HONORS COLLEGE

GETTING TO THE ROOTS OF THE BIG QUESTIONS

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
TAKING CHARGE

THIS IS YOUR EDUCATION — YOUR CHANCE TO DECIDE WHAT TO LEARN AND HOW.

The Honors College is for those students who want more options in their academic journey. As a member of the Honors College, you can choose to take classes from a range of topics, replacing regular requirements with Honors courses to fit your degree plan.

For example, you might choose “Writing for Film: European Cinema of the 1960s” to count for an advanced English course. Or “American History through Memoirs: From the End of Reconstruction to the Present Day” in place of a more general history course.

What makes us special is how this college cultivates the faculty and student bond. If you’re up for a challenge, we have people in Honors College who will help push you as far as you can go.”

DR. PETER TSCHIRHART
ASSOCIATE DEAN, HONORS COLLEGE
THE ATMOSPHERE IN AN HONORS COURSE ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHARE IDEAS AND RAISE QUESTIONS.

Limited to 20 students, seminar-style classes in the Honors College bring students together to share ideas, discuss interpretations and raise questions. The collaborative environment helps you shape your own understanding.

Classes in the Honors College will spark your intellectual curiosity. Our professors share their areas of expertise in the way they design classes, encouraging you to think critically and creatively in your assignments and projects.

JOIN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ISSUES THAT AFFECT US ALL.

The Common Experience unites the campus and broader community in a common intellectual conversation on a theme chosen for the year. Throughout the year, you will hear renowned and respected speakers address the theme, see films related to the topic and explore the experience through fine arts exhibits and performances. These events will spark discussions of issues relevant to your understanding of the world around you.

The Honors College helps you examine timely topics through the Gallery of the Common Experience as well as through courses. Past exhibits have ranged from a photo documentary on the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and the onset of HIV to portraits of the journey of the Mexican American family. Curated by students, the gallery also hosts special events throughout the year, including free art workshops, artist talks and public art events on the Quad.

The Common Experience unites the campus in a shared intellectual conversation on a selected theme throughout the year. Renowned speakers, films and other events will help you explore some big ideas from a variety of viewpoints and perspectives.

The Gallery of the Common Experience, curated by Honors College students, hosts free art workshops, artist talks and public art events, both in the Honors College and on the Quad.
I didn’t do Honors College initially. At first, it just seemed like a lot of work. It wasn’t until I started looking at the classes and realized these classes look great — a lot of the teachers I loved were already teaching in the Honors College. I was still worried writing a thesis, but then I learned about the creative thesis, where you can do a project, like personal ethnography or an arts project. There’s just so many ways to go through the Honors College, how could you not? This is the coolest thing at Texas State.”

ZACHARY POSTON
2021 GRADUATE | POLITICAL SCIENCE & SPANISH
BRENHAM, TEXAS

Most of my Honors College has been through the contract courses, which I’ve really enjoyed, because it forced me to talk to a lot of professors that I never would have interacted with. I’ve been able to form a lot of close relationships with my professors, especially my (Honors) thesis professor.”

VICTORIA VILLARREAL
SENIOR | PSYCHOLOGY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

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The Honors College is a chance to use your curiosity and your interests to design a unique academic experience and create your own opportunities while working closely with Honors faculty from across the university.

Undergraduate research opportunities for Honors students include Honors independent study, the Honors contract course, the Honors thesis, the Undergraduate Research Conference, funding through URF (Undergraduate Research Fund) and publication opportunities in TXSTUR (Texas State Undergraduate Research Journal). In addition, faculty and staff will mentor you in your research.

THROUGH LEADERSHIP AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES, YOU’LL EXPLORE YOUR CAPABILITIES AND DEFINE YOUR PASSIONS.

ZACHARY POSTON
2021 GRADUATE | POLITICAL SCIENCE & SPANISH
BRENHAM, TEXAS

WE’RE NOT HERE TO TELL STUDENTS WHAT TO DO. THE HONORS COLLEGE PROVIDES YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO DESIGN YOUR OWN COURSES, CHOOSE YOUR THESIS AND DIVE INTO RESEARCH THAT MATTERS TO YOU.”

DR. HEATHER GALLOWAY
DEAN, HONORS COLLEGE

My first time on campus was for my student orientation, but when I got here, it felt like home. It’s beautiful, with a lot of trees, which I love. And the theatre program is amazing. At first, I was a production and performance major. I was part of a play called Zu’s Earth that’s basically about exploring identity and feeling of belonging in the African American community, that gave me the confidence to barge into one of the acting faculty’s office and say, ‘I want to audition for the acting program.’ All of the acting faculty are wonderful in their own ways. I’ve learned so much from each of them.”

JAUVIN BUTLER
JUNIOR | THEATRE
PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS

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DR. HEATHER GALLOWAY
DEAN, HONORS COLLEGE
COURSES

EATING ANIMALS IN AMERICA: HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVES
PUBLIC POLICY FOR ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY
PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW
AMERICA IN THE SIXTIES
ELEMENTARY NUMBER THEORY
ETHICS OF CARE: EAST AND WEST
RE-HUMANIZING COMMUNICATION
ITALY AND ARTS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD
AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH MEMOIRS
BASEBALL AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
PRESERVING HUMANITY IN THE FACE OF CONFLICT
NONVIOLENCE, SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL CHANGE
WRITING FOR FILM: EUROPEAN CINEMA OF THE 1960s
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN AMERICAN POLITICS
MODERN TIBET: POLITICS, IDENTITY AND REPRESENTATION
THE DEATH PLOT: FICTION, MEMOIRS, POEMS
EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP: OWNERSHIP AND INFLUENCE
ALIENATION AND AUTHENTICITY: IN SEARCH OF THE MODERN SELF
AND MANY MORE!

HAIR AS A GLORY: AN ANALYSIS OF THE PERCEPTIONS OF HAIR IN ST. SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
KATELYNN DANAE HAGANS
ANTHROPOLOGY

THE EFFECTS OF A GUIDED RELAXATION EXERCISE ON PERCEIVED STRESS AND PHYSIOLOGICAL STRESS INDICATORS IN MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSES
CAITLIN MARIE Batcheller
PSYCHOLOGY

STAGE MANAGERS DON'T MAKE COFFEE ANYMORE
BRYAN RUSSELL
THEATRE AND DANCE

THE EFFECTS OF BILINGUALISM ON STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA
MOLLY WILLIAMS
MODERN LANGUAGES

REVIVING THE RENAISSANCE: AN ANALYSIS OF NUCLEAR POWER’S FUTURE IN THE ELECTRIC POWER MARKET
BRETT W. JORDAN
FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

JUST A FEW TWEAKS: HOW TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONES COULD ENCOURAGE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN TEXAS
WILLIAM RILEY TUCKER
COMMUNICATION STUDIES

THESES

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WILLIAM RILEY TUCKER
COMMUNICATION STUDIES
I was in the (Honors) living-learning community. I had a lot of classes with the people I was in the dorm with, so I got to know them really well. We all studied together, and it was really helpful getting through that first year. But my favorite class was The Creative Spark, where we talked about what creativity is. We think of creativity as just art, music, dance, but it's not just that, really. Coming up with graphs and charts takes creativity; coming up with vaccines is creative."

RACHEL BROWN
SENIOR | MUSIC EDUCATION
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

I want to go for my doctorate at some point, so doing the Honors thesis gives you a taste of what that research is like. Texas State for me came at a time where I really needed it. I didn't know what I wanted to do, and I felt really lost. When I got here, things started connecting for me; my direction became clear. It's important to connect with people in your field, but one of my favorite things here has been working at KTSW (Bobcat Radio) Sports. I made lifelong friends there and had amazing experiences."

CONNOR MACKINNON
SENIOR | PSYCHOLOGY
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

I love the Honors College. It feels a lot more personal than my other classes. I really believe the Honors College has helped diversify my (college) experience. Last semester, I took the Honors class on elections – that was life-changing for me. I became a citizen during that class and feel like going forward I'll be able to approach politics in a more unbiased way."

NICTE SOBRELLA ROSAS
SENIOR | SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

Researching and creating your project can help focus your interests, provide perspective on your major, develop your scholarly skills, and encourage your creativity and independent effort. Writing a thesis can help you when you apply to graduate or professional school, or apply for a job after graduation. The flexibility across disciplines allows you to develop a unique thesis project, such as creating a documentary film or composing music.

txstate.edu/honors/thesis

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NICTE SOBRELLA ROSAS
SENIOR | SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
I was always academically driven. When I applied to Texas State, I applied for the Honors College, and I love it. It gives me a chance to take courses that aren’t just in geography or anthropology. Some of the Honors literature classes are my favorite classes ever. These classes get so close with the professors, some of them will be references for me forever. There’s just something different about Honors discussions that I really value.

LUCY LYNCH
2021 GRADUATE | GEOGRAPHY & ANTHROPOLOGY
THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS

I joined the Molecular Bioscience Research Group the summer after my freshman year, and my mentors there started opening up doors for me. After my sophomore year, I did research at Baylor’s College of Medicine, one of the best in the world. This summer I’m going to Harvard to do research at Mass General, then I’m going to medical school. I would never have done any of these things if not for the great mentorship that’s part of joining the research lab.

ANGEL SANDOVAL
SENIOR | BIOCHEMISTRY/MICROBIOLOGY
MCCALLEN, TEXAS

The Honors College allows you to have this extra push, this extra challenge to keep you focused on school and learning as much as you can. It’s not just about memorization and writing things down to pass the test. I think that’s what Texas State helped me do: It helped me figure out what I want and showed me how to go do it.

DAVID RITCH
JUNIOR | THEATRE
LONGVIEW, TEXAS
The Honors College not only provides students with classes that are dynamic and push students to think creatively, it is a place where students can challenge themselves and each other to grow as individuals.

DR. LOUIE D. VALENCIA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DIGITAL HISTORY

HONORS STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO SPECIAL SPACES ON CAMPUS. The Honors Coffee Forum in Lampasas Hall is a special gathering place for study, conversation and celebration surrounded by the Gallery of the Common Experience.

Laurel Honors House is the Honors residence hall, a living-learning community on campus with a faculty member in residence. Living in Laurel is not required of Honors College students, but is an option for incoming freshmen. Laurel residents enjoy the creative and engaging environment in the house.

TERRY SCHOLARSHIPS
Earning a Terry Scholarship is more than receiving full tuition; it’s being welcomed into a community of other talented students and future leaders. All Terry Scholars live in the Laurel Honors Hall for their first year.
Built in 1912 next to Old Main, Lampasas Hall is home to the Honors College. The building includes classrooms, a computer lab, offices, The Multicultural Lounge and Black Students’ Resource Library, The Honors Coffee Forum, and the Gallery of the Common Experience.

LAMPASAS HALL

LAUREL HALL
Located near central campus, Laurel Hall houses the Laurel Honors House and Terry Scholars’ living-learning communities.

HONORS VIRTUAL COFFEE FORUM
The VCF is hosted through Discord and is a great way to connect with other Honors students. The channel is student-run and monitored by Honors student staff. You can even connect with our Minecraft community on the Honors Minecraft Server!

LAUREL HALL
Choose Your Path

Traditional Path
- 15 Hours of Honors Courses

What Honors Courses are you interested in taking?

What Honors Organizations would you like to join?

What Honors events would you like to attend?

Minor in Honors Studies
- 21 Hours of Honors Courses
- Thesis
- Cross-Cultural Experience

Where would you like to go for your cross-cultural experiences?

What topics would you most like to write a thesis on?

Ready to Join Our Community?
Honors College alumni are accepted into prestigious graduate programs, work for top corporations and start companies of their own. They are artists, engineers, lawyers, doctors, professors, actors and more. Join us!
For requirements and other details about the Honors College, visit txstate.edu/honors/apply.
For information on applying to Texas State, visit admissions.txstate.edu.