

FMU Honors Faculty Information



Special Topics Courses

FMU Honors solicits Honors Special Topics proposals year-round from all full-time tenured, tenure-line and temporary faculty. Special Topics courses should be investigations into topics not typically addressed in standing course offerings and, as they are designed primarily for freshmen and sophomores, should require no prerequisites beyond reasonably high expectations about Honors students' preparedness.

Proposals may be submitted for:

- **HONORS 250-259/SOCIAL SCIENCES** (3 hours) counts as General Education credit in Area 2c. Recent examples include Humor in Society and the Politics of Financial Crisis.
- **HONORS 260-269/HUMANITIES** (3 hours) counts as General Education credit in Area 3d. Recent examples include History Through Epic Literature, Existentialism, and Noir Film, Literature and Television.
- **HONORS 270-279/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES** (3 hours) counts as General Education credit in Area 4. Recent examples include Language and Thought, and the Psychology of Medicine.
- **HONORS 280-289/ NATURAL SCIENCES** (3 or 4 hours) Lab component encouraged; counts as General Education credit in Area 6c. Recent examples include Skepticism and the Scientific World View, Our Place in Space, and Sustainable Food.

Proposals should be submitted 5-10 months before the semester during which the course would be taught. The proposal process begins with the [Special Topics Course Proposal Form](#), which should be completed and submitted with a sample syllabus and whatever supporting materials the faculty member deems appropriate. Each proposal must be approved by faculty member's chair, whose signature on the form indicates that the course is of sufficient rigor in the discipline, that the faculty member proposing it is sufficiently credentialed, and that the chair will attempt to make room for the course in the faculty member's normal teaching load.

The form and supporting materials are then sent to the Director of FMU Honors, Dr. Jon Tuttle (Department of English/FH 146) and presented to the Honors Committee for discussion and approval. Note that seniority may affect the Honors Committee's prioritization of proposals received.

Colloquium

The Honors 397/Colloquium is a multi-disciplinary, upper-division course intended for Honors students well into their degree and Honors requirements; it is for most students the last stop before the Honors Independent Study (thesis) project and is therefore a de facto capstone course.

While there is no formal application process, colloquium proposals are welcomed throughout the year in the form of email queries or informal discussions, followed by sample syllabi and other pertinent materials that can be presented to the Honors Committee. At present, the Colloquium is offered each spring semester. Examples of recent Colloquium topics include Biodata: Bodies of Information; Utopias and Dystopias; Climate Change & Society; Power, Justice and Gender; The Vietnam War & American Culture; Understanding Ireland, Religion & Culture; and African Studies.

Please direct any queries, questions or concerns to Dr. Tuttle at 661-1521.

Honors Committee

FMU Honors is administered by the Director of FMU Honors, in concert with the Honors Committee, a standing committee of the FMU Faculty Senate. The Honors Committee is comprised of the Director, three elected members from the faculty, each of whom serves for three years, and one ex-officio representative of the Academic Affairs Committee, who serves for one year.

At present, the Honors Committee is comprised of the following members:

- Jon Tuttle (Director)
- Erin Eaton (Academic Affairs representative)
- Jeremiah Bartz
- Matt Turner
- Christopher Kennedy

The Honors Committee advises on all matters pertaining to the Honors curriculum, staffing, student conduct, co-curricular activities, marketing, etc. More precisely, it considers or proposes Honors policy changes, selects Honors courses, approves proposals for Honors Independent Studies, certifies those students who fulfill the requirements for a degree with University Honors, maintains contact with Honors students through advising, registration, and informal meetings, and encourages academic achievement at the University.

Faculty interested in supporting and being involved in FMU Honors are encouraged to run for election before the spring meeting of the general faculty.



FMU HONORS

SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE PROPOSAL

DATE _____

- Full-time tenured, tenure-line and temporary faculty are eligible to propose courses.
- Submit proposals 5-10 months before the semester during which the course would be taught.
- Proposals must first be approved by faculty member's chair, whose signature below indicates that the course is of sufficient rigor in the discipline, that the faculty member proposing it is sufficiently credentialed, and that the chair will attempt to make room for the course in the faculty member's normal teaching load.
- Send completed form to Jon Tuttle, Department of English, Founders Hall 146

FACULTY NAME _____ DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL _____

SEMESTER PROPOSED _____

COURSE TITLE: _____

COURSE PROPOSED: Honors Special Topics in: _____250-259/Social Sciences (3 hours)

_____260-269/Humanities (3 hours)

_____270-279/Behavioral Sciences (3 hours)

_____280-289/ Natural Sciences (3 or 4)

METHODOLOGY: *FMU Honors encourages innovative, inter-disciplinary topics and teaching. Please attach a sample syllabus for the course proposed, and on the opposite side or an attachment, summarize the course's content, approach, textbooks, etc., with particular emphasis on what distinguishes the proposed course as an Honors course. If you are proposing a lab component for 280-289, describe that as well.*

YOUR SIGNATURE _____

CHAIR/DEAN _____ DATE _____

DIRECTOR OF FMU HONORS _____ DATE _____