



**For Students Entering
Fall 2016**



The Honors Experience

Prospective Student Newsletter

Learning Outside of the Classroom

In addition to outstanding seminars and classes, your Honors Program experience at Colorado State University will include a fantastic array of programs, activities, and events that occur outside the traditional classroom setting.

Honors Fall Welcome

To welcome you to Colorado State University, the Honors Program hosts an ice-cream social where new students meet other Honors first-year students, their Honors peer mentors, and the Honors staff.

Faculty Firesides

Our best teachers are invited to give presentations about their lives and professional experiences to a small audience of Honors Program students. The presentations take place in the Academic Village Fireside Lounge in the fall semester.

Honors Student Association (HSA)

HSA is a student organization aimed at enhancing the social and academic experiences of Honors students. Each year HSA members work on community service projects, including volunteering at elementary schools and senior citizen homes.

Honors Student Leaders

HSL coordinates a series of leadership sessions for Honors students interested in developing their leadership skills. The year-long program introduces students to leadership concepts and opportunities at CSU.

Honors Seminars and Classes

Close interaction with faculty, stimulating topics, and a classroom environment that provides exciting opportunities for participation and discussion characterize Honors classes and seminars. Recent freshman seminar topics include:

- Wild Thinking - Creativity in Art, Science and Business
- Got Lincoln?
- The 1960s in America: Moving Forward or Falling Apart
- Shakespeare and Film
- Globalization and Sustainable Development
- Who am I? The Nature and Function of Self
- American Media in War Time
- Sexuality Across the Lifespan
- An Exploration of Human Disease and the Pioneers Behind Biomedical Research
- The Story of Stuff
- Tell Me A Story: Finding and Creating Meaning in Our Lives

Some comments from recent student evaluations about their Honors courses:

- *“My professor was an excellent discussion monitor and adds very astute insight to the materials.”*
- *“I absolutely loved this seminar. It is one of the coolest classes I’ve ever taken.”*
- *“This class really helps you learn a lot about yourself...people really open up in this class.”*

The Honors Program Team

The Honors Program staff is a friendly group of people dedicated to helping you be successful at Colorado State University. **Don Mykles** is the Director of the Program and a faculty member in the Biology Department. In addition to supervising all Honors Program activities, he teaches Honors seminars and Biology courses and mentors the Honors faculty. **Diane Burton**, Assistant Director, coordinates the recruiting and advising of students and monitors progress toward completing Honors requirements. **Judi Bryant**, Program Coordinator, is responsible for recruiting and training of peer mentors, developing and implementing programs for the Honors Residential Learning Community, and advising the Honors Student Association. **Cindy Adamy**, Program Coordinator, is responsible for coordinating the budget and human resources aspects of the Honors Program. **Jordan Ervin** provides program administrative support to Honors faculty, staff and students. Student employees **Jacob Meacham** and **Abigail Strand** provides excellent technology support.



Comments from senior exit surveys (Spring 2015 graduates):

Here are some of the comments we received from our most recent graduates:

Describe the most important benefits you received from the Honors Program experience:

- The interaction with great students, faculty and staff.
- I gained valuable experience in public speaking and by completing the honors thesis, I learned how to research and write an extended, in-depth scholarly paper.
- I was able to skip irrelevant classes and get a smaller class experience in the honors seminar. The scholarship! And of course the seminars, those were fun. Also the opportunity to do honors sections of normal classes, such as the honors anatomy and honors neuroanatomy, those were very fun and helpful.
- A network and community of support and like-minded students and staff members
- Small scale interesting seminars that were actually challenging and beneficial. Early registration was the best thing for someone who works and goes to school.
- I didn't have to take AUC credits, which was nice. It was nice to be able to talk to people from different majors. Also, registering first is great.
- Registering for classes early, making meaningful connections with professors, completing the thesis, smaller class sizes.
- In-depth learning, the distinction, and the smaller classes. The honors courses were most beneficial because I was able to spend time with other Honors students and delve deeper into the material.
- Personalized support and advice, community, interesting seminar classes. I benefited most from the honors seminars and early registration.
- Undergoing the thesis was by far the most valuable experience I've received at CSU. It gave me a much better sense as to what all goes into performing and presenting research. I also got a chance to work one on one with a professor in the field I'm interested in to learn how things are done in that field.

What is your evaluation of the Honors seminars and instructors?

- I loved the creative topics, the passion of the instructors, and the exposure to different views within the seminars.
- Great! Diverse topics, unique class structure, wonderful teachers!
- I love Honors seminars because they are an opportunity for students to experience a smaller class size that is more interactive than traditional lectures, which allows for more critical thinking in a discussion format.
- I thoroughly enjoyed every single seminar I was in. It helped me connect with other Honors students and experience topics not covered under my major, which I really appreciated.
- Fun and engaging. And the professors are really nice.
- The Honors seminars were classes that I looked forward to every week. Unlike traditional classrooms, I enjoyed the seminar style which allowed for more intimate discussions with peers and professors. The professors of the seminars were very knowledgeable about their particular subject and they displayed that they truly cared about the students by the level of their involvement in the seminars.

What is your evaluation of *HONORS SECTIONS* of regular courses?

- I love my honors sections of business classes because you are provided with so many amazing opportunities.
- Amazing! These courses are with all honors students... which you may think it's super hard to do well in these... but I found that the Honors Sections had better professors, so we actually learned the material much better.
- I loved my honors sections. They were some of the best courses I took throughout my university career. The professors were caring and helpful. They also were challenging and enriching. The smaller course sizes for microeconomics and macroeconomics were wonderful as well.

