

Honors Program at Bethel College

Mission: The Honors Program at Bethel College endeavors to challenge academically gifted students to develop their capacities for analysis, composition, research, and critical thinking in order to increase their preparation for the duties incumbent upon education and achievement. The course of study embraced by the Honors Program both deepens the appreciation of all things human and promotes an interdisciplinary understanding of the contemporary world. As such, the Honors Program is a perfect complement to the Bethel College mission of helping students reach their full potential.

Admission: Incoming freshmen should have minimum English and Reading ACT scores of twenty-four and a 3.25 high school GPA. Interested students should submit applications to the Director of the Honors Program, who will, in consultation with other Honors Program faculty members, begin making decisions in March. Applications are available from the Office of Admissions or the Honors Director.

Freshmen may apply for admission to the Honors Program after their first semester. Applicants should have a minimum of a 3.4 college GPA and the recommendation of one college professor. All applications from returning students must be submitted no later than 30 May. Qualified students are encouraged to enquire.

Continuing in Honors:

Continued participation in the Honors Program is contingent upon the maintenance of a 3.0 GPA in Honors Program courses and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Any Honors Program student who receives a “D” or an “F” in an Honors course will not be allowed to register for additional Honors courses. Students who fall below the 3.0 minimum in Honors courses may register for additional Honors courses only with the approval of the Honors Program Director. Students who fall below the cumulative GPA requirements will have a one-semester probationary period in which to raise their cumulative GPA to the minimum level.

Curriculum: Students must take the sixteen-hour Honors Colloquia sequence during their first two years in the program (HON 101, 102, 201, and 202). In the case of students admitted after their first or second semester, this may be reduced, depending on courses taken before admission to the Honors Program. Students who do not complete the four Honors courses will be required to satisfy the traditional Common Core requirements in English and History.

In their junior and senior years, students must complete at least two one-hour Honors seminars (HON 490) as well as the Honors research project

preparation seminar (HON 395), which must be taken in the Spring Semester of the junior year.

In their senior year, students must complete a Senior Honors Project (**495) for four hours. This project must be supervised by a member of the faculty, and should be approved by the Honors Program Director by the fifteenth of September.

**Graduation as
an Honors Scholar:**

Students who have earned a 3.0 GPA in the required Honors courses and who have earned at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA will graduate from the Bethel College Honors Program. This distinction will be duly noted on their transcript and diploma.

**Replacing
HON Courses:**

HON 101 may be replaced with HIS 201/211.
HON 102 may be replaced with HIS 202/212.
HON 201 may be replaced with ENG 201.
HON 202 may be replaced with ENG 202.