

III. University Honors Program

Jennifer Paxton, Ph.D., Director

Faculty

Andrew Abela, Ph.D.	Economics, University of Virginia
Maria S. Aguirre, Ph.D.	Economics, University of Notre Dame
Rev. Regis J. Armstrong, O.F.M., Cap., Ph.D	Theology, Fordham University
Antón Barba-Kay, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Chicago
William Barbieri, Ph.D.	Religion, Yale University
Aaron Barkatt, Ph.D.	Chemistry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Joshua Benson, Ph.D.	Historical Theology, St. Louis University
Claudia Bornholdt, Ph.D.	German, Indiana University
Fr. James Brent, O.P., Ph.D.	Philosophy, St. Louis University
Joseph Capizzi, Ph.D.	Theology, University of Notre Dame
Mark Clark, Ph.D.	Medieval History, Columbia University
Deborah Clawson, Ph.D.	Psychology, University of Colorado, Boulder
John J. Convey, Ph.D.	Education, Florida State University
Dennis Coyle, Ph.D.	Political Science, University of California, Berkeley
Martha Cruz-Zuniga, Ph.D.	Economics, Western Michigan University
Jean DeGroot, Ph.D.	Philosophy, Harvard University
William Dinges, Ph.D.	Religion, University of Kansas
Gregory T. Doolan, Ph.D.	Philosophy, The Catholic University of America
Thérèse-Anne Druart, Ph.D.	Philosophy, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
Sherif El-Helaly, Ph.D.	Mathematics, McMaster University, Canada
Jennifer Fleeger, Ph.D.	Film Studies, University of Iowa
Kevin Forbes, Ph.D.	Economics, University of Maryland
Kerstin Gaddy, Ph.D.	German, Georgetown University
Daniel Gibbons, Ph.D.	English, University of Wisconsin
Bradley Gregory, Ph.D.	Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism, University of Notre Dame
Tobias Gregory, Ph.D.	English, University of Michigan
Sidney Griffith, Ph.D.	Semitic Languages, The Catholic University of America
Nora Heimann, Ph.D.	Art History, City University of New York
Tobias Hoffmann, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Fribourg
Cristina Ionescu, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Guelph, Ontario

Katherine L. Jansen, Ph.D.	History, Princeton University
Glen Johnson, Ph.D.	English, Indiana University
Sister Margaret Mary Kelleher, O.S.U., Ph.D.	Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America
Michael C. Kimmage, Ph.D.	History, Harvard University
William Klingshirn, Ph.D.	Classics, Stanford University
Angela McKay Knobel, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
Bradley Lewis, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
Rev. Nicholas Lombardo, O.P., Ph.D.	Divinity, University of Cambridge
Mary Cusimano Love, Ph.D.	Politics, Johns Hopkins University
Michael Mack, Ph.D.	English, Columbia University
John McCarthy, Ph.D.	Philosophy, The Catholic University of America
William J. McCarthy, Ph.D.	Greek and Latin, The Catholic University of America
Rev. Paul McPartlan, S.T.L., Ph.D.	Theology, Pontifical Gregorian University, Oxford University
Dr. Robert Miller, O.F.S., Ph.D.	Theology, University of Michigan
Jerry Muller, Ph.D.	History, Columbia University
Michael Mullins, Ph.D.	Microbiology, University of Texas at Austin
Timothy B. Noone, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Toronto
Taryn Okuma, Ph.D.	English, University of Wisconsin
Jennifer Paxton, Ph.D.	History, Harvard University
Chad C. Pecknold, Ph.D.	Theology, University of Cambridge
Kenneth Pennington, Ph.D.	Ecclesiastical and Legal History, Cornell University
Fr. Ignacio De Ribera-Martín, Ph.D.	Philosophy, The Catholic University of America
Michael Rohlf, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Texas
Philip H. Rousseau, Ph.D.	Study of Early Christianity, Oxford University
Alexander T. Russo, Ph.D.	Media Studies, Brown University
Stephen Schneck, Ph.D.	Political Science, University of Notre Dame
Marc Sebrechts, Ph.D.	Psychology, Yale University
Joseph Sendry, Ph.D.	English, Harvard University
Prasad Senesi, Ph.D.	Mathematics, University of California, Riverside
Caroline R. Sherman, Ph.D.	History, Princeton University
Peter Shoemaker, Ph.D.	French, Princeton University
Leslie Tentler, Ph.D.	History, University of Michigan
Matthais Vorwerk, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Munster, Germany
David J. Walsh, Ph.D.	Political Science, University of Virginia

Andrew Weaver, Ph.D.	Music History, Yale University
Kevin White, Ph.D.	Philosophy, University of Ottawa
Jeffrey Dirk Wilson, Ph.D.	Philosophy, The Catholic University of America
Rev. Michael Witczak, S.L.D.	Theology, Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome
Stephen K. Wright, Ph.D.	English, Comparative Literature, University of Indiana
Ernest M. Zampelli, Ph.D.	Economics, University of Maryland

Goals

The University Honors Program provides special intellectual challenges for undergraduates with motivation and outstanding academic promise. The program hones skills in critical thinking and supplies a solid foundation in the classical liberal arts. The core of the program is interdisciplinary: it provides an integrated world view based on the interrelation among the disciplines of knowledge, while stressing the traditional values of our Christian heritage.

Undergraduates in the program have access to the university's best scholar- teachers and to small seminar-style classes that allow intensive exchange among teachers and students. Special attention is paid to the development of writing and communication skills. Students also have access to research projects and enrichment programs outside the classroom.

The University Honors Program was developed with support from a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Curriculum

The core curriculum consists of five integrated sequences of four courses each in the classical liberal arts tradition. University Scholars complete three of the five sequences and, in addition, present a senior honors research project in the Senior Honors Capstone Seminar.

The core sequences of the University Honors Program cross disciplines and form an integrated liberal arts curriculum. Interconnections with requirements in each student's area of concentration are established on an individual basis.

The School of Arts and Sciences has established guidelines for acceptance of University Honors Program courses in fulfillment of distribution and departmental requirements. The Schools of Architecture, Business and Economics, Engineering, Music, NCSSS, Nursing, Philosophy, and Theology and Religious Studies allow students to use honors courses to fulfill liberal arts requirements.

A Liberal Studies option, which combines courses from multiple sequences, is open to students in Architecture, Business and Economics, Engineering, Music, NCSSS, Nursing, as well as to students in Arts and Sciences who are earning Bachelor of Science degrees.

Rules and Regulations Admission to Program

Freshmen are selected for participation in the program after they have been accepted by the Office of Admissions. The University Honors Program is highly selective. In choosing each year's honors class, we look for students who possess a natural curiosity, genuine interest in learning, high energy, leadership abilities, and good grades in high school. Transfer students and advanced students with a 3.5 GPA may also apply for admission to the program by completing a brief application process.

Honors

Students who complete sequences in the University Honors Program with grades of B- and above and graduate with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 receive special designations on their transcripts:

University Scholar - Successful completion of three of the University Honors Program four-course sequences, supplemented by a senior honors research project in the Senior Honors Capstone Seminar. Students in the professional schools and those majoring in the natural sciences may also be designated University Scholars if they complete two of the University Honors Program sequences and either a) the Senior Honors Capstone Seminar or b) a Senior Honors Research Project in their profession reflecting a liberal arts perspective.

Honors in the Humanities - Successful completion of all four courses of The Christian Tradition.

Honors in Classical Philosophy - Successful completion of all four courses of An Aristotelian Studium.

Honors in Social Sciences - Successful completion of all four courses of Critical Approaches to Social Reality.

Honors in Environmental Studies - Successful completion of all four courses of The Environment, Energy, and Policy.

Honors in Theology and Religious Studies - Successful completion of all four courses of Tradition and Renewal in Contemporary Catholicism.

Honors in Liberal Studies- Successful completion of four approved courses in three different tracks. Only open to students in the professional schools and to students majoring in the natural sciences. See restrictions below.

Courses of Instruction The Christian Tradition

Faculty members from Early Christian Studies, English, Greek and Latin, History, Modern Languages and Literatures, Politics, and Semitics teach in this interdisciplinary four-semester sequence. The sequence presents major topics and themes in the history of Christian culture from its origins in late antiquity to the present. The Christian Tradition courses fulfill Literature (HSHU 102 and 203) and Humanities requirements (all HSHU courses).

Core Courses

HSU 101	Jesus to Muhammad: The Early Christians in the Mediterranean World
HSU 102	Charlemagne to Chaucer: Christian Life in the Middle Ages
HSU 203	The Age of Discovery
HSU 204	Christian Culture/Secular Age

An Aristotelian Studium

Faculty members in the School of Philosophy present this four-semester sequence. The Studium focuses on the original Aristotelian texts, which offer a coherent system of knowledge and provide tools for inquiry still useful in the present day. The readings in Aristotle are supplemented with works by philosophers responding to his "great questions." Courses in the Aristotelian Studium fulfill Philosophy requirements.

Core Courses

HSPH 101	The Desire to Know
HSPH 102	Human Action and Government
HSPH 203	Nature & Human Nature
HSPH 204	Ultimate Questions

Critical Exploration of Social Reality

Faculty members in Economics, History, Politics, Psychology, and Sociology present this cross-disciplinary sequence, which explores crucial social topics and provides an introduction to theories and methods from the social sciences. Courses in the Critical Exploration of Social Reality fulfill Social Science and Math requirements.

Core Courses

HSSS 101	Person and Community in the Social Sciences
HSSS 102	Economic Reasoning and Social Science
HSSS 203	Social Data Analysis
HSSS 204	Families, Markets, Cities: Social and Scientific Perspectives

The Environment, Energy, and Policy

In this four-course sequence, faculty members from Economics, Engineering, Politics, and Theology and Religious Studies bring the expertise from their fields to bear on one of the most troubling policy issues facing modern society: the challenge of meeting the world's need for energy while protecting the environment. Courses in the Environment, Energy, and Policy fulfill Natural Science, Theology and Religious Studies, and Social Science requirements.

Core Courses

HSEV 101	Environmental Science and Engineering
HSEV 102	God, Ethics and the Environment

HSEV 203	The Economics of Energy and the Environment
HSEV 204	Environmental Politics and Policy

Tradition and Renewal in Contemporary Catholicism

Faculty members from The School of Theology and Religious Studies teach in this four-semester sequence grounded in the documents of the Second Vatican Council. Courses fulfill Theology and Religious Studies requirements.

Core Courses

HSTR 101	Scripture: God's Word in Human Words
HSTR 102	Liturgy and the Christian Life
HSTR 203	The Church: Community and Institution
HSTR 204	The Church in Dialogue with Contemporary Culture

Honors in Liberal Studies

Open to students in the professional schools and to students majoring in the natural sciences. This option provides students in the professional schools with multiple perspectives on human nature, community, ethics, public policy, and other areas of academic inquiry broadly relevant to the practice of their professions. The exact combination of courses is flexible, in order to accommodate students' schedules and interests, but students must take courses in at least three different tracks and consult with the director of the University Honors Program in order to develop a coherent plan. One Learning Community Philosophy course or Theology course can be counted toward the track.

Honors Senior Capstone Seminar

HSCP 490 From the vast quarry of the Western Tradition, this seminar excavates and examines fundamental concepts that have informed generations of peoples. The topics are multidisciplinary and allow students to integrate and connect the knowledge acquired in their various disciplines to the traditions of thought that inform Western history.

Other Honors Courses

In addition to the five Honors sequences, the Honors Program also offers other classes that fulfill various university requirements. All of these courses can be counted towards the Liberal Studies track. These classes include interdisciplinary courses such as HSLC 201 ("The Virtues"), as well as a series of seminars on world capitals (offered each fall in association with a trip during spring break), Honors sections of popular required courses, and special Honors contracts offered in non-Honors courses. Information on current Honors courses can be found at [insert URL link to the correct page on the Honors website].

Course Offerings

A full listing of undergraduate courses offered by the Honors Program is found below. Consult [Cardinal Station](#) for additional information about courses and to determine course offerings by semester.