

# Welcome to the Honors College: A First-Year Student's Guide



**2017-2018**

## *-Honors College Mission*

The mission of the Missouri State University Honors College is to create an academic environment that is stimulating, challenging, and conducive to undergraduate learning and development. The Honors College fosters this environment by:

- ❖ Attracting exceptional students from Missouri, the U.S., and around the world who have a demonstrated record of intellectual curiosity and academic success;
- ❖ Matching students with outstanding faculty instructors in small course settings that foster collaboration, engagement, and discourse;
- ❖ Developing critical thinking skills through a rigorous program of multi and interdisciplinary instruction with an emphasis upon research and academic writing;
- ❖ Supporting the university's Public Affairs mission by complementing the classroom experience with academic and social programming that promotes leadership, service, and the life of the mind;
- ❖ Providing high levels of mentoring, advising, and development through individualized attention throughout a student's program of study;
- ❖ Preparing students for career success, graduate study, and competition for graduate and international research fellowships and awards.

## *-Snapshot of the Honors College Community*

The Class of 2021 is expected to include more than 300 students from 9 states. 235 students are participating in Honors SOAR during the week of June 12<sup>th</sup>.

You are joining a learning community that includes more than 1200 undergraduate students. Here is a quick look at the Honors College student population in Fall 2016:

- ❖ 1264 Students, 331 First-Year Students;
- ❖ Average Cumulative GPA: 3.73;
- ❖ Students Qualifying for Dean's List: 887;
- ❖ 148 Academic Majors and Concentrations were represented;

The Honors College recruits the best faculty instructors and researchers at the university in order to provide students with the strongest possible educational experience. Since 2008, 162 professors, representing 31 academic departments and 6 undergraduate colleges, have offered honors courses in their areas of specialization. Many of these professors also serve as honors advisors for students majoring in their subject fields. You will begin building personal and academic relationships with these professors in Fall 2017.

The staff of the Honors College is available to assist you with your transition to the university and with all of your academic needs:

-  **John F. Chuchiak, IV, Ph.D.**, Professor of Colonial Latin American History & Director of the Honors College
-  **Scott Handley, M.A.**, Assistant Director & Academic Advisor
-  **Shannon Wick, B.S.**, Academic Advisor
-  **Emily Wright, M.A.**, Program Administrator

## *-Honors College Academic Requirements*

Students admitted to the Honors College will be assigned to either the *General Honors Program* or the *Accelerated Honors Program*, based upon college-level course work completed prior to entry.

**Assignments will be made throughout Summer and Fall 2017 as your transcripts and score reports arrive at the university.**

### **1. General Honors Program**

Most students will enter the General Honors Program, which is designed for students who enter the Honors College with fewer than 30 completed credit hours (AP, Dual Credit, or similar work). The program includes courses designed to facilitate completion of both general education and major requirements.

#### A. General Honors Core Curriculum (7 courses, minimum 18 credits)

1. UHC 110 *Freshman Honors Seminar* (2 cr.);
2. 3 General Honors courses to be selected from a menu of Honors College offerings (9-15 cr.). Course lists are published on the Honors College website each semester. In a typical year, the Honors College offers 30+ courses in up to 20 academic disciplines.
3. 1 Honors Experiential Learning Experience (1-3 cr.):
  - a. UHC 300 *Honors Service Learning*
  - b. UHC 350 *Honors Study Abroad*
  - c. UHC 396 *Honors Independent Study*

d. UHC 398 *Honors Undergraduate Research*

e. UHC 399 *Honors Internship/Apprenticeship*

4. UHC 397 *Honors Colloquium* (3 cr.);

5. UHC 410 *Senior Honors Seminar* (3 cr.)

Students who complete all General Honors Core Curriculum requirements and earn a final institutional GPA of 3.25 or higher are eligible to graduate from the Honors College after they satisfy all other University degree requirements. Final transcripts and diplomas will include the notation "Bachelor of \_\_\_\_\_ (with possible grade point honors such as *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *summa cum laude*) in the Honors College."

#### B. Distinction in the Major Option (minimum 12 credits)

Students who complete the Core Curriculum have the opportunity to continue their honors studies and to earn Distinction in the Major by self-designing a rigorous program of course work culminating in a final distinction project. Students must complete a minimum of 12 credits of honors course work in their major, including a minimum of 3 credits of UHC 499 *Honors Distinction Project*. Students may propose appropriate combinations of the following courses:

1. UHC 396 *Honors Independent Study* (1-3 cr.);

2. UHC 398 *Honors Undergraduate Research* (1-3 Cr.);

3. UHC 410 *Senior Honors Seminar* (3 cr.);

4. UHC 499 *Honors Distinction Project* (3-4 cr.)

\*Students who have completed the General Honors Core Curriculum may double-count one section of UHC 396, UHC 398, or UHC 410 towards the Distinction in the Major requirements.

Students interested in earning Distinction in the Major must complete a course and project proposal under the guidance of a faculty member in their major department. The proposal must be approved by the Department Head for the major and by the Director of the Honors College before a student may register for honors course sections. Distinction proposals must be approved prior to the beginning of a student's senior year.

The Honors Distinction Project must be submitted to the Honors College on the final day of classes prior to a student's graduation.

Students who complete all General Honors Core Curriculum requirements, all Distinction in the Major requirements, and earn a final institutional GPA of 3.25 or higher are eligible to graduate from the Honors College after they satisfy all other University degree requirements. Final transcripts and diplomas will include the notation "Bachelor of \_\_\_\_\_ (with possible grade point honors such as *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *summa cum laude*) in the Honors College with Distinction in \_\_\_\_\_."

## 2. Accelerated Honors Program (minimum 19 credits)

The Accelerated Honors Program is designed for students who enter the Honors College with 30 or more completed credit hours (AP, Dual Credit, Transfer Credit). The program includes a primary emphasis upon the completion of major requirements and the production of a final distinction project in six or fewer semesters, facilitating early graduation for students who wish it. Students must complete the following requirements:

1. Completion of one of the following Honors elements:
  - a. All first-time in college students, regardless of class standing, must complete UHC 110 *Freshman Honors Seminar* (2 cr.). This course satisfies the University's First-Year Foundations General Education requirement and must be completed during the first semester of study;
  - b. Transfer students and MSU students admitted to the Honors College after completing GEP 101 *First-Year Foundations* must complete 1 General Honors course or 1 Honors Experiential Learning course of their choice (see General Honors Program Section A above).
2. UHC 397 *Honors Colloquium*(3 cr.);
3. UHC 410 *Senior Honors Seminar* (3 cr.);
4. Students must complete a minimum of 12 credits of honors course work in their major, including a minimum of 3 credits of UHC 499 *Honors Distinction Project*. Students may propose appropriate combinations of the following courses:
  1. UHC 396 *Honors Independent Study* (1-3 cr.);
  2. UHC 398 *Honors Undergraduate Research* (1-3 Cr.);
  3. UHC 499 *Honors Distinction Project* (3-4 cr.)

Students must complete a course and distinction project proposal under the guidance of a faculty member in their major department. The proposal must be approved by the Department Head for the major and by the Director of the Honors College before a student may register for honors course sections.

Distinction proposals must be approved prior to the beginning of a student's senior year.

The Honors Distinction Project must be submitted to the Honors College on the final day of classes prior to a student's graduation.

Students who complete all Accelerated Honors Program requirements and earn a final institutional GPA of 3.25 or higher are eligible to graduate from the Honors College after they satisfy all other University degree requirements. Final transcripts and diplomas will include the notation "Bachelor of \_\_\_\_\_ (with possible grade point honors such as *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *summa cum laude*) in the Honors College with Distinction in \_\_\_\_\_."

### **Additional Requirements & Regulations**

- A. In order to remain in good standing in the program, a student must maintain a 3.25 cumulative institutional GPA or higher and enroll in 12 or more credit hours per semester. Members should normally carry no more than two honors classes in any one semester and must take at least one honors class each semester until they have completed the General Honors Core Curriculum. Students who complete the General Honors Core Curriculum maintain good standing in the program by maintaining a 3.25 cumulative institutional GPA.
- B. The Director of the Honors College will review the academic progress of all students at the end of each semester. Students who do not achieve the required 3.25 cumulative institutional GPA will be given one semester to achieve that level, provided it is mathematically possible. Students who cannot achieve a 3.25 cumulative institutional GPA or who fail to reach a 3.25 for two consecutive semesters will be ineligible to continue in the program. Students who are removed from the program may apply for readmission after one semester if their academic performance satisfies program requirements. Students who are removed from the program a second time are not eligible for readmission.

### ***-Scholarship Renewal Requirements***

Almost all Honors College students have an academic scholarship that includes specific renewal criteria:

#### ***Presidential***

**Renewal criteria:** Complete 27 Missouri State credit hours each academic year with a 3.50 cumulative Missouri State grade point average. Additionally, to renew for your fourth year, you will be required to complete 120 hours of community or campus service during your first three years of study.

#### ***University***

**Renewal criteria:** Complete 27 Missouri State credit hours each academic year with a 3.25 cumulative Missouri State grade point average. Additionally, to renew for your fourth year, you will be required to complete 120 hours of community or campus service during your first three years of study.

## ***Board of Governors***

**Renewal criteria:** Complete 27 Missouri State credit hours each academic year with a 3.25 cumulative Missouri State grade point average. Additionally, to renew for your fourth year, you will be required to complete 120 hours of community or campus service during your first three years of study.

## ***Provost***

**Renewal criteria:** Complete 27 Missouri State credit hours each academic year with a 3.25 cumulative Missouri State grade point average.

## ***-How advising in the Honors College Works***

All undecided Honors students receive specialized advisement from the Honors College. The Assistant Director, Scott Handley, is a full-time advisor and is always willing to help any student. The Honors College also has a graduate assistant who has been through Master Advisor training and takes on advisement appointments.

Once students have declared a major either in the Honors College office or another department, they are assigned primary advisors in the department of their major. The primary advisors are usually Honors professors unless the department has their own advisement center. Visiting the Honors College office can still be helpful in fulfilling any other Honors needs. We love getting to know our students and helping them beyond scheduling, majors, and careers by presenting the many other opportunities the Missouri State campus can provide.

Students with **fewer than 75 hours** must visit their advisor at least once per semester for registration clearance. We suggest continuing to see your advisor until you graduate to ensure everything is on track.

Students can complete a variety of tasks in the Honors College office, including:

- ❖ Declare/change major/minor;
- ❖ Meet with an Academic Advisor for registration clearance (undeclared students);
- ❖ Request permission for a registration/course overload (permission for 18+ credits);
- ❖ Request permission to extend the timeline for completing Honors requirements;
- ❖ Register for an Honors component as part of the Departmental Distinction process;
- ❖ Apply for approval to pursue Departmental Distinction.

## ***-Honors Students are Encouraged to Pursue Special Opportunities, such as:***

- ❖ *LOGOS: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*
- ❖ Study Away
- ❖ Service-Learning
- ❖ Internships
- ❖ Research Opportunities
- ❖ Conferences
- ❖ Fellowships
- ❖ Academic Honor Societies

## *-Resources & Contact Information*

### *Personnel:*

John F. Chuchiak, IV, Ph.D., Director  
Scott Handley, M.A., Assistant Director  
Emily Wright, M.A., Program Administrator  
Shannon Wick, B.S., Academic Advisor

### *Address:*

Honors College  
University Hall 212  
Missouri State University  
901 South National Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65897

### *Business Hours:*

Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

### *Phone Numbers:*

Office: 417-836-6370 Fax: 417-836-3141

### *Internet Resources:*

*Email:* [honorscollege@missouristate.edu](mailto:honorscollege@missouristate.edu)

*Website:* [www.missouristate.edu/honors](http://www.missouristate.edu/honors)

*Campus LINK:* [missouristate.collegiatelink.net/organization/honors-college](http://missouristate.collegiatelink.net/organization/honors-college)

*Facebook:* [www.facebook.com/honors-college-at-missouri-state-university](http://www.facebook.com/honors-college-at-missouri-state-university)

## Fall 2017 Honors College Registration Guidelines

- Every first-year student in the Honors College is **required** to enroll in UHC 110 *Freshman Honors Seminar*. Each section has a unique theme and is appropriate for and open to students in any academic program. The *Freshman Honors Seminar* is **NOT** an introductory course for any major, however, some students may wish to select a section that is sponsored by a faculty member in a department that is of interest to the student. Please see the course descriptions below for information on individual sections.
- First-year students are welcome to enroll in a second honors course of their choice on a space available basis.
- Due to seating constraints, we ask that students **do not register for more than two honors courses** during SOAR (UHC 110 + one general honors course). If seats remain available in honors courses during August, students may request additional sections during add/drop period.
- The small size of honors sections makes the courses attractive, but at the same time poses registration challenges. Many students will desire courses and sections that are closed. Please be patient and flexible as you build your class schedule. We believe that all of our courses are beneficial to students and we encourage you to explore new areas of interest. Most honors courses are repeated on a regular basis. If a class that you are interested in is closed now, ask your advisor when the class will be offered again and build it into your future plans.
- Students registering for **BMS 110-999 *Intro to Biomedical Sciences*** must also enroll in **BMS 111-999 *Biomedical Sciences Laboratory***. These sections are integrated and may not be separated.
- Please note any course pre-requisites before planning your class schedule. These are noted in the course descriptions section below.

## Fall 2017 Honors College Course Descriptions

UHC 110 Freshman Honors Seminar is Required for all Students

**UHC 110-973 Freshman Honors Seminar, Prof. Michael P. Boyle**  
**TR 11:00-11:50 Sicheluff Hall 404**

*The Two Cultures Debate & Globalization: This class will include an investigation of the philosophical underpinnings of the Two Cultures debate (Humanities vs. Sciences) and its relationship to General Education and the academic divisions of the University, as well as an in-depth discussion of the current global economic picture and its impact on university graduates in the United States. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-977 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Brian D. Greene**  
**MW 11:15-12:05 Strong Hall 404**

*Science Literacy: Science has assumed an unprecedented importance in our increasingly technological society and many of our most important problems require scientific solutions. However, we lag behind many other countries in science education and public interest in science suffers from a steadily declining number of science journalism outlets that are swamped by a barrage of media trivia. As a result, a significant segment of mainstream America fails to recognize the importance of scientific knowledge or the reasoning process from which it is derived, and readily accepts pseudoscientific and anti-scientific ideas. Science literacy is enormously beneficial to society by fostering critical thinking that strengthens democracy. Educated citizens can adeptly recognize misinformation and demand appropriate scientific input in the creation of public policy. How is real science distinguished from pseudoscience? What is required to make a scientifically valid argument? We will address these and other questions by examining scientific and pseudoscientific perspectives of various current socially-relevant issues. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-979 Freshman Honors Seminar, Prof. Michael A. Murray**  
**MW 12:20-1:10 Strong Hall 350**

*Music, Art and Action: What the Arts Can Teach. This course will explore various relationships between the arts and social problem solving. The arts can be viewed historically as a meaningful tool and significant weapon aimed against oppression, tyranny and injustice. Art can simply raise awareness that brings about change. Through a consideration of several confrontations between the artist and the world around the artist, this seminar will attempt to enlarge the student's awareness of the power of art and the value of creativity. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-980 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Dennis V. Hickey**  
**TR 11:00-11:50 Glass Hall 347**

*The Presidential Election: Americans justifiably take great pride in their democracy. Unfortunately, surprisingly few American actually understand how their democracy works. This observation applies with special force to the election of the U.S. president. Most Americans do not understand the nomination process, the primaries, the party conventions, the role of the electoral college or who actually votes in these elections (and why). This class will discuss (1) the nomination process (2) political party conventions (3) elections campaigns (4) campaign financing (5) the electoral college and (6) disputed elections. Students will also learn why people vote, who votes and how different groups participate in the American presidential election cycle. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-983 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. D. Alexander Wait**  
**MW 9:05-9:55 Strong Hall 250**

*Sustainability in Practice & Action: Sustainability requires an understanding of the intersection of social equity, economic prosperity, and environmental preservation. Sustainable development is measured by more than goods and wealth. It is also measured by natural capital, ecosystem services, happiness, wellbeing, health and vitality. From universities to Kraft to Walmart to NGO's to hospitals to government – sustainability offices are now the norm in the workplace. However, sustainability education is lacking. The class will consist of a series of speakers from Missouri State University, community organizations and businesses; and, there will be a series of*

*readings within a discussion module on sustainable development as follows: a) A World of Health: Connecting People, Place and Planet; b) Global Warming: Changing Course; c) Menu for the Future . The instructor will supplement each topic with primary research articles from Science, Nature, Nature Genetics, or Journal of the American Medical Association.*

*Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-987 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Amy F. Muchnick  
TR 2:00-2:50 Siceluff Hall 216**

*Art as Revolution: Art as Revolution will explore the ways in which the arts have mirrored political and social changes in our history. We will examine many controversial works and their relationship to one another against a backdrop of the social and political events that inspire the life of their times. Our investigation into the rumblings of revolution will inspire theories and questions about art and revolution in the 21st century. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-989 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Samuel C. Dyer  
TR 12:30-1:20 Craig Hall 316**

*Communication Ethics & Leadership: Fundamental to being an effective student and future leader is an understanding of human communication and the ethics of human communicating. This course covers the predominant theories in communication ethics and leadership. Students will study communication and leadership in their chosen fields of study, and then write a paper grounding organizational practice in ethical and responsible communication strategy and tactics to build and advance community. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-990 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Etta M. Madden**

**MW 1:25-2:15 Craig Hall 330**

*Utopian/Dystopian Visions of Food: Alongside of this year's common reader, *The Good Food Revolution*, by Will Allen, we will also read the Renaissance classic, *Thomas More's Utopia* and Ruth Ozeki's *All Over Creation* (2003). Together these juxtapose a "real" view of farming, sustainability and eating practices with two fictional literary works. *More's* tale introduces concepts of raping the land due to human greed, poverty and unequal distribution of wealth, technologies of farming, idealized labor, housing, and eating practices. It also introduces interesting ideas of marriage, childrearing and education, as well as travel as a means of learning about other cultures. Set 500 year later in the present-day Pacific Northwest, *All Over Creation* complicates issues of GMOs, personal dietary preferences, religious beliefs and sexual practices within an ethnically mixed culture. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-991 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Rajinder Jutla**

**TR 12:30-1:20 Temple Hall 344**

*Introduction to South Asia: This UHC 110 Freshman Honors Seminar will focus on socio-economic and geo-political aspects of South Asia. It will focus upon India and its neighboring countries of Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh & Afghanistan. The region will be examined in terms of its three images: Image 1: South Asia, A Distinct Land & Ancient Civilization, Image 2: South Asia, A Diverse Social Environment, & Image 3: Democracy in South Asia. It will also examine critical issues of overpopulation, urbanization and terrorism. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-992 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. R. Isabelle Bauman**

**MW 11:15-12:05 Craig Hall 311**

*Communication & Mental Health: Over the course of the semester, we will be discussing communication and well-being, mental illness and stigma, mental health campaigns, mental health on the internet, and communication and a variety of mental illnesses. The class is discussion based and culminates in a team project focusing on a campus mental health issue. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-993 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. David W. Gutzke**

**TR 12:30-1:20 Strong Hall 450**

*Prohibition in America, 1919-1933: We shall use the outlawing of liquor as a topic for exploring a novel form of social engineering, the breakdown of legal enforcement and the factors leading to the repeal of the 18th amendment. Ken Burns' superb documentary, Prohibition, episodes of Boardwalk Empire and several historical essays will recapture the spirit of the Roaring Twenties. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-994 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. John S. Prescott**

**TR 9:30-10:20 Sicheluff Hall 216**

*China: Journey of the Soul. Peter Hessler's account of teaching English in China with the Peace Corps serves as a backdrop to this exploration of new horizons. Students will explore parallels between Hessler's experiences and their own as they embark on their collegiate journeys. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-995 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Victor H. Matthews**

**WF 10:10-11:00 Strong Hall 250**

*Power & Authority: This particular section of UHC 110 will examine the sources and uses of power and authority as they relate to the Public Affairs Mission of the University. This will include (1) religion, (2) forms of communication, (3) forms of government, (4) forms of behavior modification, and (5) spatiality. Each of these areas dovetails into each other and allows for easy transitions and for the identification of connections. The primary focus will be to analyze forms of, and means to, power and then discuss ways in which these have been harmful as well as beneficial to individual freedoms. In every instance, it will be the task of the instructor to help students identify, analyze, and process their understanding of these forms and symbols of power.*

*Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-996 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Larry L. George**  
**TR 9:30-10:20 Siceluff Hall 218**

*The Ultimate Quest - The Search for the Holy Grail: Through literature, films, and documentaries, students will explore the origin of this theme and what it encompasses today. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-997 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Wafaa Kaf**  
**MW 12:20-1:10 Professional Building 225**

*We will be studying the profession of Communication Disorders. After completing the course you should have a good knowledge of the following: the profession of speech-language pathology, audiology, and education for the deaf and hard of hearing. We will discuss a variety of common communication disorders of speech, language, hearing, and auditory processing including how to assess and manage individuals with these disorders. You will also be introduced to the deaf culture. In addition, we will discuss issues related to communication in general. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-998 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Erin M. Buchanan**  
**MW 10:10-11:00 Pummill Hall 403**

*The Experience of Language: In a normal day you interact with language by talking, texting, reading, surfing the web, and even driving places – indeed, it is hard to imagine a day without language. This section of UHC 110 will explore how language influences relationships, is an essential part of culture, and is constantly changing with the expansion of the internet. We will examine language through linguistics (basic units of language, discourse analysis), evolutionary perspectives (how does language develop and change?), sociolinguistics (language and society), and traditional psycholinguistics (language and the individual). Students will read original sources by famous authors such as Deborah Tannen, Steven Pinker, and Noam Chomsky with a focus on how broad linguistic topics can be applied to individual experience and research. Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

**UHC 110-999 Freshman Honors Seminar, Dr. Linda T. Moser**  
**MW 9:05-9:55 Sicheluff Hall 216**

*Literature & Social Change: We will investigate the relationship between literature, social change, and social justice. Social change refers to alterations in cultural norms, attitudes, behavior, and values. Social justice is the view that all people deserve equal access to social, political, and economic opportunities. It depends upon a belief in human rights and the common humanity of all people. As such, it promotes and values diversity and challenges discrimination based on race, class, gender, sexuality, religion, age, (dis)ability, nation, and other characteristics related to identity or group membership. Social justice depends on understanding others in our diverse world. "By bridging understanding among diverse groups," Paula Moya argues, "the study of literature can have powerful implications for social justice" (Heinz 1).*

*In particular, we will consider the ways literary texts generate thoughts and feelings in readers that promote (or prevent) social change and justice. Our distinct backgrounds necessarily color the lens through which we view others, but through literature, readers have the ability to see the world through the eyes of another, someone whose experiences may be very different from their own. As we analyze literary texts, we will work to be aware of our own assumptions while promoting openness to the complexity experienced by others. Through close reading which involves "attention to language, form, and details of a novel, story or poem," and through personal reflection, students will learn to recognize, describe, and understand the varied ways social justice is represented and promoted by literary texts.*

*Students will also be introduced to the Honors College, Meyer Library, and academic and student life resources at Missouri State University.*

## Additional Options for First-Year Students [Space Available Basis]

### **ANT 100-World Cultures**

General Education Course (Focus on Cultural Competence). An exploration of cultural differences throughout the world, with emphasis on nonwestern societies, from the perspective of cultural anthropology.

### **BIO 121 – General Biology I**

**Prerequisite: eligibility for both ENG 110 and MTH 135.** General Education Course (Natural World). First half of 2-semester introductory biology sequence for biology majors and minors. Introduction to the concepts of biological structure and function at the molecular and cellular level, genetics, and evolution.

### **BMS 110 – Introduction to the Biomedical Sciences**

**Prerequisite: eligibility for both ENG 110 and MTH 135.** General Education Course (Natural World). An introduction to concepts and techniques related to human anatomy, physiology, genetics, cellular and molecular biology. Recommended for students in majors within the College of Health and Human Services and those students interested in pre-professional programs and Allied Health careers.

**Concurrent enrollment in BMS 111-HONR is required.**

### **BMS 111-Introduction to Biomedical Sciences Laboratory**

**Prerequisite: BMS 110 or concurrent enrollment; and eligibility for both ENG 110 and MTH 135.** General Education Course (Focus on Life Sciences). This course is designed for students who require intensive introductory laboratory experience in human biology and biomedical sciences techniques to prepare for future laboratory work in the biomedical sciences. **Concurrent enrollment in BMS 110-HONR is required.**

### **COM 115 – Fundamentals of Public Speaking**

General Education Course (Oral Communication). Instruction and practice in researching, composing, and delivering formal and informal speeches in a variety of public contexts. Representative topics include: ethics in public speaking; listening; library research; outlining; delivery; writing in an oral style; evaluation of public address; and analyzing and adapting to audiences. The course emphasizes informative and persuasive speaking.

### **DAN 180-Introduction to Dance**

General Education Course (Focus on the Arts). Survey of dance from a historical retrospective through the creative process. Emphasis will be placed on historical multi-cultural and societal influences on dance. The approach will be from the viewpoint of the audience to help heighten awareness of and increase critical thinking in relationship to the artistic experience. Buying tickets to and attendance at local productions required.

### **ECO 155 - Principles of Macroeconomics**

General Education Course (Social and Behavioral Sciences). This course prepares the student to understand the economic structure of the United States and its place in the world economy, to interpret common economic measures, to understand the processes of governmental fiscal and monetary policies, and to evaluate individual decision-making from an economic perspective.

### **ENG 110 – Writing I**

**Prerequisite: appropriate placement score or ENG 100.** General Education Course (Written Communication). Critical reading and writing skills applicable to writing within and beyond the college community. Emphasis on composition processes, research methods, argumentation of diverse issues, and collaborative learning, such as peer review.

### **HST 121-United States to 1877**

General Education Course (Focus on Constitutions of US and Missouri and American History and Institutions). Formation of the United States and its civilization from the Age of Discovery through the Reconstruction Era, with emphasis on the influence of the Frontier and

the Native American, European and African heritages; the constitutional development of the federal government; the evolution of the nation's economic system, social fabric and diplomatic experiences.

### **HST 122-United States since 1877**

General Education Course (Focus on Constitutions of US and Missouri and American History and Institutions). Modernization of the United States and its role in world affairs from the late 19th Century to the present, with emphasis on industrialization and urbanization and their impact on socioeconomic and international developments.

### **LLT 121-Classical Mythology**

General Education Course (Focus on Humanities). A study of Greek and Roman myths and legends as they appear in art, music and literature, especially epic and tragedy.

### **MUS 241-Language of Music**

General Education Course (Focus on Humanities). A study of the ways music creatively expresses self-understanding, cultural environment, and aesthetic values from ancient to modern times.

### **PHI 110-Introduction to Philosophy**

General Education Course (Focus on Humanities). This course explores various ways of understanding the human self and its relation to the world. Through a consideration of what can be known, what is worth valuing, what reality is, and how human communities should be composed and regulated, the course deals with central themes that arise from the human quest for deeper self-understanding.

### **PLS 101-American Democracy & Citizenship**

General Education Course (Focus on Constitutions of US and Missouri and American History and Institutions). This course familiarizes students with the institutions and constitutional framework of the United States and Missouri. The course emphasis is on the values, rights, and responsibilities that shape the public decision making of active and informed citizens and influence contemporary public affairs in a democratic society.

### **PSY 121-Introductory Psychology**

General Education Course (Social and Behavioral Sciences). An examination of how psychology enhances our understanding of human behavior; a survey of basic biological, experiential, cognitive, emotional, and sociocultural influences on behavior and self-understanding. Students must choose either to be research participants or fulfill an alternative library assignment as part of the course requirements. Honors sections are taught in a lecture/lab format.

### **REL 102-New Testament**

General Education Course (Focus on Humanities). An introduction to early Christian literature and the persons and movements that produced it in their Jewish and Greco-Roman contexts.

### **THE 101 - Introduction to Theatre and Drama Arts**

General Education Course (Arts). The creative processes of transforming drama to stage, film and television. A study of the collaborations and *contributions that the various artists make to the process. Intended to increase the audience's ability to think critically about the artistic experience.* Buying tickets to and attendance at local productions required.

### **Honors College Contact Information**

University Hall 212  
Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Office: 417-836-6370

Fax: 417-836-6372

[honorscollege@missouristate.edu](mailto:honorscollege@missouristate.edu)

[www.missouristate.edu/honors](http://www.missouristate.edu/honors)

[Facebook: Honors College at Missouri State University](#)

John F. Chuchiak, IV, Ph.D., Director  
Scott Handley, M.A., Assistant Director  
Shannon Wick, B.S., Academic Advisor  
Emily Wright, M.A., Program Administrator

