

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HON 100 – RHETORIC AND CRITICAL INQUIRY

This course covers the fundamentals of research and leads students through a sequence of writing assignments which require them to take positions and persuade audiences about issues of public concern. Students will create effective academic discourse, develop critical thinking skills, explore issues of form and style, and examine arguments. HON 100 is required for all Honors students. *A grade of C- or higher is required to pass the course and remain in the Honors Program.*

HON 101 – WORLD LITERATURE

Honors 101 focuses on the way writers use language to construct their worlds. Reading, writing, and informed discussion are at the heart of this course, which uses texts from a range of cultures and historical periods to explore how literary works represent issues of human importance.

HON 102 – HISTORY IN GLOBAL CONTEXTS

With the goal of enhancing historical literacy and critical thinking, this course invites students to explore how the interdisciplinary tools of historical inquiry aid them in their encounter with the multicultural past through study of a particular society or societies. Students discover how historians extract meaning from primary and secondary sources while exploring the problems and issues involved in analyzing and using a variety of sources. Topics of this course vary and are set by the faculty. Each section of HON 102 will be subtitled to indicate its topic.

HON 104 – RELIGIOUS WORLDVIEWS AND ETHICAL PERSPECTIVES

This course focuses on the collective construction of cultural reality and examines people's confrontation with the sacred as a formative instrument in this process. The overriding concern of Honors 104 is with the meaning and function of culture as a system or world that we inhabit. This world with its distinctive concepts of ultimacy, time, space, cosmos, and life passages is created and enacted through myths, narratives, and ritual performances. Students will develop analytical skills necessary to apply theoretical explanations and interpretations to the process of constructing cultural reality. All sections of the course will involve a field experience in which students enter the world of a community which is not part of their own familiarity.

HON 105 – PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY

Providing an introduction to philosophy as a mode of inquiry, this course explores, from a variety of perspectives, the questions central to the human condition, placing philosophical positions within the context of human values. Students will address the themes of knowledge, action, and human identity, considering how one thinks critically about such questions and what it means to inquire about the human condition in a rational manner. Readings will be drawn from both primary philosophical texts and relevant material from other disciplines.

HON 110 – HONORS DISCOVER CHICAGO

Honors Discover Chicago courses acquaint first-year honors students with the metropolitan community, its neighborhoods, cultures, people, institutions, organizations and issues. Students will also learn about university life and resources and will become acquainted with the honors scholarly community. The course begins with Immersion Week, one week prior to the official start of the autumn quarter, then continues through the first eight weeks of the quarter. Learning in HON 110 is accomplished through a variety of means including first-hand observation, reflection, discussion, writing, site visits, and encounters with Chicagoans both in the classroom and on excursions. Students will select a particular Honors Discover course from available offerings. *A grade of C- or higher is required to remain in the Honors Program.*

HON 111 – HONORS EXPLORE CHICAGO

Honors Explore Chicago courses acquaint first-year honors students with the metropolitan community, its neighborhoods, cultures, people, institutions, organizations and issues. Students will also learn about university life and resources and will become acquainted with the honors scholarly community. Learning in HON 111 is accomplished through a variety of means including first-hand observation, reflection, discussion, writing, site visits, and encounters with Chicagoans both in the classroom and on excursions. Students will select a particular Honors Explore course from the available offerings. *A grade of C- or higher is required to remain in the Honors Program.*

HON 180 – DATA ANALYSIS AND STATISTICS

Using real-world data and open-ended investigations from a variety of disciplines, students apply quantitative and statistical reasoning skills to focus on outcomes of analysis. Students will explore the nature and description of data, probability theory, sampling, variability, estimation, analysis of correlation, hypothesis testing, and experiment design to become critical users of quantitative information. Prerequisite: LSP 120 or MAT 130.

HON 201 – STATES, MARKETS, AND SOCIETIES

This course focuses on the organization of economic, political and social relationships within the global system, including analysis of how these relationships affect the distribution of power, resources, well-being and cultural capital in different societies. It covers such topics as phases in the growth of global trade and investment; the role of economic incentives; the historical and conceptual relationship between markets; social stratification, culture, and forms of popular participation; and the development challenges posed by international inequality and social marginality. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.

HON 207 – TOPICS IN COGNITIVE STUDIES

Working under the assumption that processes of human thinking can be understood in formal and symbolic ways, this course is designed to introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of cognitive science by constructing and evaluating theories of how we perceive, speak, reason, and learn. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing; HON 180 or first course of required math sequence for major. *Not required for students in the College of Education, or for students majoring in Neuroscience or Music Education, or for students who are in a Cognitive Neuroscience concentration for the major.*

HON 225 – HONORS LAB SCIENCE TOPICS

Students in Honors 225 will investigate a particular scientific topic or issue using readings, discussions, papers, and laboratory work. In the process of investigation they will learn about the nature and processes of science and will be able to describe and explain their work in writing; some projects may be done in teams. All sections of Honors 225 include a laboratory component. Please see the Schedule of Classes for current offerings. Prerequisites: HON 180 or first course of required math sequence for major. *Students with a lab science requirement for the major replace this course with an Honors Approved Elective.*

HON 205 – INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS

This course offers interdisciplinary study of two or more art forms in a particular historical period, looking at relations among the arts and between art and its cultural contexts. Students will develop a critical vocabulary for the analysis of works in the visual arts, theater, music, literature, or other art forms. Work in the course will be interdisciplinary and will include readings, classroom exercises, visits to relevant performances or exhibits, and papers. Variable topics. Please see the schedule for current offerings. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. *Not required for students in Music, Theatre, or CDM BFA programs.*

HON 301 – HONORS JUNIOR SEMINAR IN MULTICULTURALISM

This seminar asks students to conduct research on complex issues related to multiculturalism. Topics may cover various dimensions of identity including issues of race and ethnicity, class, gender, language, religion, sexual orientation, disability and nationality. Students are encouraged to develop a critical perspective about the meaning of multiculturalism and to understand the historical and/or contemporary manifestations of inequality. All students prepare research projects and participate in seminar discussions. Variable topics. Please see the schedule for current offerings. *This course meets the university's requirement in multiculturalism and cannot be replaced by study abroad coursework.*

HON 350 OR 351 OR 395—Honors Senior Capstone

Each student in the Honors Program will complete either an Honors Senior Seminar course or an Honors Senior Thesis project to fulfill the capstone requirement for the Honors Program. Some students will also be required to complete a capstone for the major. Both Honors Capstone formats require students to use the research skills they developed in the Honors Junior Seminar to carry out projects independently.

HON 350 – HONORS SENIOR SEMINAR

This course, which meets the capstone requirement for the University Honors Program, is designed to engage students in a discussion of meaning and values, and to foster skills in interdisciplinary research and writing. In a seminar setting, students explore a designated topic, develop related projects, and pursue work in an area defined by the Honors faculty member who designed the particular course. Seminars will be offered in broad interdisciplinary areas, allowing seniors to choose from diverse topics. Please see the schedule for current offerings. Prerequisites: HON 301 and senior standing. *A grade of C– or higher is required to pass the course.*

HON 351 – HONORS SENIOR SEMINAR IN SERVICE LEARNING

This course, which meets the capstone requirement for the University Honors Program, is designed to foster skills in interdisciplinary research and writing. The course also brings students into the community to explore theories of service and the relationship between altruism and activism. Outside of class, students will devote a minimum of three hours each week to service work at one of the sites offered through the course, prompting them to consider the role that service will play in their lives after DePaul. This course also meets the university's Experiential Learning requirement for students who have not yet fulfilled this requirement. Only open to students in the University Honors Program. Prerequisites: HON 301 and senior standing. *A grade of C– or higher is required to pass the course.*

HON 395 – HONORS SENIOR THESIS

The Honors Senior Thesis offers students an opportunity to reflect on and synthesize their years of education at DePaul by designing a meaningful project that they research and write under the supervision of two faculty members, independent of a classroom structure. The project builds on students' gathered expertise, combining work in the major with concepts gained from other coursework. The thesis project requires extensive research and/or creative work, and it should be original in the sense of bringing ideas together in a way that is the student's own. The thesis is presented at the Honors Student Conference and displayed at the Honors Senior Gala. *A grade of C– or higher is required to pass the course.*