

# THE HONORS COMMUNITY

## Administrative Leadership

Scott Huelin (2009). Director for the Honors Community and Professor of English. B.A. and M.A., University of North Carolina; Ph.D., University of Chicago.

Joy Moore (2007). Assistant Director for the Honors Community and Director for Barefoots Joe and Modero Coffee Roasters. B.A., University of Arkansas; M.A., Denver Seminary; M.F.A., Pacific University.

## Faculty

Justin D. Barnard (2007). Professor of Philosophy in the Honors Community. B.A., Palm Beach Atlantic College; M.A. and Ph.D., Florida State University.

## Mission

The Honors Community is a lively intellectual koinonía that has transformative effects in its members, and through them, in the University, in the professions, in the church, and in local communities.

What does this mean?

The Honors Community rightly may be called a koinonía or fellowship, because it is a common bond in a shared endeavor—the ardent pursuit of the truth—and a shared conviction—that all truth leads us to the Truth. As such, our fellowship extends beyond our own place and time to include the Christian intellectual tradition, the collective efforts of the faithful in all places and times to pursue and embrace the Truth wherever it is found.

Two academic programs provide structure and resources for our own participation in this pursuit. General Honors invites faculty and students to inquire rigorously and faithfully into substantial questions of historic and contemporary significance. Discipline-specific Honors programs help students become confident scholars who enjoy the pursuit and edification.

The transformative effects of the koinonía are first seen in its members, in whom our common life nurtures Christian virtues, such as humility and hope, and academic virtues, such as wisdom and wonder. These virtues are most visible in their effects: heightened attentiveness toward the world, eager reciprocity toward one another, humble openness toward difference, and deepened joy in the truth. As members of the Honors Community participate in academic, professional, church, and local communities, they carry with them the virtues and fruits of spirited inquiry as gifts to be shared in and with these other communities.

## General Honors

General Honors courses provide freshman and sophomore Honors students with innovative, interdisciplinary, inquiry-based courses which are designed to tackle big questions of long-standing and contemporary relevance. General Honors courses fulfill Honors requirements and some General Core requirements. Admission to the General Honors program requires a successful application in a competitive process. All incoming freshmen who are admitted to Union and have a 3.5 GPA or a 28 on the ACT will be invited to apply to the General Honors program. Incoming freshmen who do not meet this criterion but think they are up to the challenge of Honors work are also welcome to apply. Transfer students and current Union students can be considered for admission to General Honors under certain circumstances. Additional details regarding the Admissions Standards and Procedures, as well as the application itself, can be found at our website: [www.uu.edu/academics/honors/](http://www.uu.edu/academics/honors/).

General Honors—three courses

### I. General Honors Core

A. Freshman year: HON 205, 215

B. Sophomore year: HON 225, HON 235

### II. General Honors Electives (optional)

A. Special studies courses (variable credit)

B. Scholar-in-Residence tutorial (variable credit)

C. Other courses with the HON prefix

D. Study abroad opportunities

Typically, students satisfy the requirements of General Honors to graduate. To graduate with Honors, students must satisfy Honors colloquium requirements in their junior and senior years, complete 12 hours of Honors contract courses in the major, produce an Honors project/thesis in their major, maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA, and fulfill any other requirements established by the department. Students admitted into Discipline-specific Honors have access to research and travel funds to support the production and presentation of their Honors work. For more information on Discipline-specific Honors in your major, consult your departmental advisor.

## University Honors

Students who satisfactorily complete the requirements for both General Honors and Discipline-specific Honors earn University Honors, one of Union's highest accolades.

## Scholar-in-Residence Program

A scholar of national or international reputation is invited each year to deliver a series of lectures at the University. The Scholar-in-Residence tutorial allows students to receive credit for reading, research, and writing under the supervision of the Scholar-in-Residence.

## Student Organization

The Honors Student Association (HSA) advises the Directors and plans co-curricular and extracurricular events for the Honors Community. HSA officers are elected for one-year terms at the beginning of each spring semester. All students currently enrolled in either General or Discipline-specific Honors, as well as alumni of either program who are still enrolled at Union, automatically enjoy membership in the HSA.

## Course Offerings in Honors (HON)

( ) Hours Credit; F-Fall; S-Spring; Su-Summer

205. Wisdom (6) F

Prerequisite: Admission to General Honors.

Wisdom has served, in many civilizations, as the highest goal of education. The Old Testament declares that wisdom "is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her" (Prov. 3:15). We will inquire after the nature of wisdom and seek the means of acquiring it, giving attention to biblical and extrabiblical literature as well as their historical contexts and their elaborations in subsequent traditions. We will consider contemporary applica

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