

# THE HONORS COMMUNITY

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## Administrative Leadership

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Jill Webb (1987). Assistant Director of the Honors Community and Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., Murray State University; M.S.N., University of Evansville; Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Memphis.

## Faculty

Justin D. Barnard(2007). Associate Professor of Philosophy in the Honors Community. B.A., Palm Beach Atlantic College; M.A. and Ph.D., Florida State University.

## Staff

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## Mission

The Honors Community is a lively intellectual *koinonía* with transformative effects in its members, and through them, in the University, in the professions, in the church, and in local communities.

What does this mean?

The Honors Community rightly may be called *koinonía* or fellowship, because it is a common bond in a shared endeavor—the ardent pursuit of the truth—and a shared conviction—that all truth leads us to the Truth. As such, our fellowship extends beyond our own place and time to include the Christian intellectual tradition, the collective efforts of the faithful in all places and times to pursue and embrace the Truth wherever it is found.

Two academic programs provide structure and resources for our own participation in this pursuit. General Honors invites faculty and students to inquire rigorously and faithfully into substantial questions of historic and contemporary significance. Discipline-Specific Honors programs help students become confident scholars who can insightfully address crucial and complex questions within their disciplinary fields. The common bond of the *koinonía* is further nurtured through co-curricular events and extracurricular activities which bring together faculty and students from both programs for mutual enjoyment and edification.

The transformative effects of this *koinonía* are first seen in its members, in whom our common life nurtures Christian virtues, such as humility and hope, and academic virtues, such as wisdom and wonder. These virtues are most visible in their effects: heightened attentiveness toward the world, eager reciprocity toward one another, humble openness toward difference, and deepened joy in the truth. As members of the Honors Community participate in academic, professional, church, and local communities, they carry with them the virtues and fruits of spirited inquiry as gifts to be shared in and with these other communities.

## General Honors

General Honors courses provide freshman and sophomore Honors students with innovative, interdisciplinary, inquiry-based courses which are designed to tackle big questions of long-standing and contemporary relevance. General Honors courses fulfill Honors requirements and some General Core requirements. Admission to the General Honors program requires a successful application in a competitive process. All incoming freshmen who are admitted to Union and have a 3.5 GPA or a 28 on the ACT will be invited to apply to the General Honors program. Incoming freshmen who do not meet this criterion but think they are up to the challenge of Honors work are also welcome to apply. Transfer students and current Union students can be considered for admission to General Honors under certain circumstances. Additional details regarding the Admissions Standards and Procedures as well as the application itself can be found at our website: [www.uu.edu/academics/honors/](http://www.uu.edu/academics/honors/)

General Honors—three courses

### I. General Honors Core

- A. Freshman year: HON 205 and 215
- B. Sophomore year: HON 225 and/or HON 235

### II. General Honors Electives (optional)

- A. Special studies courses (variable credit)
- B. Scholar-in-Residence tutorial (variable credit)
- C. Other courses with the HON prefix
- D. Select study abroad opportunities

Typically, students satisfy the requirements of General Honors through successful completion of three General Honors core courses. In certain circumstances, the Directors may approve the substitution of a General Honors elective class for one of the General Honors Core classes.

## Discipline-Specific Honors

Discipline-Specific Honors provides an opportunity to pursue high-level, funded research in your major under the direct supervision of a faculty mentor. Students interested in Discipline-Specific Honors typically apply to the program in the spring of the sophomore or fall of the junior year. Eligible students must have a cumulative 3.5 GPA and meet any additional department-specific requirements. To graduate with Discipline-Specific Honors, students must attend four Honors colloquia during their junior year and four Honors colloquia during their senior year, complete 12 hours of

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With permission, one or more of the following courses may be chosen to partially fulfill the requirements of the General Honors program. All are subject to the approval of the Honors Community Leadership Committee unless otherwise stated in the published schedule of class offerings.

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs

(1-3) As Needed

All courses and their applications must be defined and