

Honors College

MISSION

The Honors College enhances the undergraduate experience for high-achieving students at West Virginia University by building a community of scholars who enrich their education in the classroom and beyond.

The Honors College features three academic programs: University Honors for students enrolled prior to 2017, the Honors Foundations Program for first- and second-year students, and beginning in Fall 2019 an upper-division program for upper-class students.

UNIVERSITY HONORS REQUIREMENTS

PRESIDENTIAL HONORS SCHOLAR

- Students admitted to WVU prior to Fall 2017
- 3.5 grade point average
- Twenty-five hours of Honors-eligible credit hours
- At least one credit hour of Honors-eligible orientation (HONR 199 or eligible departmental first-year seminar)
- Three to six credits of thesis or an approved Honors senior project, including approved study abroad, undergraduate research, or internship. Thesis hours can be used to count toward 25-hour total.

DEAN'S HONORS SCHOLAR

- Students admitted to WVU prior to Fall 2017
- 3.4 grade point average
- Sixteen hours of Honors-eligible credit hours
- At least one credit hour of Honors-eligible orientation (HONR 199 or eligible departmental first-year seminar)
- (Optional) Three to six credits of thesis or an approved Honors senior project, including approved study abroad, undergraduate research, or internship.

Students admitted to WVU prior to Fall 2017 may shift between Presidential and Dean's levels as academic performance merits.

HONORS FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Beginning for the class entering Fall 2017, most eligible students will meet the following criteria:

- 3.7 High School GPA (weighted or unweighted), and
- 26 ACT or 1180 SAT (M/CR) or 1250 Redesigned SAT (M/EBRW)

The Honors College also invites a small number of students (with unusually promising application profiles that nonetheless do not meet the above criteria) to participate in an alternative application process.

Students may also join the Honors Foundations Program with a 3.7 cumulative GPA after the first semester of full-time course work with no withdrawals or incompletes, or if they transfer to WVU in good standing in an Honors program at their previous institution.

HONORS FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Smaller class sizes, often under 25 students;
- Access to innovative Honors course topics;
- Dedicated Honors housing and community activities;
- Priority registration for classes before general population students;
- Honors advising, tutoring, and mentoring;
- Opportunities for peer leadership and community service;
- Recognition at graduation and on their transcripts;
- Connections with a community of Honors students.

HONORS FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students will ideally complete the program within four semesters, typically taking one full Honors course per semester. In order to complete the program, students must:

- Complete a minimum of five Honors courses (including a one-credit Honors-eligible orientation course) and a minimum of 13 Honors credits.

- Meet ongoing requirements for good standing:
 - After year one, students must have completed an Honors-eligible orientation experience and at least one Honors course/ three Honors credits, and must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.0 GPA in Honors courses.
 - If a student needs to extend enrollment in the program in order to complete the requirements after year two, students must have completed an Honors-eligible orientation experience and at least three Honors courses/ nine Honors credits, and must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 GPA in Honors courses.
- Meet appropriate final requirements, including
 - Minimum 3.5 GPA in Honors credits
 - Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at the time of program completion
 - Participation in the Honors exit interview process

UPPER DIVISION HONORS PROGRAM

Beginning in Spring 2019, juniors and seniors may apply to join the Honors College upper-division program. The upper-division program is rooted in experiential learning and will require students to submit a proposal that will be evaluated for admission.

Students in the program will complete three or more Honors credits every semester, a minimum of six of which must involve experiential learning (study abroad, research, internships, etc.). Details about the program and the admission process will be announced in advance of the initial Spring 2019 proposal cycle.

For more information, please contact the Honors Office. Students may also visit the website at <https://www.honors.wvu.edu>.

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

- Kenneth P. Blemings - Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin

ASSOCIATE DEAN

- Ryan Claycomb - Ph.D.
University of Maryland, College Park

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- Ashley Watts - MS
West Virginia University

DIRECTOR HONORS LIVE/LEARN COMMUNITY

- Kevin Gooding - Ph.D.
Purdue University