

MERRIMACK COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM

COHORT REQUIREMENTS

NOTABLE CHANGES:

HONORS COMPONENTS ARE NOW CALLED HONORS CONTRACTS. PLEASE REFER TO THE CURRENT STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

HONORS CAPSTONE PROJECT PROCESSES BEGINNING WITH THE CLASS OF 2018 AND ON CAN BE FOUND IN THE CURRENT STUDENT HANDBOOK. FOR THE CLASS OF 2017, PLEASE CONSULT WITH THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

ENTERING CLASS - FALL 2016

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Honors Program students are required to complete EIGHT HONORS COURSES IN FOUR YEARS. First-year students must achieve a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA by the end of their first year; sophomores and beyond must maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in order to graduate from the Honors Program.

First Year

An Honors first-year student should aim to complete at least three Honors courses during their first year:

- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE WRITING (FYW1050H)*
- HONORS CHRISTIANITY IN CONTEXT (RTS1100H)
- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (PHL1000H)

*An Honors section of FYW1050H is required, even with AP or transfer credit equivalent.

Honors students at any level may choose an Honors section of Astronomy, Psychology, Literature, or Business, or other courses depending on their interest and course availability.

NOTE: FYE1000H—First Year Experience is not for credit and it DOES NOT count toward the eight courses.

IMPORTANT: Many first-year Honors classes are pre-populated by the Registrar's Office to ensure that students meet Program requirements. First-year students in the Honors Program should not drop or withdraw from any Honors course without first contacting the Honors Program Director. ALSO: All Human Development majors are required by their major to take EDU2130—Diversity and Social Justice in the spring of their first year. This course fulfills the Honors service learning requirement that most students fulfill during their sophomore year with SOJ1000H—Introduction to Social Justice. (See below.) A section of EDU2130 will include an Honors Contract for Honors Human Development majors. Be sure to discuss this with your education advisor and/or with the Honors Program Director to make sure you register for the correct section of the course.

Second Year

In addition to any regular Honors course the student may select, second year Honors students are required to take SOJ1000H—Introduction to Social Justice. This course fulfills the Honors Program's service learning requirement, and also fulfills the Ethics (E), Diversity (D), and Experiential Learning (X) requirements in the Liberal Studies Core.

Third Year

In their second semester, Honors juniors will register for the Honors senior Capstone seminar to begin planning their capstone project. This course counts as one of the eight required Honors courses.

- HONORS SENIOR CAPSTONE I (HON4001H) 2CR – SPRING

An Honors student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 at the end of the junior year in order to be eligible to complete the Honors Capstone Project. All students who achieve a 3.5 by that time will be allowed to complete the project and will graduate as a member of the Honors Program upon successful completion of the Capstone.

Recognizing that a good student may suffer a single poor semester under extenuating circumstances, a student falling below the 3.5 threshold at the end of the junior year may, upon appeal to the Honors Program Director and with the approval of a majority of the members of the Honors Program Committee, have the GPA re-calculated by excluding the lowest of the student's six semester GPAs.

Fourth Year

Honors program seniors are required to complete a capstone project. Capstone classes will count for 2 out of the 8 Honors classes required: HON4001 counts as one course and a course or directed research in the student's major area of study to which the capstone project is attached will count as the second.

ENTERING CLASS - FALL 2015

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Honors Program students are required to complete EIGHT HONORS COURSES IN FOUR YEARS. First-years must achieve a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA by the end of their first year; sophomores and beyond must maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in order to graduate from the Honors Program.

First Year

An honors first-year should aim to complete at least three Honors courses during their first year. Typically, two of the three courses should come from the following:

- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE WRITING (FYW1050H)*
- HONORS CHRISTIANITY IN CONTEXT (RTS1100H)
- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (PHL1000H)

* An Honors section of FYW1050H is required, even with AP or transfer credit equivalent.

Honors students at any level may choose an Honors section of Calculus, Physics, Psychology, Business or other courses depending on their interest and course availability.

IMPORTANT: MANY FIRST-YEAR HONORS CLASSES ARE PRE-POPULATED BY THE REGISTRAR TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS MEET PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. FIRST-YEARS IN THE HONORS PROGRAM SHOULD NOT DROP OR WITHDRAW FROM ANY HONORS COURSE WITHOUT FIRST CONTACTING THE HONORS PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

Second Year

As of Fall 2016, in addition to any regular honors course the student may select, second year Honors students may take either an honors section of SOJ1000H Introduction to Social Justice or HON2001H/HON2002H Reflecting on Service.

Third Year

Beginning in their third year, Honors students may earn Honors credit for one of their non-Honors classes by means of an **Honors Component**.

In their second semester, Honors juniors will be pre-populated into the first Honors senior Capstone seminar to begin planning their capstone project.

- HONORS SENIOR CAPSTONE I (HON4001H) 2CR – SPRING

An Honors student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 at the end of the junior year in order to be eligible to complete the Honors Capstone Project. All students who achieve a 3.5 by that time will be allowed to complete the project and will graduate as a member of the Honors Program upon successful completion of the Capstone.

Recognizing that a good student may suffer a single poor semester under extenuating circumstances, a student falling below the 3.5 threshold at the end of the junior year may, upon appeal to the Honors Program Director and with the approval of a majority of the members of the Honors Program Committee, to have the GPA re-calculated by excluding the lowest of the student's six semester GPAs.

Fourth Year

Honors program seniors are required to complete a capstone project. Capstone classes will count for 2 out of the 8 Honors classes required: HON4001 counts as one course and a course or directed research in the student's major area of study to which the capstone project is attached will count as the second.

ENTERING CLASS - FALL 2014

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Honors Program students are required to COMPLETE EIGHT HONORS COURSES IN FOUR YEARS.

The year-long service learning class counts as ONE Honors class, and the two Capstone classes count as TWO Honors classes. This means that in addition to these required Honors classes, students must complete FIVE courses. Freshmen must achieve a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA by the end of their first year; sophomores and beyond must maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA thereafter.

First Year

An honors freshman should plan to complete at least three Honors courses during their first year. Typically, two of the three courses should come from the following:

- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE WRITING (FYW1050H)
- HONORS CHRISTIANITY IN CONTEXT (RTS1100H)

- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (PHL1000H)

Students should not take non-honors sections of these three courses if possible. In addition, honors students at any level may choose an Honors section of Calculus, Physics, Psychology, Business or other courses depending on their interest and course availability.

IMPORTANT: MANY FRESHMAN HONORS CLASSES ARE PRE-POPULATED BY THE REGISTRAR TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS MEET PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. FRESHMEN IN THE HONORS PROGRAM SHOULD NOT DROP OR WITHDRAW FROM ANY HONORS COURSE WITHOUT FIRST CONTACTING THE HONORS PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

Second Year

In addition to any regular honors course the student may select, second year Honors students are pre-populated into Reflecting on Service classes. These classes meet once a week (usually on Monday afternoons) for about an hour.

- REFLECTING ON SERVICE I (HON2001H) 1CR – FALL
- REFLECTING ON SERVICE II (HON2002H) 1CR – SPRING

Students perform two hours of community service per week and meet biweekly to reflect on their service experience. The successful completion of a student's service and of HON2001H-HON2002H will count as ONE Honors course.

Third Year

In their second semester, Honors juniors will be pre-populated into the Honors senior Capstone seminar to begin planning their capstone project.

- JUNIORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DESIGN AN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT IN A NON-HONORS COURSE (also known as Honors Component)
- HONORS SENIOR CAPSTONE I (HON4001H) 2CR – SPRING

Fourth Year

Honors program seniors are required to complete a capstone project, which will be submitted for approval to the Honors Program Committee at the end of the spring semester. Capstone classes will count for 2 out of the 8 Honors classes required: HON4001 counts as one class, and a course in the student's major area of study to which the capstone project is attached will count as the second.

ENTERING CLASS - Fall 2013 and Prior

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Honors Program students are required to COMPLETE EIGHT HONORS COURSES IN FOUR YEARS. The year-long service learning class counts as ONE Honors class, and the two Capstone classes count as TWO Honors classes. This means that in addition to these required Honors classes, students must complete FIVE courses. Freshmen must achieve a minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA by the end of their first year; sophomores and beyond must maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA thereafter.

First Year

An honors freshman should plan to complete at least three Honors courses during their first year. Typically, two of the three courses should come from the following:

Merrimack College Honors Program Cohort Requirements (8/2016)

- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE WRITING (FYW1050H)
- HONORS CHRISTIANITY IN CONTEXT (RTS1100H)
- HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (PHL1000H)

Students should not take non-honors sections of these three courses if possible. In addition, honors students at any level may choose an Honors section of Calculus, Physics, Psychology, Business or other courses depending on their interest and course availability.

IMPORTANT: MANY FRESHMAN HONORS CLASSES ARE PRE-POPULATED BY THE REGISTRAR TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS MEET PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. FRESHMEN IN THE HONORS PROGRAM SHOULD NOT DROP OR WITHDRAW FROM ANY HONORS COURSE WITHOUT FIRST CONTACTING THE HONORS PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

Second Year

In addition to any regular honors course the student may select, second year Honors students are pre-populated into Reflecting on Service classes. These classes meet once a week (usually on Monday afternoons) for about an hour.

- REFLECTING ON SERVICE I (HON2001H) 1CR – FALL (PRE-POPULATED)
- REFLECTING ON SERVICE II (HON2002H) 1CR – SPRING (PRE-POPULATED)

Students perform two hours of community service per week and meet biweekly to reflect on their service experience. The successful completion of a student's service and of HON2001H-HON2002H will count as ONE Honors course.

Third Year

Honors third year students are encouraged to branch out on their own and earn honors credit for one of their normal classes by means of an Honors Component.

In their second semester, Honors juniors will be pre-populated into the first Honors senior Capstone seminar to begin planning their capstone project.

- JUNIORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DESIGN AN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT IN A NON-HONORS COURSE (also known as Honors Component)
- HONORS SENIOR CAPSTONE I (HON4001H) 2CR – SPRING (PRE-POPULATED)

More information about Honors Components can be found in the current student handbook. Additionally, the Honors Program encourages students to consider studying abroad by the end of their junior year if their schedule allows.

Fourth Year

Honors program seniors are required to complete a capstone project, which will be submitted for approval to the Honors Program Committee at the end of the spring semester. Capstone classes will count for 2 out of the 8 Honors classes required: HON4001-4002 counts as one class, and a course in the student's major area of study to which the capstone project is attached will count as the second.

- HONORS SENIOR CAPSTONE II (HON4002H) 2CR - FALL (PRE-POPULATED)