

Please Note:

Highlighting indicates substantive updates for the 2025-2027 academic year. Pagination may differ from the 2025-2027 printed copy of the catalog.

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Faculty

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The Goal of the Honors Program

The *Honors Program* enrolls a cohort of students who earnestly seek understanding of our complex world. As an alternative to the traditional general education requirements, students in Honors take a unique set of courses that prepares them for an active lifetime of critical thought, aesthetic appreciation, and spiritual prosperity. In particular Honors students excel as

- *seekers* of truth, engaging in a journey of personal growth and spiritual development;
- distinguished *scholars*, exhibiting intellectual curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and a commitment to academic excellence; and
- capable *leaders*, serving the wider community through the integration of faith, knowledge, and ingenuity.

Students who complete the Honors Program have fulfilled PUC's general education requirements.

Compatibility with Other Programs

As is traditional with Honors programs, this truncated version of general education allows students to pursue double majors, or minors, or to customize electives that align with their individual goals.

The Honors Program is compatible with any major and may be particularly desirable for pre-professional students wishing to gain the broad liberal arts background sought by graduate, law, and medical school admissions committees. Students pursuing certain specialized programs (such as nursing licensure or elementary education credentials) may need to complete additional general education classes required for those programs.

Graduation "With Honors"

Students who successfully meet the Honors Program requirements graduate "With Honors," as designated on the official transcript, graduation program, and diploma. The following requirements must be met in order to graduate "With Honors":

- Completion of all Honors Program course requirements, including seminars, electives, and cognates
- Completion and presentation of a satisfactory Honors Project
- A minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.3

Admission to the Honors Program

Honors Program applicants are expected to meet the following entrance requirements:

- A minimum 3.5 high school GPA
- Composite exam scores at or above 25 (ACT) or 1200 (SAT)
- Strong writing skills
- A high school curriculum that includes the successful completion of the following:
 - 4 years of English
 - 2 (or more) years of history
 - 3 (or more) years of mathematics (including Algebra II*)
 - 3 (or more) years of science
 - 1 (or more) years of foreign language study

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Under some circumstances, non-freshmen may apply for transfer into the Honors Program. The application will be evaluated based on high school performance, composite exam scores, and completed college coursework. If accepted into the program, the transfer student will work with the Honors Program Director to develop a course equivalency plan. This plan will outline the applicability of the student's completed college coursework to the Honors Program requirements.

Continuance in the Honors Program

A minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.3 must be maintained while in the Honors Program. Any student who drops below this minimum GPA will be placed on probationary status for up to two quarters. The Honors Program Director will work with the student to explore the feasibility of continuing in the program and to develop an academic success plan.

Failure to earn a minimum GPA of 3.3 for three consecutive quarters may result in the student being withdrawn from the program.

No course with a grade below C- may apply toward Honors Program requirements.

Students who withdraw from the Honors Program will work with the Honors Program Director to develop a course equivalency plan. This plan will outline the applicability of the completed Honors Program coursework to the traditional general education program.

Honors Program Requirements

► First-Year Seminars (15)

HNRS 111	Narrating the Quest	5
HNRS 121	Analyzing the Arts	5
HNRS 131	Scientific Inquiry	5

► Additional Seminars and Electives (29)

HNRS 201	Engaging Scripture	4
HNRS 202	Leadership: Theory and Practice	3
HNRS 301	Discovering Jesus	4
HNRS 380	Seminar (Two different topics)	4+4

► Enrichment Electives

10 credits of enrichment electives from three different departments, with one of the three from Theology:

ARTH 260 H	History of World Cinema (4)
ARTH 308 H	History of Asian Art (3)
ARTH 370 H	History of Modern Art to 1945
ARTH 470 H	Contemporary Art (4)
CHEM 486 H	Topics in Chemistry (3)
COMM 326 H	Advanced Public Speaking (3)
COMM 329 H	Organizational Communication (3)
COMM 330 H	Intercultural Communication (3)
COMM 340 H	Visual Communication & Semiotics (3)
COMM 426 H	Argumentation (3)
COMM 427 H	Persuasive Communication (3)
COMM 490 H	Issues in Communication (3)
ECON 265 H	Microeconomics (4)
ENGL 224 H	Literary Theory (4)
ENGL 311 H	Development of the Novel (4)
ENGL 335 H	Survey of Linguistics (4)
	(See also LANG 335 H)
ENGL 352 H	Theme Courses (4)
ENGL 411 H	Approaches to Poetry (4)
ENGL 470 H	Contemporary American Literature (4)
ENVR 360 H	Conservation Biology (3)
ESTH 450 H	Sports Psychology and Ethics (4)
FILM 356 H	Screenwriting (4)
GEOL 233 H	Geology (+233L) (3+1)
GLBH 460 H	Health Systems of the World (4)
HIST 330 H	Medieval to Renaissance Europe (4)
HIST 333 H	Early Modern Europe to 1848 (4)
HIST 352 H	Topics in History (3-4)
INFS 320 H	Business Intelligence (3)
INFS 470 H	Business Analytics (3)
JOUR 434 H	Media Communication Ethics (3)
MATH 451 H	History of Mathematics (4)
MGMT 334 H	Entrepreneurship (3)
MGMT 350 H	Project Management (3)
MGMT 466 H	Business Ethics (3)
MUHL 331 H	Music History I (3)
MUHL 332 H	Music History II (3)
MUHL 333 H	Music History III (3)
PHIL 101 H	Introduction to Philosophy (4)
PLSC 328 H	Contemporary World Issues (3)
PLSC 330 H	Modern Comparative Government (3)
PSYC 344 H	Psychology of Personality (4)
PSYC 358 H	Abnormal Psychology (4)
PSYC 360 H	Drugs, Brain, and Behavior (3)
PSYC 390 H	Gender Issues (3)

PSYC 435 H	Psychology of Religion (3)
PSYC 436 H	Physiological Psychology (4)
PSYC 445 H	Learning and Memory (4)
RELB 350 H	Topics in Biblical Studies (3)
RELH 350 H	Topics in Adventist History (3)
RELP 350 H	Topics in Applied Theology (3)
RELT 350 H	Topics in Theological Studies (3)
WRIT 311 H	Creative Writing: NonFiction (4)
WRIT 314 H	Creative Writing: Short Story (4)

► **Capstone Seminar and Project (7)**

HNRS 403	The Christian Scholar	4
HNRS 490	Honors Project I	1
HNRS 491	Honors Project II	2

► **Cognates (10-11)**

Algebra Proficiency

A full year of either Algebra II or Integrated Math III with semester grades of C- or better at an accredited secondary institution or successful completion of an approved waiver exam or MATH 095+096 Basic Algebra I+II (remedial courses)

STAT 222	Introduction to Statistics	4
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Lab Science	4-5
Take one lab science course from subjects ASTR, BIOL, CHEM, ENVR, GEOL, MICR, or PHYS	

Exercise Science Activity	2
Take two exercise science activity (ESAC) courses. One must be a course designated as an aerobic activity course (course number ends with A).	

► **World Language (4-16)**

Students pursuing a B.A. degree:
Complete the World Language requirement outlined for the B.A. General Education Requirement (see p. 40-41).

Adventist Colleges Abroad Students:

Students spending a year abroad will take one HNRS 380 course and one 3 or 4 credit enrichment elective.

BSN Students:

Students pursuing a BSN degree can take 6 credits of enrichment electives. Only one exercise science activity course is required.

All other students:	0-4
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Complete one of the following options:

- One year of foreign language study in highschool (0)
- One Language & Culture course (3-4)
Options include CHIN 111, FREN 111, GRMN 111, ITAL 111, JAPN 111, SPAN 105, and SPAN 111

Honors Courses

Enrollment is open to students in the honors program.

LOWER-DIVISION COURSES:

HNRS 111 **5 F**
Narrating the Quest

Explores the literary motif of quests as a metaphor for personal journeys of identity and growth. Emphasizes reflective and scholarly writing. Fulfills ENGL 101 College English requirement. Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors program.

HNRS 121 **5 W**
Analyzing the Arts

An interdisciplinary overview of the arts (music, visual arts, literature) through an examination of the theme of creation. Incorporates specific instruction in academic writing, particularly literary analysis and research. Fulfills the ENGL 102 College English requirement. Prerequisite: HNRS 111.

HNRS 131 **5 S**
Scientific Inquiry

Examines scientific methods for gathering and evaluating evidence, identifies relevant scientific principles, provides practice and critique in the communication of scientific ideas, and

evaluates how science impacts and is impacted by society. Incorporates instruction in communication and academic writing, particularly explanatory texts. Fulfills the COMM 105 Introduction to Communication requirement. Prerequisite: HNRS 121.

HNRS 111, 121, and 131 are prerequisites to all remaining honors courses.

HNRS 201 **4 F**
Engaging Scripture

Interpreting and understanding the Bible as sacred text. In addition to engaging the texts of the Bible using various current methods of interpretation, a strong emphasis is placed upon a context-

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tual reading that prunes the text from eisegetical interpolations.

HNRS 202 **3 S**

Leadership: Theory and Practice (See COMM 332.)

This course will explore various approaches to leadership with the goal to understand one's own strengths and areas of improvement for future (and present) leadership responsibilities. Areas of emphasis include communication behaviors, skills, and practices of effective leaders.

UPPER-DIVISION COURSES:

HNRS 301 **4 W**

Discovering Jesus

Examination of the biblical stories and theology about Jesus and their influence and effects on human civilization and culture as well as one's personal life. Prerequisite: HNRS 201.

HNRS 380 **4 W, S, Su**

Seminar:

An in-depth study of a topic, often with an interdisciplinary focus. Focuses on critical thinking and the analysis and evaluation of information. Repeatable for credit under different titles, such as:

Race and the American Century
Beethoven, Goethe, and Democracy
Thinking Ecologically

Additionally, the International Cultural Experience seminar is offered for students who study abroad; consult with the honors program director for details. Qualifies for IP Grading.

HNRS 403 **4 S**

The Christian Scholar

This capstone seminar provides a reflection on the intersection of faith, knowledge, and practice. Students will analyze available models of faith-learning integration and theorize their own honors experience in an attempt to understand the role of the Christian scholar both as a member of the academy and as a citizen of the larger world--theoretically and through personal action.

HNRS 490+491 **1+2 S+W**

Honors Project I-II

An individual research or creative project that showcases the student's expertise.

HNRS 490 provides guidance in identifying the project—selecting an advisor, defining the scope, developing a foundational bibliography. Culminates in an approved project proposal. Taken during the spring quarter of the junior year.

HNRS 491 provides continued guidance for the completion of the project, particularly the final written paper and oral presentation. Taken during the winter quarter of the senior year. Prerequisite: HNRS 490. Qualifies for IP grading.

HNRS 495 **1-3 Arr**

Independent Study

Offers the advanced student opportunity to pursue investigation in a field of special interest under the direction of program faculty.