



# **Millersville University**

## **Honors College**

**Student/Faculty Handbook 2024/25**

**<http://www.millersville.edu/honorscollege>**



Millersville University  
HONORS COLLEGE

## Welcome

I am pleased to introduce the current edition of the Millersville University *Honors College Student/Faculty Handbook*, a guide to the policies of the University's flagship academic program. In the Fall of 2022, there were more than 300 students enrolled in the University Honors College (UHC); our students come from every major and area of study. We have residential and commuting students and we are a socially and academically diverse student body. More than half of our students live together in a shared Living and Learning Community (LLC). With the residential LLC, MU has created a successful program that allows UHC students to be part of a thriving, successful "community of scholars" and to live, study, and gather for important student-centered initiatives.

In the following pages, you will find a summary of the policies and special opportunities pertinent to being a member of the UHC. Beyond a commitment to intellectual and social engagement at an advanced level, what distinguishes the UHC is the "community of scholars" model we embrace in our shared living and learning goals. The UHC is dedicated to making an excellent liberal arts and sciences education more fulfilling through deep inquiry, research, community service, and having fun together.

Welcome to the University Honors College and our Student/Faculty Handbook!

Charlton Wolfgang, Ph.D.,  
Director, Honors College  
Associate Professor, Early, Middle, and Exceptional Education



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## **Honors College Important Contacts**

Millersville University Honors College  
Location: Franklin House, 6 North George St., Millersville, PA  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm  
<http://www.millersville.edu/honorscollege>

**Dr. Charlton Wolfgang**

Director, Honors College  
Franklin House 200  
Phone: 717.871.7552

Email: [charlton.wolfgang@millersville.edu](mailto:charlton.wolfgang@millersville.edu)

**Kereah Keller**

Administrative Assistant, Honors College  
Franklin House 201  
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**Matt Muller**

Peer Advisor

Email: [mamuller@millersville.edu](mailto:mamuller@millersville.edu)

**Richie Daszweicz**

Peer Advisor

Email: [mddaszki@millersville.edu](mailto:mddaszki@millersville.edu)

**Kayla Tracey**

Peer Advisor

Email: [kltracey@millersville.edu](mailto:kltracey@millersville.edu)

**Honors College Student Association  
2024 – 2025 Officers**

**Lydia Eifert**

President

Email: [lgeifert@millersville.edu](mailto:lgeifert@millersville.edu)

**Jess Cabibbo**

President

Email: [jlcabibbo@millersville.edu](mailto:jlcabibbo@millersville.edu)

**Matt Muller**

Treasurer

Email: [mamuller@millersville.edu](mailto:mamuller@millersville.edu)

**Brenna Chernich**

Secretary

Email: [bgcherni@millersville.edu](mailto:bgcherni@millersville.edu)

**Hope Wentling**

Community Service Officer

Email: [hawentli@millersville.edu](mailto:hawentli@millersville.edu)

**Emily Dzbynski**

Special Events Coordinator

Email: [efdzbyns@millersville.edu](mailto:efdzbyns@millersville.edu)

## **Other Important Contacts on Campus**

### **Admissions**

Location: Lombardo Welcome Center  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm  
Phone: 717.871.4625  
Email: [admissions@millersville.edu](mailto:admissions@millersville.edu)

### **Office of Student Accounts**

Location: Lyle Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 3:30pm  
Phone: 717.871.5101  
Email: [osa@millersville.edu](mailto:osa@millersville.edu)

### **Financial Aid**

Location: Lyle Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 3:30pm  
Phone: 717.871.5100  
Email: [fa.mail@millersville.edu](mailto:fa.mail@millersville.edu)

### **Housing & Residential Programs**

Location: Lombardo Welcome Center  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm  
Phone: 717.871.4601  
Email: [housing@millersville.edu](mailto:housing@millersville.edu)

### **Counseling Center**

Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lyle Hall  
Hrs: Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri., 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Wed, 8:00am – 6:00pm  
Phone: 717.871.7821

### **Center for Health Education & Promotion**

Location: Cumberland House, 2 S. George St.  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm

Phone: 717.871.4141

Email: [margaret.thorwart@millersville.edu](mailto:margaret.thorwart@millersville.edu)

**Career Services (ELCM)**

Location: Bedford House

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm

Phone: 717.871.7655

Email: [careers@millersville.edu](mailto:careers@millersville.edu)

**Registrar**

Location: Lyle Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 717.871.5005

Email: [registrar@millersville.edu](mailto:registrar@millersville.edu)

**Student Affairs**

Location: Lombardo Welcome Center

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm

Phone: 717.871.5714

Website: [www.millersville.edu/saem](http://www.millersville.edu/saem)

**Learning Services**

Location: Lyle Hall, Room 352

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 717.871.5554

Email: [learning.services@millerville.edu](mailto:learning.services@millerville.edu)

**Health Services**

Location: Witmer Building, 4 McCollough St.

Hours: Mon.– Thur., 9:00am-5:00pm;

Fri. 8:00am-4:00pm

Phone: 717.871.5250

Email: [hservices@millersville.edu](mailto:hservices@millersville.edu)



## **Part One: Prospective Students**

### **Honors College – A Community of Scholars**

The University Honors College (UHC) constitutes a community of scholars committed to serious intellectual and social engagement in a way that advances individual educational opportunities. Honors College students and faculty interact in the classroom and outside the classroom through seminars, service projects, and special cultural events. Eligible students come from every major department and program at the University.

Admissions to the Honors College are selected and offered to students who demonstrate they have the intellectual skills to succeed in a more challenging program of study. Although grades, SAT scores, and class rank are considerations for admission to the Honors College, the program is also looking for students who are willing to be active participants and leaders. Typically, students who have been offered admission to the University, are in the upper 10-15% of their graduating class, have a GPA of 3.75 or higher, or have a combined SAT score of 1250 or higher (if reported, not required), will be invited to apply for admission to the Honors College. Students who do not meet these criteria, however, who are interested in admission to the program are encouraged to apply. There is no cost associated with applying to or being a student in the Honors College. A separate admission decision is made for entry to the Honors College. Once enrolled, students must continue to meet academic standards to continue in the program.

In addition to smaller classes and greater opportunity for interaction with faculty, Honors College students receive a number of tangible benefits through participation in the program. Honors College students receive priority registration throughout their undergraduate careers. Students also have the opportunity to live in Honors College housing all four years. The Honors College also provides additional academic support, advisement services, and a mentoring community program. Many students appreciate the emphasis on faculty-student research opportunities, internships, and study abroad programs.

Our active, student-led Honors College Student Association (HCSA) provides social and service programming on campus and in the community. Students are encouraged to take an active role in the opportunities sponsored by the HCSA. Honors College students also receive a number of cultural opportunities not available to other students. In addition to Honors College sponsored day trips to cities such as New York City, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Participation in the Honors College enhances the excellent undergraduate programs offered at Millersville University. We strive to make a difference on campus and in the community and to open the “wideness of the world beyond” to each and every student. The Honors College is committed to helping students enjoy their college years and to grow into the individuals they are meant to be. Inclusion of the Honors College on the students’ transcript, resume, applications for graduate school, and applications for employment provides real benefits to our graduates. The honors thesis or creative project enhances students’ portfolios that are presented to possible employers or graduate programs.

# **How Do I Become a UHC Student?**

Invitations to the program are extended to entering freshmen who have a GPA of 3.75 or higher, combined SAT scores of 1250 or above (if submitted) or are in the top 10-15% of their high school class. Other motivated, interested freshmen, transfer students, and currently enrolled students are encouraged to apply for admission to the Director of the University Honors College. The Honors College accepts applications for admission until the freshmen class is filled. Due to the competitiveness of the program, the freshmen class is often filled by April 1st of each year. Prospective students are encouraged to contact the Honors College office at 717.871.7552 to inquire about remaining spots available for the fall semester.

## **Admission Directly from High School**

Incoming freshmen are actively recruited to the Honors College if they have a GPA of 3.75 or higher, SAT scores of 1250 or higher or are in the top 10-15% of their high school class. The Honors College does encourage, after acceptance by MU, incoming freshmen who do not meet the above criteria, but who are interested in developing their potential, to apply for admission. We conduct a holistic review of applicants' scores, GPA, level and types of high school coursework, extracurricular activities, leadership and service.

## **Admission after Completing One or More Semesters at MU**

Millersville University students may apply to the Honors College if they have successfully completed a minimum of 15 credits at MU and are recommended by an MU faculty member. Contact the Honors College office at 717.871.7552 or visit [Application | Millersville University](#) for an application.

## **Transfer Student Admission**

Transfer students may apply to the Honors College after being accepted to Millersville University. Contact the Honors College office at 717.871.7552 or visit [Application | Millersville University](#) for an application.

## **To Remain in Honors College**

To remain in good standing in the Honors College, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 in the freshman and sophomore years, 3.20 in the junior year, and must have a 3.20 overall GPA and a 3.35 GPA in Honors coursework by graduation.

# **Aspects of MU's Honors College**

## **Intellectual Environment**

Part of the University's current strategic plan is devoted to UHC's academic and intellectual environment. We constantly seek to improve the context for learning in and out of the classroom. This initiative remains a work in progress. The objective is to enhance a challenging education based in the liberal arts, through special workshops and seminars, guest speakers, collaborations with other Honors Colleges, Honors required coursework, Honors electives, and the Honors thesis experience.

## **Cultural Opportunities**

UHC has expanded cultural opportunities for students. Honors students have taken trips to Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., New York City, and Baltimore. These cultural excursions are offered at no charge to students who participate in UHC/HCSA service projects.

## **Living Learning Community**

The University Housing office has been instrumental in assuring the success of the Honors Living Learning Community (LLC). Since 2006, we have nearly quadrupled the number of students living in the Honors LLC. In the past decade, we have gone from 26 Honors students to 125+ students living together and enjoying the benefits of community life. Requiring freshmen to live in the Honors LLC, creating a structure of support with student mentors, two residence hall Peer Advisors, RA's, and programming specifically for the Honors students have been invaluable in increasing student enthusiasm for the living community and overall student success at MU. With the Honors students living as a community, there is ample evidence that the LLC experience is succeeding.

## **Community Service**

A key component of the Honors College requirements is community service. Our goal is to produce well-rounded young adults who understand the importance of giving back to their community and live out MU's EPPIC values. To help instill this in our Honors students, all Honors students are required to complete a minimum of 10 community service hours per academic year. Service events are regularly advertised to honors students by the Honors College as well as the Honors College Student Association. Students may count service they complete through other campus clubs, service learning in courses, and community organizations.

## **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

The Honors College wishes to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) among its students, as it is important to Millersville University that everyone is welcomed and feels accepted into campus life. This leads to the Honors College having a goal to prevent discrimination of any kind to any person. We celebrate our *Diversity*, as it is an asset to Millersville University's community and campus. This is done through promotion of friendliness, mingling, and collaboration among our students, along with students outside of the Honors College. By students meeting each other in and out of class, differences are highlighted as a uniqueness that encourages individuality, rather than distinction. We also emphasize *Equity*, which is being kind and impartial to everyone as a form of acceptance, whether it is through procedures, processes, and/or distribution of resources. Lastly, we promote *Inclusion*, or accepting and welcoming everyone, by taking steps to ensure that everyone truly feels invited and at home within the community.

## **Part Two: Current Students**

### **Academic Honesty**

Students at the University are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to steal the words or ideas of another, to cheat on an examination, to allow another person to commit academic dishonesty or to assist another in committing an act of academic dishonesty corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. For the University's policy on academic honesty, see:

<https://www.millersville.edu/about/administration/policies/pdf/academics/academic-policy-academic-honesty-and-dishonesty.pdf>

### **Academic Standards and Policies**

To remain in good standing in the Honors College, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 during their first and second years and a 3.20 for their remaining college career.

**University Honors College students who achieve a final overall GPA of 3.8 or higher will graduate from the University Honors College "with Distinction."**

To receive the University Honors baccalaureate (and Honors College graduation medal), students must:

1. Earn a cumulative GPA of at least 3.20.
2. Earn a minimum of 25 honors credits and fulfill the Honors College curricular requirements. Honors credit is awarded only for those Honors courses in which a B- or higher is earned. A student must also earn a grade of B- or higher in the senior thesis or creative project credits.
3. Maintain a GPA of 3.35 in all Honors coursework.
4. Student must complete and successfully defend an Honors thesis or creative project. Students must submit the final thesis or creative project to the Honors College, including committee's signature page.

### **Advisement**

The Director of the University Honors College serves as the academic advisor for all Honors academic policies and questions. Students also will have an advisor in their major department for major requirements and General Education. All Honors questions should be directed to the Director of the Honors College, who may also be able to help on other advising matters, when appropriate.

## **Honors by Contract**

With the approval of the Honors College Director and the consent of the instructor of record for a course, an Honors student may enroll in up to two courses (maximum of 6-8 credits depending on the major) in their department major as a way to earn Honors credit. Courses related to the student's major or minor courses may also be eligible for Honors by Contract. Prior to registration, the student must contact the professor of record to discuss additional work and level of engagement that will lead to Honors credit, complete the Honors by Contract form, and then submit the form to the Honors College Director for approval by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the semester in which the course is being taken. This form can be found on the Honors College website and D2L page.

Rationale: To assure timely matriculation and to improve retention rates, the Honors College seeks to provide students with a more flexible structure to complete University and program requirements. In some majors, there is not a critical mass of students to warrant sponsoring an H section, but students with an approved level of expertise will benefit from being able to earn Honors credit in their major department. This policy does not affect courses that carry a formal H designation. This policy only applies to Honors students earning credit in their major (or related courses). No additional compensation will be provided to the instructor of record.

Process:

1. A student will consult with both the Director of the Honors College and the instructor of record.
2. A student will develop a formal contract with the instructor that details the nature of additional inquiry and work, and the added level of engagement, that merits Honors designation. Whenever possible, the student should consider how the additional work MIGHT lay the foundation for the thesis or might lead to community engagement or conference presentations. (This is a suggestion, not a requirement.)
3. A student and the instructor will sign the contract (Honors by Contract form found here: [Current Students | Millersville University](#)) and submit an original signed copy to the Director of the Honors College. The Honors College Director will review the contract. The Honors College will keep the contract on file in the office.
4. Once the Honors College Director has signed off on the contract, the student will be permitted to earn Honors credit for the course, provided all requirements are met and a B- or better is earned for the final course grade.
5. After satisfactory completion of the course and grades have been posted by the Registrar's Office, the Honors College will notify the Registrar to convert these credits to Honors (H) designation. The Honors College will maintain a permanent record in the student's file.

### **Guidelines to the Student and the Faculty Criteria for Honors by Contract**

University Honors courses require a deeper level of engagement, analysis, and expression than regular University courses. The University Honors College encourages critical thinking and interpretation, refined creative writing and a constructive engagement with the course materials. Faculty are

encouraged to work with the student to define clear and sensible standards for achieving these goals in courses that count for Honors credit. In general, standards should be articulated, and the workload defined in ways that are appropriate to the course subject matter. Honors credit could include the following activities (where appropriate) beyond the normal course requirements:

1. Additional reading, studio, or lab work, as appropriate to the subject.
2. Enhanced research opportunities, including some elements of original research appropriate to the subject.
3. Regular tutorial discussions between the instructor and student.
4. An appropriate research product that engages issues, problems and materials presented in the class.
5. Any work related to the course that might lay the foundation or pave the way for a student's thesis or creative project.
6. Academic work that might lead to relevant community involvement or conference presentations.

# A Four-Year Plan to Graduation

NOTE: To complete the UHC requirements in a timely fashion, students should plan on taking 9-12 Honors credits in the first year and then 3-6 credits thereafter. In order to graduate with Honors, 25 credit hours of Honors courses must be completed.

## Freshman Year:

- Explorations in the History of Ideas
- Explorations in World Literature
- Honors Lab Science
- Calculus or Statistics (does not need to be an honors "H" course) or MATH 105 (for Ed majors)

Optional Electives:

- English Composition
- Speech Communication

## Sophomore Year:

- Explorations in the History of Ideas (if missed in freshman year)
- Explorations in World Literature (if missed in freshman year)
- Lab Science (if missed in freshman year)
- Calculus or Statistics (if missed in freshman year) Honors Electives and/or Honors by Contract course
- Attend Honors Thesis Workshop and focus on finding a thesis topic and a thesis advisor

## Junior Year:

- Honors Electives and/or Honors by Contract courses

First Semester:

- Discuss thesis topic with thesis advisor
- Honors Perspective Course

Second Semester:

- HNRS 489: Thesis – 1 credit
- Complete Thesis Prospectus, submit the Prospectus to HC Director, and form thesis committee (one thesis advisor and two additional members)

## Senior Year:

- Honors Electives or Honors by Contract – if needed

First Semester:

- HNRS 499: Thesis – 2 credits
- Defend Thesis

Second Semester:

- Submit "Application for Graduation" form



- Submit final thesis with committee signature page to the HC Director

## **Capstone Experience – Honors Thesis**

Students in the University Honors College are required to complete a thesis as a culmination of the undergraduate University Honors College experience. By “thesis” we mean either a formal research paper which contains an appropriate element of original research or a comparable creative project suitable to one’s academic discipline or area of expertise. Students also have the option to pursue a research-oriented internship that provides the opportunity to collect data which will become the basis for completing the thesis. Whatever the option, a thesis is a tangible document based on research or creative adaptation that is defended before a faculty committee for a grade. In addition, the thesis fulfills the University’s Advanced Writing requirement course.

A thesis may take a different shape and form, depending on the student’s discipline and specialty, but theses share at least three elements in common: original research, clear methodology, and scholarly creativity. Undergraduate students in the humanities and sciences usually complete a written research paper, but students in the fine and performing arts might choose to engage in an appropriate creative experience that also includes a written document related to the experience. Students may complete the thesis or creative project within their major, minor, or in a completely different field. The thesis document itself serves as a summing up of research, methodology, and findings. In talking about a thesis, we need to distinguish between the *process* and the final *product*.

### **Why do a thesis?**

The thesis is a “capstone” experience that allows a student to put into practice the intellectual and academic skills that have been mastered throughout the college career. In the best sense, the thesis is a chance for the student to shine and to demonstrate what she or he has learned in a chosen field of study. It is an opportunity to dive into a subject and to demonstrate originality and creativity in research, methodology and creativity in a written or visual medium. For more information regarding the senior thesis project, please visit our website: [www.millersville.edu/honorscollege/thesis](http://www.millersville.edu/honorscollege/thesis).

### **Thesis Library**

Housed in Franklin House, our Thesis Library is a complete collection of all Honors student theses presented by discipline. This library is available for current students to review for ideas and examples of theses.

## **Scholarship Opportunities**

The UHC offers a limited number of scholarships to new and current students. There are endowed scholarships, and other means of financial support, available through the UHC. Most awards are based on both need and academic merit and may be tied to specific areas of knowledge field of study, and/or engagement. Students who complete community service credits and maintain high academic standards are given first preference for awards and scholarships intended for upperclassmen.

Honors College Scholarships include:

- Honors College Freshmen Scholarship
- Beideman Honors College Fellowship
- Hoffman Family Endowment
- Luek Honors College Graduate Study Award
- Class of 1947 Endowment

## **Part Three: The Honors Experience**

### **HCSA: Honors College Student Association**

The purpose of this student organization is to promote social interaction among students, to serve Millersville University and the surrounding community, and to cultivate the intellectual curiosity and community service in its members. All Honors students may attend HCSA meetings and participate in their special events and service projects.

### **Honors College Communication**

In addition to our two Honors College newsletters, students receive announcements and information via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, email, and D2L. It is important for Honors College students to check their Millersville email frequently. The Honors College does not use personal email addresses for communications.

### **Honors Report**

The Honors Report is a monthly newsletter edited and published by Honors College students for Honors College students. The Honors Report includes upcoming events, timely information on academics and community, and peer, faculty, and alumni spotlights.

### **Honors College Curriculum Committee**

The University Honors College Curriculum Committee reviews and coordinates Honors College curriculum with the Director of the Honors College. Consisting of faculty members, as well as students from the Honors College, this committee typically meets several times per semester.

### **Honors College Mentoring Communities**

The Honors College Mentoring Communities program matches incoming freshmen with an upper classman mentor. This mentoring relationship begins before freshmen orientation and continues through the first year on campus to help ensure a smooth transition academically and socially. Each mentor/mentee pair is part of a larger Mentoring Community that's based on academic department/major. Mentoring Communities meet monthly for increased support and interaction within each major. Mentors and mentees often continue to interact well after the first year and even up until and beyond graduation.

## **Cultural Opportunities**

Co-curricular activities are an important part of the honors experience at Millersville University. The Honors College recognizes that education occurs beyond the walls of the classroom. Ideas are shaped by experiences. We encourage our students to participate in an array of social, cultural and recreational activities both on and off campus.

Downtime is essential for a successful college student. To relieve stress, students have cheered the Marauders on at football games, picnicked with the swans, and relished sumptuous end-of-the-semester banquets. Nearby, Lancaster boasts nightlife and culture. Honors Students attend plays, Broadway musicals, museum and gallery openings, ballet, and opera.

## **Student Service and Community Engagement**

In keeping with the emphasis on community within the Honors College, we also recognize the need to give back to the community – both the university community and the community at large. Honors students participate in the United Way's Day of Caring and many other community-service based programs. Service is a rewarding part of college life. The Honors College Student Association also organizes community events and volunteer opportunities that address a variety of causes, including human rights, hunger and homelessness, physical health and wellness, women's issues and tutoring programs. Honors students are required to complete at least 10 hours of service each academic year.

## **Millersville University Study Abroad Program**

As a member of the Millersville University Honors College, students are eligible to apply for the opportunity to spend several weeks in another country and potentially earn honors credits. In May 2025, several students took a pilot Honors College trip to Turkey, Greece, and Italy. Future trips are being planned, so stay tuned!

Study abroad is a key component of an undergraduate liberal arts education. Honors students are encouraged to study abroad, when it is possible. Students interested in how study abroad might fit in the Honors curriculum should consult the Director of the Honors College before making contact with the Office of International Programs and Services.

## **FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions about the Honors College Curriculum**

1. **Do I have to take Honors English 110 and/or Honors COMM 100?**
  - a. *No, these courses are optional honors electives. If you take ENGL 110H or COMM 100H, both courses count toward the 25-credit hour minimum.*
  
2. **Do I have to take Honors Calculus on top of the Calculus requirements in my major?**
  - a. *Absolutely not. Honors students are NOT required to take an honors math course. Rather, you need to satisfy the Honors College Math Proficiency: complete MATH 130 (Math Statistics) or MATH 161 (Calculus 1) or MATH 161H (Honors Calculus 1) or MATH 105 (for education majors) with a B- or better. You should pick a math course that works best for you and your major. NOTE: Only Honors (“H”) sections of math courses can count toward your 25 honors credits requirement.*
  
3. **Isn't it going to take me forever to finish my Honors requirements and my General Education requirements?**
  - a. *No, you can fulfill both at the same time. Just by meeting the core requirements in Honors, you can simultaneously fulfill General Education requirements. All the required Honors courses fit into General Education requirements.*
  
4. **Can I graduate from the Honors College without writing/doing a thesis?**
  - a. *No. You must write a thesis or complete a creative project (with written explanation on the project). The thesis is a piece of original research that you will conduct in an area that you find interesting. The thesis is a great opportunity to work closely with a faculty member in your discipline. If you are considering graduate school, this is excellent preparation for the type of work you will be expected to do. A thesis or creative project will also help you stand out when you apply for jobs.*
  
5. **How do I write an Honors Thesis or complete a Creative Project?**
  - a. *First, you should attend a thesis workshop sponsored by the Honors College. In your sophomore or junior year, you'll need to find a thesis adviser so you can start putting together your thesis committee. The thesis committee consists of your thesis adviser (the person you'll work most closely with) and two other committee members. Your adviser will be helpful in identifying appropriate faculty. The adviser and committee help you design and execute your project. The committee reads drafts of your thesis and, when you are ready, you will defend your thesis – an oral presentation and interview with the committee about your thesis. While researching and writing your thesis, you will register for at least three thesis credits. You register for thesis credits by special arrangement with your adviser and department. The form to register for the thesis is available at the*

*Honors College office. Your adviser and the Honors College will help you with the details. Also, be sure to submit your Thesis Prospectus form to the Honors College early in the first semester that you are enrolled in thesis credits.*

6. **Do I have to take an Upper-Level Advanced Writing class (AW), such as ENGL 311, 312, 313, or 316?**
  - a. *No, not if you write an Honors Thesis. The thesis may substitute for the General Education AW requirement. Students may elect to take AW courses in addition to writing the thesis. Because AW courses often include practice writing a resume, students who do only the thesis should check out Career Services in Bedford House for assistance with your resume.*
  
7. **Are Honors Courses harder than regular classes?**
  - a. *Not necessarily. They are meant to be more research oriented, more engaging and to require more active participation and discussion on the student's part. They usually are limited to 20-25 students. This gives you a chance to participate more, to know your peers and your professors, and to get more individual attention from your professors.*
  
8. **If I bring in AP credits, can those credits count as honors credits?**
  - a. *No, only Honors courses that you complete at MU with a B- or better (or transfer in from another college) can count as Honors credits. If you bring in AP credits in English Comp, you will not be required to complete Honors English Comp. There are plenty of other Honors courses you can select (e.g., 1. Honors Speech; 2. Honors electives, such as Child Development, Macro Economics, Film; 3. Honors by Contract courses; 4. A 500-level graduate course)*
  
9. **What do Honors students do besides take Honors classes?**
  - a. *Honors students have the opportunity to be involved in cultural events that are developed especially for them. For example, Honors students have gone whitewater rafting, attended a Shakespearean play in Washington, D.C., seen the opera Carmen in Lancaster, toured The Barnes Foundation near Philadelphia, seen a Broadway play in NYC, visited Longwood Gardens, traveled to the National Aquarium in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, and much more. Honors students also participate in the student organization, Honors College Student Association (HCSA), and their associated events.*

*Also, Honors students are members of sports teams at MU, play in the university's marching band, participate in special interest clubs or other organizations related to majors, act in theater productions, hold part-time jobs, etc. They do all the activities that college students participate in. The goal is to be well-rounded, receive a first-class education, and have a fun, memorable time during your undergraduate years! Honors students are often the most involved students on our campus.*