



# HONORS COURSEWORK

To graduate With University Honors, students must complete 21 total hours of Honors coursework, including Honors 397/Colloquium (3 hours) and Honors 491/Independent Study Thesis (3 hours), or its equivalent.

FMU Honors students may (and should) begin their Honors coursework their first semester, beginning with 1-hour Honors symposia; 100- and 200-level general education courses like English 101H, Math 134H, Sociology 201H, Speech Communication 101H, etc.; and 200-level Honors Special Topics courses in various disciplines, all of which apply toward general education requirements.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **HONORS SYMPOSIA (1 hour)**

Honors Symposia are offered in four different subject areas. Generally speaking, Symposia are forums for discussion and incorporate little if any testing. Symposia meet once a week, do not carry general education or other credit, are graded A-F, and may be taken twice for credit.

- **200/SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM**

Students attend the weekly Science Symposium lecture and respond to it in the weekly symposium discussion. HNRS 200 is usually offered each fall semester.

- **HONORS 201/HUMANTIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM**

Students meets once a week to discuss recent art/cultural events such as plays, concerts, lectures, etc., or meet with area artists or arts advocates. HNRS 201 is usually offered each fall semester.

- **HONORS 202/BUSINESS LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM**

Students meet weekly with local civic leaders, entrepreneurs, administrators or other luminaries and discuss such relevant topics as leadership, downtown development, philanthropy, etc. HNRS 202 is usually offered each spring semester.

- **HONORS 203/SERVICE SYMPOSIUM**

Students meet weekly to discuss the privileges and obligations of citizenship and the ways we can serve our communities. Guest speakers will include directors of civic or charitable organizations. Students will then identify and create service opportunities in the Pee Dee. HNRS 203 is usually offered each spring semester.

### **GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (3 or 4 hours)**

Because Honors students should take most of their Honors courses during their first two years, FMU Honors offers Honors sections of courses needed to fulfill General Education requirements, for example Speech Communication 101, English 101 and 102, Political Science 101 and 103, Economics 203 and 204, Mathematics 134, etc. Course offerings differ each semester but typically include these basic staples of FMU's undergraduate curriculum.

### **SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES (3 or 4 hours)**

Special Topics courses are available only to Honors students and are taught by faculty interested in innovation and indulging their appetites for challenging subject matter. These courses are:

- **HONORS 250-259/SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (3 hours)**

Course topics may be interdisciplinary and cover innovative, non-traditional topics within the Social Sciences such as Humanitarianism, Globalization and Public Policy, Humor in Society, Sex, Law and Power, etc. These courses may be taken for General Education credit (areas 2c and 4 in the FMU catalog) and apply toward appropriate majors with permission of the applicable chair or dean.

• **HONORS 260-269/SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE HUMANITIES (3 hours)**

Course topics may be interdisciplinary and cover innovative, non-traditional topics within the Humanities, such as The Brothers Grimm, History of Native Americans, Film Noir, Existentialism, The Arthurian Legends, Introduction to Art Therapy, Monsters and Monstrosities in Literature, etc. These courses may be taken for General Education credit (areas 3d and 4 in the FMU catalog) and apply toward appropriate majors with permission of the applicable chair or dean.

• **HONORS 270-279/SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (3 or 4 hours)**

Course topics may be interdisciplinary and cover innovative, non-traditional topics within the Behavioral Sciences, such as Language and Thought, Psychology of Medicine, Biomedical Ethics and Modern Film, etc. These courses may be taken for General Education (area 4 in the FMU catalog) and apply toward appropriate majors with permission of the applicable chair or dean.

• **HONORS 280-289/ SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES (3 or 4 hours)**

Course topics may be interdisciplinary and cover innovative, non-traditional topics within the Natural Sciences, such as The Biology of Cancer, the Neurobiology of Crime, Sustainable Food, Our Place in Space, etc. These courses may be taken for General Education credit (area 6c in the FMU catalog) and apply toward appropriate majors with permission of chair or dean.

**HONORS 350/THE MODEL UN EXPERIENCE (3 hours)**

This course provides a history of the United Nations and prepares students for participation in the National Model United Nations conference, held each year in New York City. Students will learn about the League of Nations and the function of the United Nations, the policies of the country to which FMU is assigned, the development of position papers, the importance of caucusing and diplomacy, and the process of creating resolutions. Students will participate in in-class simulations, practice composing position and working papers, and demonstrate that they have prepared themselves for the NMUN conference. May be taken twice for credit.

### **HONORS 391/HONORS INDEPENDENT STUDY WORKSHOP (1 hour)**

*(Prerequisite: Completion of 12 or more hours of Honors courses or permission of Honors Director.)* This course is optional for students planning to complete Honors 491/Honors Independent Study the following semester. Students work with the Honors Director to plan for their Independent Study project, to select and begin work with their Study Director, and to prepare an acceptable proposal to the Honors Committee. This course carries elective but not general education, departmental, or school credit. It is Assessed as S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory) and may be taken for credit only once.

### **HONORS 397/HONORS COLLOQUIUM (3 hours)**

*(Prerequisite: Completion of 12 or more hours of Honors courses or permission of Honors Director.)* This course offers Honors students the opportunity to examine unique subjects which do not fall within the province of any one department or school. Examples include Utopias & Dystopias, The Vietnam War and American Culture, Climate Change and Society, History of Civil Rights and African Studies. It carries elective but not departmental or school credit. It may be taken twice for credit. Grades below B do not count toward credit for the Honors degree, although they do count toward regular University degree requirements. Honors nursing majors may substitute HNRS 397/Colloquium with IPHC 500/Rural Health Care.

An acceptable replacement for HNRS 397 is the successful completion of a semester at one of FMU's International Exchange partners, earning a GPA of 3.0 or higher for that semester's work. In such cases, the HNRS 397/Colloquium requirement will be waived, but students must still complete a total of 21 Honors hours, including the Honors Independent Study.

### **HONORS 491/HONORS INDEPENDENT STUDY (3 hours)**

*(Prerequisite: Completion of 12 or more hours of Honors courses or permission of Honors Director.)* This course is a semester-long research project that allows the student to pursue independent academic work, normally in the area of major concentration, under the guidance of a faculty mentor. It typically takes the form of a research project or thesis, though creative projects are not uncommon.

Topics must be approved by both the appropriate department chair or dean and the Honors Committee. Projects are reviewed by three faculty members from two different disciplines. Grades below B do not count toward credit for the Honors degree, although they do count toward regular University degree requirements. This course may be taken a second time in a second discipline. 497/Special Studies in various disciplines, PRS 499/Advanced Study, or Nursing445/Guided Nursing Elective may be taken for Honors credit, by special arrangement, in place of Honors 491. See also Washington Semester Internship program, below, and the Honors Independent Study “Guidelines” on the Honors website.

### **WASHINGTON SEMESTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (15 hours)**

Students who successfully complete the 15-hour Washington Semester Program, offered in conjunction with the University of South Carolina, may count all 15 hours toward Honors. Three of these (either POL 497H, ENG 498H or PSY 310H) will replace Honors 491/Independent Study Thesis. Grades below B do not count toward credit for the Honors degree, although they do count toward regular degree requirements.