

HNRS Course Guidelines

The Ogden Honors College recruits students who are well suited for in-depth and advanced course work. To promote the creation and teaching of courses appropriate for Ogden Honors students, the OHC Faculty Advisory Board offers this document aimed to identify the kinds of general approaches that often distinguish honors courses from other departmental courses and to identify learning outcomes and attitudes or characteristics that are especially descriptive of honors students.

English Composition

A 2000-level honors course may fulfill three (3) hours of the General Education English Composition requirement and should include several writing assignments. One of those assignments should be a research project that includes effective evaluation and analysis of primary and secondary sources.

Learning Outcomes or Skills

Faculty designing an honors course should state on the syllabus what a student should know and be able to do as a result of taking the course. In addition to content-specific, knowledge-based learning outcomes, the following outcomes may also be appropriate for an HNRS course. Assignments should assess the outcomes.

Students should be able to:

1. Identify, pose and solve problems using multiple modes and technologies, including qualitative methods and other modes of inquiry and research.
2. Read and think critically and with purpose. Understand, review and evaluate, make judgments and then apply information in new ways.
3. Locate, extract, and evaluate research on a specific topic. Listen to and read a variety of texts with critical discernment, comprehending, interpreting, and analyzing information; follow the logic, validity, and relevance of data.
4. Use technology effectively for presentations and for research and documentation.
5. Communicate effectively in written, spoken, visual, and technological modes for a variety of purposes, with different audiences in various contexts, using appropriate formats and technologies.
6. Demonstrate skills in leadership and teamwork. Demonstrate the ability to work effectively independently, collaboratively on multidisciplinary teams, and as part of an organization, able to make connections and negotiate differences.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of their own cultural traditions and those of other cultures, locally, nationally, and internationally and use strategies to bridge cultural differences and barriers.

HNRS Courses Should Foster the Following Attitudes or Characteristics

Through coursework in the OHC, we hope to develop students who are:

1. Intellectually curious — interested in learning and learning more, aware that most important issues are complex and interrelated, requiring rigor to unpack.
2. Ethically motivated — seek to understand the ethical consequences of their decisions, actions, beliefs; able to articulate grounded personal standards (values) against which to evaluate new ideas or experiences and make informed and principled decisions.
3. Tolerant — able to tolerate ambiguity — to embrace uncertainty to find new and interesting solutions; willing to suspend judgment while investigating a topic from multiple perspectives.
4. Connected — able to contextualize currently relevant issues and to see links between one discipline and another.