

# HONORS LIBERAL ARTS (BA)

## Program Description

The SPU Honors Program (<http://spu.edu/academics/university-scholars/>) is an accelerated alternative to the regular General Education curriculum for intellectually curious and academically motivated students at Seattle Pacific University. It requires fewer overall credits, but in a challenging, inquiry-based, and inclusive program that asks University honors students to go deeper into the key questions at the heart of our lives, our faith, and our world. Honors students will receive a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Honors Liberal Arts, alongside their regular disciplinary major (and any second major, if applicable), upon successful completion of the program. A minor in Honors Liberal Arts is also available for interested students.

SPU Honors is also a close-knit community of students and faculty members committed to academic excellence in a spirit of dialogue, collaboration, and intellectual hospitality. We are guided by the key liberal arts question "What does it mean to be human?" and the foundational curricular values of interdisciplinarity, critical inquiry, equity, inclusion, and service.

## In the Honors Program, You Will

- Learn from and engage with world-class faculty from across the disciplines
- Push yourself to use the intellectual, personal, creative, and social abilities God has given you
- Discover what it means to learn in a rich intellectual community of fellow scholars
- Forge deep, lifelong friendships with other honors students over your years in the program
- Graduate prepared to join the ranks of SPU honors alumni who have gone on to success in careers and graduate programs

## "What does it mean to be human?"

This question is an over-arching theme of the honors curriculum. And we ask this question in an inter-connected and interdisciplinary set of courses, forming a close-knit learning community of students and faculty members seeking and inquiring together. More detailed honors course specifics can be found on the program page (<https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinary-programs/honors-liberal-arts/>) in this catalog.

Note that transfer courses and credit for exams such as AP, IB, and Cambridge International will still count toward your degree, but they cannot be used to replace HON courses.

A limited number of students are accepted into the honors program every year and there is always a waiting list for admission. Students can apply to join SPU honors at any year during their time at SPU.

If you are interested in learning more, please explore the Honors Program website (<http://spu.edu/academics/university-scholars/>) for further information about courses, professors, students, alumni, and application information. And always feel free to contact the Honors Program Director, Joshua Tom ([jtom@spu.edu](mailto:jtom@spu.edu)).

## Additional Competencies and Requirements

- To remain in the program, every honors student must participate in their choice of a wide range of approved service and leadership opportunities and complete an annual service/leadership self-reflection report.
- Attendance is required three times a year for all students at the quarterly all-honors Touchstone Banquet.

## Leaving the Program

Infrequently students determine that the Honors program is not a good fit for their academic goals.

- Students wishing to leave the program must meet with the program director for consultation.
- Those who were pursuing the BA in Honors Liberal Arts third major may choose to pursue the Honors Liberal Arts Minor instead of leaving the program.
- Students leaving the program and those completing the minor are required to meet all requirements in the SPU standard General Education curriculum. They should consult with the Director of the Honors Program or their undergraduate academic counselor about how HON courses may count toward the standard curriculum.
- Many Honors courses will fulfill requirements in the standard General Education curriculum (<https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/#generaleducationcurriculumrequirementstext>).

## Entering and Completing the Major

Formal application and admission to the SPU Honors Program is required prior to enrollment in the Honors Liberal Arts major or minor.

You may apply for admission to Honors at anytime, using the online Honors application materials (<http://spu.edu/academics/university-scholars/admission/>) for incoming first-year or transfer students, as well as currently enrolled SPU students.

To meet the minimum requirements for admission, you must:

- Have demonstrated intellectual ambition and a track record of academic success (which will vary depending on the applicants' academic standing and history).

To successfully complete the major, note that:

- The University requires a grade of C- or better in all classes that apply to a major or minor; however, programs may require higher minimum grades in specific courses, as in honors. You may repeat an SPU course only once for a higher grade.
- To advance in the Honors Program, you should meet with the honors director and/or your Honors faculty advisor regularly to discuss your grades, course progression, and other indicators of satisfactory academic progress. If your grades or other factors indicate that you may not be able to successfully complete the Honors Liberal Arts major, the advisor can work with you to explore options, which may include choosing the Honors Liberal Arts minor and regular General Education track instead.
- You must complete the major requirements in effect in the SPU Undergraduate Catalog for the year of admittance to the major.

## Honors Liberal Arts (BA)

50 Credits Minimum, Including 25 Upper Division (UD)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Courses</b>		
HON 2000	Honors Core: Culture and Social Systems	5
HON 2100	Honors Core: Ethics and Critical Reasoning	5
HON 2200	Honors Core: History and Representation	5
HON 3000	Honors Core: Faith and Science	5
HON 3200	Honors Core: Research and Writing	5
HON 4899	Honors Research Capstone	5
Section Credits Required		30
<b>Advanced Honors Electives</b>		<b>10</b>
ART 3605	Modern Art: Image and Power	
ART 3606	Cross-Cultural Encounters	
ART 3608	Issues in Contemporary Art and Visual Culture	
ART 3611	Reading Images: An Introduction to Visual Studies	
BIO 3000	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	
BIO 3835	Theological Ecology	
CLA 3100	Ancient Civilization	
DAT 4500	Data and Society	
EE 3520	Microgrids	
EGR 3611	Appropriate and Sustainable Engineering I: Alternative Energy Systems	
ENG 3348	Romantic Poetry and Fiction	
ENG 3380	African Literature	
ENG 3382	South Africa: Stages of Protest and Democracy	
ENG 3383	Arab Spring: Gender, Islam, Democracy	
ENG 4152	Modernist Literature	
ENG 4162	Postmodern Literature	
HIS 3100	Ancient Civilization	
HIS 3358	Race, Sexuality, and Religion in Postwar Europe	
HIS 3406	Christianity in America	
HIS 3444	Humanitarianism: Promises and Problems	
HIS 3670	History of United States Foreign Relations	
HIS 3750	Latin America	
HIS 3788	Pandemics, Empire and Survival of Asia and the World	
HON 3950	Honors Advanced Studies	
ISD 3510	Monitoring and Evaluating Development Projects Programs	
ISD 3520	Grant Writing for Government Non-Profit Agencies	
LCL 3287	Mythology in Literature	
LIN 3700	Philosophy of Language	
NUR 3122	Professional Nursing 2	
NUR 4153	Nursing Leadership in Community Engagement	
NUR 4896	Transition to Practice Synthesis	
PHI 3602	Medieval Philosophy	
PHI 3633	Early Modern Philosophy	
PHI 3700	Philosophy of Language	
PHI 3999	Minds and Machines	
PHY 3011	Global Climate Change: Scientific, Social and Moral Implications	

POL 3330	Global Women's Issues
POL 3670	History of United States Foreign Relations
SJC 3380	African Literature
SJC 3382	South Africa: Stages of Protest and Democracy
SJC 3383	Arab Spring: Gender, Islam, Democracy
SOC 3650	Border Crossings: Immigrants, Refugees Dreamers
SOC 3750	Latin America
SOC 3862	Race and Ethnicity
SOC 4210	Gender in the Global Context
SOC 4252	Sociology of Family
SOC 4620	Sects, Cults, and Violence
SOC 4820	Sociology of Religion
THEO 3110	Torah/Pentateuch: The Old Testament Gospel
THEO 3210	Four Gospels and One Jesus
THEO 3303	Christianity in America
THEO 4720	Leadership in Society

Section Credits Required 10

**Mathematics (Any 5-credit course that fulfills the WKQR requirement)<sup>5,6</sup>**

BUS 2700	Statistics for Business and Economics
CRIM 2360	Introduction to Statistics in Social and Behavioral Sciences
CSC 1521	Contemporary Math with Computing
MAT 1221	Survey of Calculus
MAT 1234	Calculus I
MAT 1300	Introduction to Statistical Reasoning
MAT 1521	Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics
MAT 1560 & MAT 2561	Numerical Reasoning and Statistical and Algebraic Reasoning
MAT 2360	Introduction to Statistics for the Sciences
PSY 2360	Introduction to Statistics in Social and Behavioral Sciences
SOC 2360	Introduction to Statistics in Social and Behavioral Sciences

Section Credits Required 5

**Sciences (Any 5-credit course that fulfills WKFS or WKAS)**

BIO 1101	Biological Fundamentals
BIO 1104	Environmental Science
BIO 1106	Ecological Fundamentals
BIO 1107	Introduction to Forensic Science
BIO 1121	Coral Reef Ecology
BIO 1145	Oceanography
BIO 2101	General Biology
BIO 2103	General Biology
BIO 2129	Human Anatomy and Physiology
BIO 2571	Introduction to Biology
CHM 1100	Introduction to Chemistry
CHM 1110	Introduction to the Nature of Science
CHM 1211	General Chemistry I
CHM 1310	Survey of General Chemistry
CSC 1130	Beginning Programming
CSC 1230	Problem Solving and Programming
CSC 2230	Computer Programming for Engineers

EGR 1010	Science and Technology: How Things Work	
PHY 1101	General Physics	
PHY 1110	Introduction to the Nature of Science	
PHY 1121	Physics for Science and Engineering	
PHY 1135	Astronomy: Individual and the Universe	
PHY 1140	The Physics of Sound	
PHY 1142	Earth System Science	
PHY 3311	Experimental Methods I	
Section Credits Required		5
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>50</b>

- 1  
You must complete an additional major to earn a degree.
- 2  
Students also complete 10-15 credits in UFDN courses, depending on class at entry to SPU.
- 3  
Honors Research Symposium presentation in senior year.
- 4  
Active student-leadership is required to remain in the program (see Honors Director)
- 5  
You must complete MAT 1560 as well as MAT 2561
- 6  
CRIM/MAT/PSY/SOC 2360 okay, if taken for another program

## Suggested Course Sequence

- All Honors courses are offered twice a year in different time slots (with the exception of HON 2000 Honors Core: Culture and Social Systems and HON 3200 Honors Core: Research and Writing, see below) to accommodate scheduling.
- The first year of Honors courses must be taken together but all other courses can be flexibly scheduled when time permits.
- HON 4899 Honors Research Capstone (1-5) must be taken in the final year of honors study for a total of 5 credits to prepare for the Honors Research Symposium – and at least one credit of HON 4899 Honors Research Capstone taken in both Autumn and Spring Quarters that year.
- All Honors Majors must complete a disciplinary major, as well, and satisfy the following:
  - All UFDN requirements in the General Education Curriculum (10-15 credits, based on class standing at entrance)
  - Foreign language competency
  - CUE (Cultural Understanding and Engagement)
  - W (Writing) requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Freshman</b>		
<b>Autumn</b>		
HON 2000	Honors Core: Culture and Social Systems	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Winter</b>		
HON 2100 or HON 2200	Honors Core: Ethics and Critical Reasoning or Honors Core: History and Representation	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>5</b>

<b>Spring</b>		
HON 2100 or HON 2200	Honors Core: Ethics and Critical Reasoning or Honors Core: History and Representation	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Any Quarter</b>		
A 5-credit WKFS course (Ways of Knowing: Fundamental Sciences)		5
A 5-credit WKQR course (Ways of Knowing: Quantitative Reasoning)		5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Sophomore</b>		
<b>Any Quarter</b>		
HON 3000	Honors Core: Faith and Science	5
HON 3950	Honors Advanced Studies	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Junior</b>		
<b>Winter</b>		
HON 3200	Honors Core: Research and Writing	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Any Quarter</b>		
HON 3000	Honors Core: Faith and Science	5
HON 3950	Honors Advanced Studies	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Senior</b>		
<b>Autumn</b>		
HON 4899	Honors Research Capstone ((at least one credit, 5 credits required in total))	1-5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>1-5</b>
<b>Winter</b>		
Optional:		
HON 4899	Honors Research Capstone (5 credits required in total)	1-5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>1-5</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
HON 4899	Honors Research Capstone (5 credits required in total)	1-5
HONORS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATION (required of all students for graduation)		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>1-5</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>53-65</b>

## First Year in Honors

- Students must take all three Honors Core courses in their first Honors year.
- HON 2000 Honors Core: Culture and Social Systems is only offered in Autumn quarter and is designed to be the on-ramp course for all honors study at SPU.

## Second and Third Years in Honors

- Students should take the 3000-level Honors courses in any quarter that fits their schedule, with the exception of HON 3200 Honors Core: Research and Writing, which must be taken in the Winter Quarter of the third year.
- The HON 3950 Honors Advanced Studies(10 credits) may also be filled by any upper-division SPU course with the “H” designation as well as approved study abroad courses.
- All 3000-level Honors courses should be completed before taking HON 4899 Honors Research Capstone.

## Fourth Year in Honors

- A total of five credits of HON 4899 Honors Research Capstone must be completed for graduation. And students must register for at least one credit of this course in both Autumn and Spring quarters.

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- All students are required to present at the Honors Research Symposium in Spring quarter in order to graduate.