

# THE HONORS COMMUNITY

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## Administrative Leadership

Scott Huelin (2009). Director for the Honors Community and Professor of English. B.A. and M.A., University of North Carolina; Ph.D., University of Chicago.

Joy Moore (2007). Assistant Director for the Honors Community and Director for Barefoots Joe and Modero Coffee Roasters. B.A., University of Arkansas; M.A., Denver Seminary; M.F.A., Pacific University.

## Faculty

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

## Staff

Rebecca Edgre (2015). Program Coordinator Warren F. Jones Academic Suite. B.A., Union University.

## 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 a *koinonía* or fellowship, because it is a common bond in a shared endeavor—

complex questions within their disciplinary fields. The common bond of this *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

into Discipline-specific Honors have access to research and travel funds to support the production and presentation of their Honors work. For more information on Discipline-specific Honors in your major, consult your departmental advisor.

## University Honors

Students who satisfactorily complete the requirements for both General Honors and Discipline-specific Honors earn University Honors, one of Union's highest accolades.

## Scholar-in-Residence Program

A scholar of national or international reputation is invited each year to deliver a series of lectures at the University. The Scholar-in-Residence tutorial allows students to receive credit for reading, research, and writing under the supervision of the Scholar-in-Residence.

## Student Organization

The Honors Student Association (HSA) advises the Directors and plans co-curricular and extracurricular events for the Honors Community. HSA officers are elected for one-year terms at the beginning of each spring semester. All students currently enrolled in either General or Discipline-specific Honors, as well as alumni of either program who are still enrolled at Union, automatically enjoy membership in the HSA.

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## Course Offerings in Honors (HON)

( ) Hours Credit; F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

### 205. Wisdom (6) F

Prerequisite: Admission to General Honors.

Wisdom has served, in many civilizations, as the highest goal of education. The Old Testament declares that wisdom "is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her" (Prov. 3:15). We will inquire after the nature of wisdom and seek the means of acquiring it, giving attention to biblical and extrabiblical literature as well as their historical contexts and their elaborations in subsequent traditions. We will consider contemporary applications of these traditions, including reflection upon the purpose and pursuit of contemporary higher education in light of wisdom. Exercises are aimed at developing various dimensions of wisdom within the self. Due to the nature and purpose of this course, as well as its student writing, it satisfies the first half of the Written Composition requirement in the General Core.

### 215. Beauty (6) S

Prerequisite: HON 205. Pre- or Co-requisites: HIS 101.

What exactly makes any particular person, poem, song or object beautiful? The nature of beauty will be explored through both theory and practice. Students will examine and produce beautiful things in various media, reflect on what makes them beautiful, and discuss the history of aesthetic theory—Eastern and Western, theological and secular—as a resource for answering these questions. The class will culminate in a gallery show involving both works of art and theoretically-informed reflections upon them. The content, along with a focus on improvement of student writing, satisfies the General Core requirement for Arts in Western Civilization, as well as the second half of the Written Composition requirement.

### 225. Justice (6) S

Prerequisite: HON 205.

While most agree that a healthy society should be based on justice, there has been little agreement as to what justice is. In this course, we will search for an adequate definition—considering biblical and theological resources as well as philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, and Rawls—while looking closely at attempts to bring justice in particular communities and situations, both historical and contemporary.

With permission, one or more of the following courses may