

THE MĀNOA UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROGRAM HAS DEDICATED NEARLY 50 YEARS TO ENHANCING THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE FOR QUALIFIED STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA.

HE HUAKA'I A'O *A Voyage of Learning*



An ancient Polynesian voyaging canoe represents the excitement of discovery through intellectual inquiry; the myriad ways humans pursue science and wisdom; the cultural contexts in which knowledge is constructed; the commitment required to accomplish any worthy goal.

HONORS



SELECTED STUDIES

The lower-division (freshman and sophomore) component of the Honors Program, Selected Studies, provides a strong foundation upon which you will build further learning.

- Critical thinking is nurtured in small classroom settings.
- The process of research, conducting formal inquiry, is explored in special Honors courses.

THE HONORS PROGRAM

For juniors and seniors, the upper-division Honors Program features three parts.

- Interdisciplinary seminars
- A research methods course to prepare for the Senior Honors Project
- The Senior Honors Project - a year-long, in-depth investigation of a topic in your major, supervised by a selected UHM faculty member

Make your life at the
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
an exciting voyage of discovery and learning...

Join the Mānoa Undergraduate
Honors Program.



“
HON 101 has enabled me to effectively pursue my own interests. It has helped to make a positive difference in my sense of what college and a liberal education is about because it's so open-ended.”

Shana Won, Nursing Major



The Selected Studies Program

Lower Division Component

Students in the Selected Studies Program launch their voyage of discovery and learning with the Honors First-Year Experience. Honors First-Year Experience introduces lower-division students to the Mānoa campus and its neighborhoods, to the research being conducted on the campus, and to the transition issues common to new college students. The journey begins with “Mānoa as Text” in the summer, and sails into the fall semester with A-Section courses and HON 101, “Mānoa Campus and Its Neighborhoods.” In spring semester, students complete the Honors First-Year Experience with HON 102, “Research at Mānoa,” as they enroll in more A-Section courses. Sophomores can continue the intellectual journey and earn Sophomore Honors. Throughout their voyage, students in Selected Studies benefit from the support, expertise, and guidance of Honors faculty, academic advisors, and peer mentors.

First Year Honors Experience (FYHE)

“MĀNOA AS TEXT” NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

A two-day summer experience, “Mānoa as Text” explores the campus with the help of peer mentors and digital cameras. In addition the session includes:

- An explanation of Honors course offerings
- A chance to meet with academic advisors to discuss course selection, scheduling and other academic concerns
- An introduction to the university’s MyUH web-based registration system
- An introduction to the enterprise of inquiry on a Triple Crown (land-, sea-, and space-grant institution) Research One University campus and to the academic expectations at Mānoa.
- Priority registration

HON 101 “MĀNOA CAMPUS AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS” (3 Credits)

Guided by peer mentors and faculty, students learn how to steer their own voyage of learning at Mānoa by gaining an understanding of undergraduate education at a research university. The course introduces students to the process of formal inquiry and engages students in collaborative research, culminating with written and oral reports.

HON 102 “RESEARCH AT MĀNOA” (1 Credit)

During this spring semester course, students visit research labs and other sites on campus where faculty share their current research projects. Various faculty also share their research as guest lecturers in class. In addition, students attend the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.



Honors Curriculum

A-SECTION CLASSES

In addition to the FYHE, there are other opportunities for students to work closely with Mānoa faculty. A-Section classes are drawn from the required General Education courses: history, biology, art, political science, and more. Honors “A” sections foster students’ involvement with their education in at least three ways:

- Classes are small, encouraging discussion and close interaction with faculty and fellow students
- A pre-registration process that guarantees SSP students a seat in “A” sections
- Courses are taught by some of the UH-Mānoa’s most distinguished teachers.

A-sections provide an intimate atmosphere with motivated students and dedicated faculty, creating a formula for academic success.

The Sophomore Curriculum

HON 291 “SOPHOMORE SEMINARS” (3 Credits)

Taught in seminar style, the classes are selected to meet different diversification areas in the General Education curriculum. Each course features an inquiry-based syllabus and is specially designed by Mānoa faculty.

HON 301 “RESEARCH AND PUBLIC POLICY” (3 Credits)

This course encourages second-year Honors students to undertake disciplined inquiry—specifically to explore issues of ethical principle or public policy.

SOPHOMORE HONORS

SSP students are rewarded for achieving a complete lower division voyage by earning Sophomore Honors. To earn this award students must complete 28 semester hours of Honors and “A” Section courses or approved equivalents during a two-year period and maintain a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students should refer to the Honors Newsletter, Website, or consult faculty for more information about how to gain this prestigious award. This recognition is posted on the student’s official transcript at time of completion.



“The research performed over the course of the project has made me more aware of how large a role research plays in the lives of college students and how important it is to our future.”

Elizabeth West, Asian Studies Major

The Honors Program

Upper Division Component

The Lower Division Honors Program (Selected Studies) is the first leg of the Honors voyage. The second leg continues the journey through a variety of inquiry-based courses, culminating in the presentation of the students' research projects or creative endeavors in a professional-style conference setting. Students' works are continually evaluated along the way, and the final review determines whether students can graduate with "Honors", "High Honors" or "Highest Honors."



HON 491 JUNIOR HONORS SEMINAR (3 Credits)

The Junior Seminars, offered by some of the most innovative professors, are interdisciplinary in nature, and challenge students to look at the world through different perspectives. Topics in the seminars vary from semester to semester, and enrollment is limited to twelve students.

Completion of the Senior Honors Project requires the following course sequence:

HON 495 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH (3 Credits)

This course is designed to give students a broad look at research problems and methodologies. Students are also given an opportunity to begin exploring possible topics for their Senior Honors Projects.

HON 496 SENIOR HONORS PROJECT (6 Credits)

The Senior Honors Project is a two-semester sequence in which students begin to develop their Honors research or performance project in the first semester, and complete the project in the second semester. Honors students receive guidance in their project from a faculty member of their choice.

The Symposium for Undergraduate Research & Creative Projects

Dedicated to enriching the education of undergraduates with integrated research opportunities and creative endeavors

To celebrate the completion of undergraduate work, the annual symposium is held at the end of each spring semester. It provides students the opportunity to share their creative research and scholarly work with other students, faculty, industrial and government representatives, and the public in an exhibit-hall setting. Poster and oral presentations are followed by lunch, entertainment and awards. All Honors students participate in The Symposium, providing recognition and closure to their academic voyage.

Graduate with HONORS

At the completion of the Honors Program and with a positive recommendation by the Honors Council, a student may graduate with Honors, High Honors, or Highest Honors. Honors students are recognized for accomplishing excellence in their undergraduate education by receiving:

- A notation of Honors on their official transcript
- A positive recommendation for prospective employers and graduate and professional programs
- Recognition at Commencement by wearing a gold cord over their Commencement gowns and by having their names noted as Honors graduates in the written Commencement program.

“

I also had the amazing opportunity to work closely with some of my favorite professors, who not only helped me to get into grad school, but also continue to lend me support today...

Caitlin Yamamoto, BA/English 2002, graduate student 2004



“ The Honors program creates an environment for people who are interested in research to feed off of and learn from one another. ”
Norman K. Kukona, BA / Political Science 2004



Honors can be flexible in its admission process.

If you think that Selected Studies is for you, but have not received an invitation by July 1, please visit, write, e-mail, or call us for an application.

For access to the Honors Program by persons with disabilities, please call 956-8391. This publication can be made available in alternate format for print handicapped students upon request. Mānoa students with disabilities who would like additional assistance should contact KOKUA at 956-7511 V/TDD.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROGRAM?

Honors provides an enriched curricula of study designed for intellectually confident students who are eager for a dynamic learning environment:

- Small class size, averaging fewer than twenty students
- Community of learners from which friendships develop and grow
- Academic advising available to help students make sound academic decisions
- Guaranteed seating in “A-Section” courses, most of which meet General Education requirements, all of which meet graduation requirements
- Innovative curriculum

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BE ADMITTED TO HONORS?

If you're a first-year college student, you need to meet the following admission guidelines:

- Minimum 3.0 high school GPA
- Combined SAT score of at least 1250 (with a minimum of 580 for each part); combined ACT score of at least 29
- Freshmen on the Dean's List at UH-Mānoa are also eligible

Two ways to be admitted:

- By Invitation – Students who meet the admission guidelines will receive an invitation from the Honors Program
- By Nomination – Students may submit an application with a letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor.

CAN I JOIN IF I'M NOT A NEW FRESHMAN?

Yes, 2nd semester freshmen or sophomores with a 3.0 GPA and a letter of recommendation from a Mānoa faculty are invited to apply.

Also, juniors with 3 academic recommendations may apply for the upper division Honors Program.

MĀNOA UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROGRAM

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