Calhoun Honors College
Orientation Guide
2017
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Dear Honors Student:

I am delighted to welcome you to Clemson University and to the Calhoun Honors College. We’re excited that you are joining us, and look forward to working with you over the next four years.

An Honors education at Clemson University combines the strengths of a public, land-grant university with those of a highly selective small college. You will have the opportunity to engage in cutting-edge research with some of the leading faculty in the country. Yet you will also be able to get to know your professors in small classes and in many other settings. You can take advantage of a wide range of classes in the sciences and engineering, education, the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences, and you can also take intensive seminars designed specifically for Honors students. You will also be able to pursue your broader education outside the classroom, by attending the many special events sponsored or supported by the Honors College.

Our goals in the Calhoun Honors College are twofold: to challenge you to excel, and to support you in all of your endeavors. We will set out minimum requirements, but we will also encourage you to reach your fullest potential in every area. We will provide advice and guidance, but we’ll also give you the freedom to define success in your own way, and in your own time.

This orientation packet—and everything you will hear from us at the Honors orientation sessions—is designed to make your transition to becoming a Calhoun Honors College student as easy as possible. We’ve tried to cover the essential points, but please don’t hesitate to ask us if you have any questions. Everyone in the Honors Office—indeed, everyone at Clemson University—stands ready to help you succeed.

William Lasser
Executive Director
The purpose of this document is to provide you with basic and essential information you will need to know as an Honors student.

On **Tuesday, August 22, 2017, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.,** there will be a mandatory meeting of incoming Honors students in Tillman Hall Auditorium. **All students must attend this meeting.**

**New Honors students will register on Day 2 of their orientation, at 11:30 a.m. in M-1 Martin Hall**

*Honors General Engineering students register in Brackett Hall

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**Academic Policies**

**Regular Enrollment in Honors Courses:** Members of the Calhoun Honors College are required to take and complete at least one Honors course each fall and spring semester. All exceptions to this policy must have the prior, written permission of the Honors College. **To graduate with Honors distinction other program requirements for Departmental and/or General Honors must be met (page 6-7).**

**Maintaining Membership in Honors:** Honors students must maintain a cumulative GPR of 3.40 or higher. Should your cumulative GPR fall between 2.8 and 3.40, you will be placed on Honors probation and will have one semester to return to a GPR of 3.40. If at the end of the probationary semester your cumulative GPR remains below 3.40, you will lose all privileges of membership. If your cumulative GPR falls below 2.80, at any time, you will lose all privileges of membership.

**Earning Honors Credit:** Students receive Honors credit by earning a grade of A or B in Honors courses (except in limited cases in which courses are offered pass/fail). If you receive a grade of C or D in an Honors course, you may earn credit toward degree requirements, but not toward the academic requirements of the Honors College.
Advising Form

Honors students are expected to set their sights on meeting the requirements of our two academic programs, General Honors and Departmental Honors.

General Honors

Most of the courses you will take for General Honors will be taken to satisfy the university’s General Education requirements in areas such as mathematics, science, humanities, and social science. The purpose of General Honors is to broaden your intellectual perspectives. To this end, you are encouraged to take Honors courses in as many different areas as possible. To be awarded the Certificate of Achievement in General Honors, the following requirements must be satisfied:

1) Completion of a minimum of 18 credit hours in honors courses, distributed as follows:
   a. At least one course (>3 credit) from three or more groups (see below);
   b. At least one course in three or more subjects (e.g., ENGL, MTHS).
2) A cumulative GPR of 3.40 or higher on all coursework taken at Clemson (non-honors as well as honors courses).
3) A grade of A or B in all courses taken to fulfill the requirements of General Honors.
4) Completion of all University requirements for graduation.

Group A: Composition and Communication
Group B: Science, Mathematics & Engineering
Group C: Arts and Humanities
Group D: Social Science
Group E: Cross Cultural Awareness
Group F: Science and Technology in Society
Group G: Other

Example

Course # Group Grade Credits
HON 2060 F A 3
CH 1010 B 3
MUSC 2110 C/E A 3
ECON 2110 D A 3
HON 2090 E B 3
MATH 2060 B A 4

Total Credits: 19/18

Departmental Honors

The purpose of Departmental Honors is to provide Honors students a unique opportunity to do advanced, in-depth study and research within their major. Specific requirements are set by the student’s department and are detailed in the on-line Honors Student Handbook. Normally, Departmental Honors is undertaken in your junior and senior years.

for more info on General and Departmental Honors, consult the Honors Handbook!

Scan this QR code or go to the link below to find the Honors Student Handbook:
https://www.clemson.edu/cuhonors/current-students/student-handbook/

Contact an Honors Advisor at honorsadvising@clemson.edu if you have questions about these requirements.
A full listing of fall courses, including Honors Seminars is available online via the Clemson University Events mobile application (available on Android and Mac OS), or by scanning the QR code to the right.

To access this mobile application:
- Search for “Clemson University Events” on your mobile app store
- Download mobile application
- Find “New Student Orientation”
- Find “University Partners”
- Find “Calhoun Honors College”
- View “Fall 2017 Honors Seminars or Fall 2017 1000-2000 Honors Sections”

Freshman Seminars

Freshmen seminars (HON 1900s) are restricted to freshmen only. Fall Freshmen seminars are listed below as well as on the app:

“Western Concepts of Hell in Literature”
HON 1900 | Literature

“Diplomacy in Crisis”
HON 1930 | Cross-Cultural Awareness

“Scientific Skepticism”
HON 1940 | Science and Technology in Society

Students will learn more about this mobile application and how to register for fall courses during their orientation session.
Core Campus, the newest building on Clemson's campus, is a 260,000 square foot mixed-use facility including student housing, retail and residential dining, and is the home of the Honors Residential College—Clemson's first Residential College. Nearly 400 Honors students live on-site in suite-style rooms and enjoy public community spaces including study rooms, library space, a Great Hall, and two classrooms. In addition to classroom and study space, the

The **Core Campus Project** is a major new addition to Clemson University Campus Life.

Honors Center has a kitchen supplied with free coffee for our students and a workroom where Honors students can take advantage of free printing. All Honors students have 24/7 card access to the Honors Center on the first floor of Core Campus C and D where the majority of Honors programs and events are held. The Honors Residential College also has a Faculty-in-Residence who helps plan and implement educational, recreational, social, and cultural programs while serving as a role model, mentor, adviser, teacher, and leader in the residential community. Administrative space in the facility houses all Honors office staff, including a home for the National Scholars and the Office of Major Fellowships.
Brooks Center Tickets. The Honors College provides tickets to a wide range of performances at the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts. Contact: Wini Del Winkler at wwinkle@clemson.edu.

Conference Travel Grants. These grants are intended to provide financial support to students in the Calhoun Honors College planning to attend, or present at, conferences related to their academic interests. Contact: Ricki Shine at rshine@clemson.edu.

Departmental Honors Research Grants. Students may apply for funds to support their Departmental Honors research projects. These competitive grants may be used for such needs as equipment, supplies, travel to research facilities, or other items beyond the capacity of the student’s department to provide. Contact: Susan Falendysz at sfalend@clemson.edu.

Honors Study Abroad Opportunities. The Honors College offers a variety of study abroad opportunities, including a Spring Internship in London and a special online course for Honors students spending the Spring semester in Europe. Contact: William Lasser at lasser@clemson.edu.

Dixon Fellows Program. Through cultural enrichment activities and intellectual exchanges, this program nurtures students with the talent and potential to compete for Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Fulbright and other prestigious national and international fellowships. Admission to the program is highly selective and requires a separate application. Read more on page 12. Contact: Ricki Shine at rshine@clemson.edu.

Dixon Global Policy Scholars. The Dixon Global Policy Scholars Program (GPS) offers a challenging learning opportunity for students interested in pursuing a major scholarship (such as the Rhodes, Truman or Marshall) and in enhancing their knowledge of the issues that shape the world. Admission to the program is open to freshmen and sophomores, is highly selective, and requires a separate application. Contact: Ricki Shine at rshine@clemson.edu.

Students travel to Paris, France as a part of the Dixon Global Policy Scholars Program.

Devante Horne (bottom left) conducts Material Science and Engineering research in Singapore.
Educational Enrichment Travel Grants (EETG). These competitive awards of up to $3,000 per academic year (during summer breaks) help support life-changing educational experiences outside the classroom and away from the Clemson campus. These experiences may be internships, foreign study, public service projects, or other significant undertakings consistent with the student’s educational, career, and/or personal goals.

Contact: Ricki Shine at rshine@clemson.edu.

Honors Q&A/Med School/Law School Panels. Listen to professionals and advisors in the field, as well as current Honors seniors, share their experiences - hear what they wish they had known and what they plan to do in the future.

Contact: Katie Maxwell at bower2@clemson.edu.

Wellness Ambassadors Program. The Honors Wellness Ambassadors serve as peer mentors who help promote and maintain the wellness of Honors students. They develop wellness-related programs for the Honors College and build relationships with students through weekly drop-in hours held in the Honors Center.

Contact: Bailey Bush at babush@clemson.edu.

Mentor Meet and Greet. Meet your Honors College Mentor and get to know your peers as you enjoy pizza and get your last minute questions answered.

Contact: Katie Maxwell at bower2@clemson.edu.

Thoughts Worth Thinking Lecture Series. Discuss current events and topics with a specialist in the field and your fellow Honors students. Past topics have included: hospitals in other countries, the pursuit of happiness, and the economics of health care reform.

Contact: Melissa Hawkins at melisso@clemson.edu.

Irina Geiculescu used an Educational Enrichment Travel Grant to travel to Romania to gain clinical work experience within the Molecular Biology Lab at Victor Babes Hospital. During her visit, Irina visits the seaside in Romania to take in some breathtaking views.

Honors student Caroline Hensley spent a summer teaching first grade at a primary school in the township of Kayamandi located in South Africa.

Students spend part of their summer vacation studying abroad in Belgium with the Calhoun Honors College. The program included excursions around Belgium and classes on European integration and the culture and history of Belgium.
A challenge - and an opportunity

The Joseph E. and Caroline G.
Dixon Fellows Program

The Joseph E. and Caroline G. Dixon Fellows Program is designed for Honors students who want an additional challenge and opportunity. A challenge - because you will interact with students and faculty dedicated to living the “life of the mind.” An opportunity - because your participation as a Dixon Fellow will enrich your undergraduate experience and enable you to assume a position of leadership and responsibility in your community and in the world.

At the heart of the Dixon Fellows experience is the mentor group, 7-9 students (junior fellows) interacting with a professor (senior fellow) who acts as a role-model and guide. These small groups engage in a variety of activities designed to encourage learning and growth outside the classroom. Each mentor group is free to design its educational agenda for the year.

Through their shared experiences, the Dixon Junior Fellows develop the skills and talents to compete for prestigious national and international fellowships, such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, and Truman Scholarships; to gain admission to top graduate and professional schools; and to enhance their personal and professional lives.

The Dixon Junior Fellows are selected on the basis of academic excellence, commitment to public service, leadership potential, and personal integrity. They form a community of Clemson University’s most exceptional students. Junior Fellows are expected to:

- Take their formal studies seriously, yet maintain a strong interest in the world of learning outside the classroom;
- Expand their educational horizons to include a broader exposure to foreign cultures, the arts, and the life of the mind;
- Assume leadership roles at Clemson University, and to participate in a wide range of public service activities at Clemson and in the larger community;
- Advance their personal and intellectual growth through study-abroad programs, internships, and cooperative education opportunities; and
- Compete for national and international fellowships such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, Goldwater, and Truman Scholarships.

VISIT US AT: www.clemson.edu/cuhonors/dixon-fellows/index.html

Application Deadline

Monday, August 28, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
The nationally competitive fellowships, scholarships and grants described below support undergraduate study and research. Recipients come from different backgrounds and have different talents and interests, but they have two things in common: (1) they began their preparations early, and (2) most important, they applied! If you think you have what it takes to be serious a applicant, please email Ricki Shine at rshine@clemson.edu during the fall 2017 semester.

**Boren Scholarship.** Provides up to $20,000 to U.S. undergraduates to study languages abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests. Students may apply for a Boren as early as their freshman year. [www.borenawards.org](http://www.borenawards.org)

**Critical Languages Scholarship.** A fully-funded summer overseas language and cultural immersion program for American undergraduate and graduate students. With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and building relationships between the people of the U.S. and other countries, CLS provides study opportunities to a diverse range of students from across the U.S. at every level of language learning. Students may apply for a CLS as early as their freshman year. [www.cllscholarship.org](http://www.cllscholarship.org)

**DAAD Scholarships.** The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is the German agency for the support of international academic cooperation. DAAD offers a wide range of highly selective scholarships, grants, and fellowships in Germany for US and Canadian citizens, from undergraduates to post-doctoral scholars, as well as faculty and higher education professionals. Two programs of special note for undergraduates:

- **RISE (Research Internships in Science and Engineering).** An opportunity for students completing their sophomore and junior years to engage in cutting-edge research in labs throughout Germany. (Knowledge of German is not required.)
- **University Summer Course Grants.** Enables undergraduates to build their language skills while studying anything from film to politics to engineering. [www.daad.org](http://www.daad.org)

If you’d like to learn more, please email Ricki Shine, Director of Major Fellowships, at rshine@clemson.edu.

**Goldwater Scholarship.** This undergraduate scholarship encourages outstanding students to pursue research careers in mathematics, science, and engineering. Most Goldwater Scholars plan to pursue a Ph.D. Students who wish to study medicine are eligible only if they plan a research career rather than one in private practice and plan to enroll in an MD/PhD program. Awards of up to $7,500 per year are made for one or two years of undergraduate study. Competition is open to sophomores and juniors with a GPA of 3.8 or higher. Up to 300 scholarships are offered annually. [www.act.org/goldwater](http://www.act.org/goldwater)

**Gilman International Scholarship.** This program is open to U.S. citizen undergraduate students who are receiving Federal Pell Grant funding to participate in study abroad or internship programs worldwide. Students may apply for a Gilman as early as their freshman year. [www.iie.org/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program](http://www.iie.org/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program)

**Truman Scholarship.** Established in honor of our 33rd president, the Truman Scholarships are awarded to students who wish to attend graduate school in preparation for careers in government, in non-profit organizations, or elsewhere in public service. Scholars receive up to $2,000 for the senior year of undergraduate study and up to $24,000 for two years of graduate work. Candidates apply in their junior year. Approximately 75 scholarships are awarded annually. [www.truman.gov](http://www.truman.gov)

**Udall Scholarship.** The Udall Scholarship Foundation, established in 1992, honors Congressman Morris K. Udall’s legacy of public service and commitment to protecting the environment. Seventy-five one-year awards of $5,000 are made to two groups of students: (1) sophomores or juniors in fields of study related to the environment, and (2) Native American students who are sophomores or juniors in fields related to health care or tribal public policy. [www.udall.gov](http://www.udall.gov)
Q: Are Honors courses harder?
A: Not necessarily. Honors instructors have been challenged to make courses more enriching.

Q: Will Honors courses take up too much of my study time?
A: Not necessarily. Honors courses tend to be faster paced and more intellectually challenging, but they should not require significantly more time than non-honors courses.

Q: What do I do if I can’t find an Honors course that fits my schedule?
A: If you are having difficulty finding an Honors course during orientation, seek help from your academic advisor or an Honors advisor.

Q: What do I do if I can’t find an Honors course that meets General Education or major requirements?
A: You will need to look for an Honors course that will broaden your education and count the course as an elective.

Q: Is my GPR calculated differently for Honors courses than from my non-Honors courses?
A: No. All courses at Clemson University are calculated the same.

Q: If I drop my only Honors course, will I be removed from the Honors Living-Learning Community?
A: No. Students are not removed mid-semester from the Honors Living-Learning Community.

Q: If my GPR drops below a 3.40, will I be removed from the Honors Living-Learning Community in the spring semester?
A: Although our goal is to allow all students to remain in the Honors Living-Learning Community for the entire year, it is possible that freshmen residents of the Living-Learning Community whose first semester GPR is below 2.80 may be reassigned to other campus housing effective the next semester.

Q: If I take two Honors courses in the fall semester, do I have to take one in the spring semester?
A: Yes. Members of the Calhoun Honors College are required to take and complete at least one Honors credit hour each fall and spring semester regardless of how many they have taken previously or plan to take in future semesters.

Q: Does the Calhoun Honors College provide academic advising?
A: Yes. In addition to the academic advisor in your department, the Honors Office staff provides advising support by appointment and drop-in advising events. You schedule an appointment with an Honors advisor using our online scheduling tool- calhounhonorscollege.setmore.co Drop-in hours are typically held the first two weeks of classes and around course registration each semester.

Q: Who is my advisor in my major?
A: To find out who your advisor is in your major, you can check you DegreeWorks- your academic advisor should be listed at the top. Or you can contact your academic department (i.e.- English, General Engineering, Biological Sciences, etc.)
Q: If I drop my only Honors class and I am removed from Honors, can I rejoin the Calhoun Honors College later?
A: Yes. Students can rejoin Honors after they have been out one complete semester, have achieved the requisite cumulative 3.40 GPR, and have at least four semesters remaining to complete degree requirements.

Q: Do Honors students have to complete General Honors before beginning their Departmental Honors requirements?
A: No. Honors students can complete General Honors at any time through the last semester of their senior year.

Q: Can an Honors course count for both General and Departmental Honors?
A: No. Courses taken to fulfill General Honors cannot be applied toward Departmental Honors requirements or vice-versa.

Q: If I start taking Departmental Honors courses but decide not to complete the requirement, can I count the Honors courses toward the General Honors requirements?
A: Yes. Any 3000- or 4000-level Honors Course that is not graded pass/fail can be counted toward the General Honors requirements.

Q: As a member of the Calhoun Honors College, do I automatically receive a scholarship?
A: No. There are no scholarships linked to membership in the Calhoun Honors College. All

check out answers to your questions and more with the Honors Handbook!

Go to the link below, or scan this QR code to find the handbook:

https://www.clemson.edu/cuhonors/current-students/student-handbook/