Overview

University Honors is a community of scholars that encourages the very best students at St. Bonaventure University to achieve the highest intellectual development and personal growth by bringing them into stimulating and productive interaction with faculty and each other.

Program Requirements

- Incoming students must have a combined SAT of 1200 and high school average of 90.
- Enrolled students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.25 each semester.
- Review of Honors student GPA will begin after the student has completed two semesters at SBU and continued after each completed semester thereafter.
- Five (5) honors courses:
  - TWO must be honors sections of Clare College courses or other discipline-specific courses that are designated by an “H” following the course number.
  - TWO must be honors seminars bearing the HON 299 label.
  - ONE must be the Advanced Honors Seminar. HON 401 is offered every semester. Topics vary. Typically students take this course in their junior year. If not, HON 401 must be taken during the senior year.
  - ONE Honors Experience which can be fulfilled by an additional honors course or through other experiences such as research, independent study, study abroad, teaching assistantships, and internships, among others. This experience must be conveyed to and approved by the Honors Director.

Benefits

- The Honors Project (HON 498/499): This is the capstone to the Honors Program — a two-semester, three-credit research or creative endeavor designed by the student to be of sufficient scope to merit recognition as an Honors Project.
- Early registration—Honors students are given the privilege of registering for classes before other campus constituencies.
- Small class sizes of 12 or fewer allow for in-depth discussion and exchange with fellow students and honors faculty.
- Interdisciplinary courses help students to see the interrelated nature of their curriculum.
- Additional interaction with honors faculty provides students with a one-on-one mentor relationship with academic experts and the program director.
- The Honors Project lets students tailor their work to a topic of interest to them and their studies. These projects give Honors students the highly marketable skills that professional, graduate schools, and employees are looking for.
- Honors Housing designated only for our Honors students.
- An Honors Lounge in the center of campus exclusively for Honors student use. This room, with some added creature comforts, is accommodating for study as well as just relaxing with fellow scholars.
Recent Honors Projects

- Sarah Baker, Arts and Sciences, “La Symphonie Pastorale and the Uncertainty of Literary Translation.”
- Brianna Wilson, Education, “COR Success: Music in Education (A Teacher’s Online Resource).”
- Simone Bernstein, Arts and Sciences, “How to Drive Social Innovation and Tackle Society’s Problems.”
- Chloe A. Farmer, Arts and Sciences, “Stigma in Mental Illness: How Does Knowledge of Mental Illness Affect Public Perception of Art?”
- Sarah E. Hicks, Arts and Sciences, “Providing for Civil Legal Aid: What to do When Transferring Gideon Isn’t Enough”
- Amy Jarrell, Education, “Experiments in the Integration of Arts and Mathematics in the Elementary Classroom.”
- Faris Zuraikat, Arts and Sciences, “Proximity of foods in a competitive food environment influences consumption of a low calorie and a high calorie food.”
- Megan O’Donnell, Journalism and Mass Communication, “Anti-drinking and driving advertisements and their effect on viewers’ opinions.”
- Neil Batta, Arts and Sciences, “Searching for an Ion Channel Gene to Reduce Intrinsic Excitability in Stem Cells.”

Activities

University Honors exposes students to a number of different learning experiences outside the classroom curriculum. There are a variety of exciting events and activities offered exclusively to students in the program. They include:

- Free tickets to the Quick Center for the Arts Concert Series
- Honors project seminars and receptions highlighting and celebrating the work of our Honors seniors
- Honors Tea with the President introducing our incoming students to the Honors program and providing setting to interact with the University President and our Honors faculty.
- Honors symposium in the spring for Honors project presentations. This is a gathering of faculty, advisors, Honors students, family and friends to celebrate the accomplishments and hard work that the Honors project requires of our students.
- Gatherings throughout the year with faculty and fellow Honors students developing a community of scholars and friends.