travel and research. Incoming Honors students are expected to live and participate in the living learning community in Reade Hall, the designated Honors residence.

Contact Information

University Honors College | Office of the Dean

Location: Honors House, 102 Georgia Avenue

Phone: 229-245-2490

Email: honors@valdosta.edu

Web: www.valdosta.edu/honors (<https://www.valdosta.edu/honors>)

Requirements for Graduation with the Certificate in University Honors

- 28 hours in the Honors Curriculum as designated below.
- one semester probation period to continue their enrollment in the Honors College.

Global Experience and Understanding Requirement

All students in the Honors College must complete the Global Experience and Understanding requirement with an approved course, research, or experiential activity. Activities include study abroad or semester exchange, the language partnership program, or an approved project supervised by a faculty member. The semester-long commitment fosters understanding of global and cultural issues. In the spirit of the Honors interdisciplinary approach, research, service, and minor program activities will be considered. These activities must be approved by the Honors College. All Global Experience and Understanding activities are listed as HONS 2990.

Selected Educational Outcomes

- Students will learn the arts of inquiry and conversation, culminating in structured research and creative endeavors, academic writing, oral presentations, and formal and informal leadership roles, knowledge and application of assessment, and the personal skills of self-discipline and task management.
- Students will understand the dramatic and creative role of the individual in the larger community, culminating in occasions of service and civic involvement.
- Students will understand and appreciate diverse global and cultural perspectives in their scholarly or creative inquiry, culminating in collaborative, interdisciplinary projects.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Students will provide evidence of their accomplishments related to each area of the five educational outcomes previously listed and present the evidence in a portfolio.
2. Students will participate in at least one research/creative endeavor forum to present their work.

3. Students will provide evidence of their understanding of global perspectives.
4. Students will provide documentation of and reflection on at least one sustained community service activity.
5. Students will complete a thesis or a capstone project that will be presented at an interdisciplinary forum.

Requirements for the Certificate in University Honors in Interdisciplinary Studies

Honors courses are designated by the "H" suffix on the course number or as HONS prefixed courses. These sections are characterized by smaller class sizes, increased student-professor interaction, and an emphasis on analytical and critical thinking.

Code	Title	Hours
Honors Orientation		
HONS 1990	Honors Introductory Seminar	2
HONS 2000	Introduction to Honors Portfolio	1
Honors Research		
Honors Core Course		3
Honors Major Courses (2 required)		6
HONS 3990	Honors Capstone Seminar	3
or HONS 3999	Introduction to Honors Research	
Research Presentation		3
Honors Experiential Learning		
Honors Experiential Learning Activity		3
Honors Leadership Activity		3
Honors Global Experience		3
Honors Portfolio		
HONS 4990	Honors Senior Portfolio	1-3
Total Points		25-28