

AU Honors Curriculum

Program outcomes and curriculum map

On successful completion of the AU Honors Program, students will have demonstrated a capacity to:

1 Begin in wonder

Approach and explore a topic with an awareness of the strengths and limitations of diverse intellectual perspectives.

2 Journey in curiosity

Develop and execute a rigorous scholarly plan for generating knowledge, in dialogue with a variety of traditions of inquiry.

3 Dare to know

Display a substantive grasp of a topic that advances our understanding of that topic.

MISSION STATEMENT:

We *begin in wonder*, *journey in curiosity*, and ultimately, *dare to know*. The AU Honors Program brings together a diverse community of students and faculty to learn in experiential and inquiry-driven ways. Propelled by curiosity and a willingness to take risks, our students endeavor to push the bounds of the known and the knowable throughout their shared academic journey. The program supports students as they dare to contribute to knowledge, creative expression, and meaningful change.

First year

Fall (7 credits)

CORE-106 (3cr)
Complex Problems Seminar
An Honors section

HNRS-150 (1cr)
AU Honors Experiential Learning
Co-curricular supplemental activities, including in DC

WRTG-100 (3cr)
College Writing
An Honors section

OR

WRTG-106 (3cr)
College Writing, Intensive
An Honors section

Spring (1 credit)

HNRS-151 (1cr)
AU Honors Inquiry Experience
Faculty-led projects intended to help students engage in the process of knowledge-creation and knowledge-presentation.

Second year

Fall (3 credits)

HNRS-395 (3cr) (NEW COURSE)
Theories of Inquiry
Broad conceptual exploration of different ways of producing and presenting knowledge across fields and disciplines; emphasis is on developing an appreciation of the strengths and limitations of different approaches, and on the formation of research questions in different traditions.

Spring (3 credits)

HNRS-398 (3cr)
Honors Challenge Course
A team-based “wicked problems challenge” in which students design and execute a project, mentored and advised by a member of the faculty.

Third and Fourth years

Honors Colloquium (6cr)

3 credits must be either HNRS-400 *Advanced Honors Colloquium* OR another upper-division Honors offering elsewhere on campus.

3 credits can be another of the above OR an Honors supplement affixed to an upper-division course either on campus or abroad.

Note that Honors supplements (HNRS-050, NEW COURSE) are 0-credit registrations mediated by a contract between the student, the instructor, and AU Honors.

Honors Capstone (3cr)

Either an Honors capstone offered by an Honors in the major program OR an Honors supplement (HNRS-098, NEW COURSE) affixed to a non-Honors capstone OR HNRS-498 *AU Honors Capstone*.

23 credits total; 8 unique to AU Honors