Honors College Committee Report  
2020-2021 Academic Year

1. Committee members:
   a. Kate Pfile, EHHP, Chair
   b. Lancie Affonso, SSM/HONS
   c. Erin Beutel, SSM
   d. Jessica Streitt, SOA
   e. Mike Maher, LCWA
   f. Paige Bressler, SOB
   g. Gabrielle Principe, HSS
   h. Katie Hill, Honors student
   i. Emily Wiesler, Honors student

2. Summary of completed activities and discussions held by the committee:
   a. Developed a form for faculty to complete when proposing honors courses with 
      specific sections related to different course categories (foundations, colloquium, 
      special topics)
   b. Reviewed and approved honors course proposals for the Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 
      semesters.
   c. Discussed and approved curriculum changes to decrease total HONS credits from 25 
      to 22 starting with 2021-22 student entry.
   d. Members read and scored all Honors College applicant essays
   e. Provided feedback on how to modify the candidate interview weekend based on 
      COVID-19 safety protocols.
   f. Participated in Honors weekend including candidate panel interviews.
   g. Voted on a student appeal related to student removal due to honor code violation.
   h. Discussed honors immersed options based on increased student enrollments and 
      existing campus resources.
   i. Scored sample of Bachelor’s Essays for assessment data collection.
   j. No returning committee member was interested in serving as chair, one will need to 
      be selected at the start of the 2021-22 academic year.

3. Minutes from the 2020-21 academic year

   9.7.20
   1. Introductions
a. Erin Beutel - Geology
b. Mike Maher - Italian Studies
c. Jessica Streit - Art & Architecture
d. Paige Bressler - Business
e. Emily Wiesler - student rep
f. Katie Hill - student rep
g. Kate Pfile - Health & Human Performance

2. Committee charge
   a. Provide input into admission process
      i. Score essays
      ii. Participate in interview weekend
   b. Review the honors nature of course proposals
   c. Discuss curriculum changes
   d. Hear student appeals

3. Tasks to accomplish 2020-21
   a. Adjust process for course proposals → re-configure course proposal form to
      highlight info committee needs to consider the honors nature of the course.
      Eliminate scheduling/approval process
      i. Look back at previous semesters to evaluate balance
      ii. Start with the application proposal and edit to better conform
   b. Help re-imagine interview weekend
      i. Maximize inclusion
      ii. Adapt to COVID-19 guidelines
   c. Examine Honors Immersed requirement within curriculum
      i. Beth will follow up with Mark Del Mastro about Curriculum Committee
         dates
   d. Evaluate the transfer process
      i. New EVP for Marketing and Enrollment Management - get information
         about how to better target honors transfer students
   e. Ideas on how to support faculty teaching within honors

9.21.20
1. Discuss course proposal forms
   a. Foundations
   b. Colloquium
   c. Advanced Studies
2. 10/5 - Chris Bailey - admission process/essay rubric grading

10.5.20
1. Elizabeth Roberts
   a. Review how to apply application essay rubric
   b. Discuss example essays
2. Chris Bailey
   a. Process for accessing application essays in Salesforce
10.19.20

1. 2021-22 AY Course offerings (Nick Plasmati)
   a. Faculty support diversifying course offerings to various schools/departments
   b. Promote to department chairs that HONS courses are opportunities to

2. 2021 Interview Weekend Update (Elizabeth Roberts)
   a. Event spread out over 3 different days
   b. Preview day live streamed to sessions (~80 virtual) with limited number of
      students on campus (~50)
      i. Gauge interest via registration survey, first come first served
      ii. Campus tours, info sessions, student posters, etc.
   c. Group interviews with designated time slots → all virtual
   d. Individual interview/writing exercise day → all virtual
   e. Committee Suggestions:
      i. Assign a host to help with guiding tours, taking to dinner, and establishing
         a personal connection
      ii. Send hot chocolate packet instead of smores packet
      iii. Think about ability for applicants to miss back to back Friday school due
data obligations

1.14.21

1. Review and discuss Qualtrics survey to get faculty responses for new course design for
   upcoming semesters
   a. Encourage faculty to keep in mind why they are answering the questions
      i. Understand the guidelines
      ii. Adhere to the guidelines
      iii. Add a statement with Part 2:
   b. Hopeful faculty will use this form as a learning experience to reflect and get input
      i. If resistance to teach - no opportunity to teach in Honors in the future
   c. How many course proposals do you anticipate?
      i. 1 course for Fall 2021 with possible 2-3 additional
      ii. 3-4 course for Spring 2022
   d. Fall deadline for new Spring courses
   e. If a new instructor for an existing course (foundations course example), will this
      form be required?

2. Curriculog proposal
   a. Reduce required HONS hours from 25 to 22 hours
   b. 16-19 credits to meet minimum competency requirements (HONS 110, quant lit, colloquium, etc.)
   c. Planned increase in honors courses without any plan to increase faculty
      i. Provides tool for Deans to manage faculty workload
      ii. For example, 196 bachelor’s essays anticipated in the junior class
   d. Credit hours falls in line with "mainstream" of 20-25 credits
e. Voted in favor 8-0 to support proposal

1.28.21
1. Review interview weekend protocol and expectations

2.25.21
1. Student Appeal removal - decision was to deny the appeal
2. Review Fall Course Plan
   a. 4 New courses (highlighted in yellow)
   b. 3 previously taught courses under old curriculum to review for SLOs (highlighted in teal)
   c. Course proposals submitted by instructional faculty member - 6/1
   d. Reviewed in pairs by committee and feedback provided by 6/15
      i. Pair faculty based on experience with honors courses
3. Honors Immersed discussion
   a. Broaden the honors immersed experience to non-cofc (URCA, SSM, MUSC) opportunities
   b. Potential concerns related to oversight and workload to vet the site and experience
   c. Create a list of approved internships and post to website
   d. Can the career center be involved in this process?

4.23.21
1. Bachelor’s Essay review process - Bryan Ganaway
   a. Each committee member has a folder
      i. Honors Committee within Teams
      ii. General
      iii. Files
      iv. Faculty Folder
   b. Spend about 15’ on each essay skimming to score rubric
   c. Use the spreadsheet in to input each score
   d. Have the scores entered by 6/1
2. Course proposal form review process - Nick & Kate
   a. Timeline
      i. proposal forms due to Honors 6/1
      ii. committee member feedback by 6/15
   b. Review teams
      i. Kate & Jessica (McCune & Principe proposals)
      ii. Lancie & Paige (LeVasseur & TBD proposal)
      iii. Mike, Erin & Gabby (Gluska & Boyle proposals)
3. 2021-22 Committee Leadership?
   a. Returning members: Lancie, Paige, Mike, Gabby
   b. Lancie and Mike declined to serve as committee chair for next year
c. The new committee members will need to elect a new chair and identify Honors student representatives at the start of the Fall semester.
Honors College Meeting Minutes

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Committee charge
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Score essays
Participate in interview weekend
Review the honors nature of course proposals
Discuss curriculum changes
Hear student appeals

Tasks to accomplish 2020-21
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Look back at previous semesters to evaluate balance
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Maximize inclusion
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Examine Honors Immersed requirement within curriculum
Beth will follow up with Mark Del Mastro about Curriculum Committee dates
Evaluate the transfer process
New EVP for Marketing and Enrollment Management - get information about how to better target honors transfer students

Ideas on how to support faculty teaching within honors

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Colloquium
Advanced Studies
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