

**THE  
HONORS  
COLLEGE**  
**AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON**



# HERE YOU ARE.



## Discover the world . . . and yourself.

The Honors College at the University of Houston houses a world of possibilities. Within our community, you will thrive on challenges, explore your passions, and open your arms wide to the world — to the vibrant city of Houston and beyond. In this journey, you'll uncover your best self.

# HONORS IS THE PLACE.



## THE HONORS ADVANTAGE

As an Honors student, you get a small-college feel with big-university resources, located in the heart of Houston, one of the largest and most diverse cities in the nation.

Honors provides the careful guidance, flexibility, and personal instruction that nurtures academic excellence in our student body of high achievers.

You'll confer with your peers and professors in small discussion-based seminars, relax with your friends in Honors' exclusive living room, and feel at home in reserved floors in state-of-the-art residence halls.

And you'll also enjoy all the resources the UH campus has to offer.



[thehonorscollege.com](http://thehonorscollege.com)



**HONORS IS THE PLACE**

**TO BEGIN.**

# THE HONORS COLLEGE

**21**

students  
in an average  
Honors class



## COMPETE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

No matter what your major, the broad skillset and flexible, creative thinking that you gain from a liberal arts education is more important than ever in today's job market.

Knowledge of human cultures, the physical and natural world, personal and social responsibility, and intellectual and practical skills are what matter most to employers, even in high-tech, STEM-based industries.

Between the Honors College's signature course, The Human Situation, the unique perspectives Honors courses offer, and our emphasis on collaborative and discussion-based study, you will excel at oral and written communication, critical thinking, ethical judgment, and working effectively in teams.



**HONORS IS THE PLACE**  
**TO LEARN.**



## WHO IS AN HONORS STUDENT?

Students from all majors are welcome — they belong to both the Honors College and the college of their major at the University.



### Distribution of Class Rank in Secondary School

Top 10%	51%
Next 10%	19%
Below 20%	11%
Unranked	19%



**HONORS STUDENTS ARE:**  
**Driven.**  
**Diverse.**  
**Top of their class.**



## #IAMHONORS: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

At the Honors College, diversity means inclusion. Honors serves a student population that reflects a wide range of cultural, racial, religious, and economic communities.



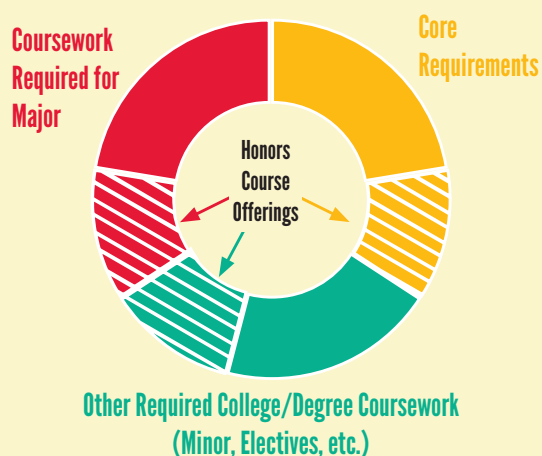
### Ethnic Distribution (2024 Entering Class Data)

Asian	31%
Hispanic	25%
White	21%
African American	12%
International	6%
Multi-Cultural/Other	5%

# THE HONORS CURRICULUM

The Honors curriculum is designed to complement all degree plans offered at the University of Houston. Honors classes fulfill core requirements, and many major courses can be taken for Honors credit. About a third of your degree will be taken in Honors designated courses.

## Honors fits into your degree plan.



## THE HUMAN SITUATION

Honors College students begin their liberal arts education with our signature two-semester discussion course, The Human Situation.

In this course, you'll read literature, philosophy, and religious texts and wrestle with ideas that have been foundational for modern culture.

These texts present compelling, if not always harmonious, insights into human situations. Through close reading and lively discussion with faculty from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, you will discern "The Human Situation" for yourself.





**95%**

Honors faculty with  
terminal degrees

An average Honors  
student takes

**14**

Honors courses during their  
undergraduate career

HONORS IS THE PLACE

**TO ENGAGE.**

# MINORS AND PROGRAMS

## CREATIVE WORK

Apply innovative thinking, collaborative problem-solving, and conceptual grounding — that is, creative work — to any major or field of interest. Through interdisciplinary approaches and real-world considerations, the Creative Work minor encourages students to discover how great ideas evolve from inspiration to realization.

## LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Expand your knowledge of leadership theory, and practice while analyzing the personal and professional experiences that will define your own leadership philosophy. Leadership Studies students also engage in leadership training, honing their skills in real-life situations such as student government, mentoring opportunities, and community organizations.



**39%**

of Honors students  
graduate with an  
Honors minor

Whatever your major, as an Honors student, you may choose to complement your field of study with one of six Honors minors designed to customize, reinforce, and diversify your education.

## DATA & SOCIETY

Address important challenges in today's world by studying the broad social impact of data science and partner with local organizations to engage in co-curricular learning projects that utilize data and data analytics to respond to community needs. Data & Society is open to all students, regardless of affiliation.

## MEDICINE & SOCIETY

Deepen your understanding of the social, cultural, and historical factors that remain crucial to the practice of effective medicine. MedSoc is designed for future health care professionals as well as any other students wishing to examine issues of illness and recovery from a variety of humanities-based perspectives.

## ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Investigate complex issues of energy security, global climate change, and environmental stewardship by taking an interdisciplinary approach that integrates perspectives from engineering, economics, business, architecture, design, public policy, and education.

## PHRONËSIS

Develop your capacity to engage with difficult contemporary issues and cultivate practical wisdom by considering fundamental issues of ethics, history, political theory, and morality. Phronêsis students discuss the most profound, enduring questions of public life. This minor is especially recommended for those pursuing pre-law studies.

## HONORS PROGRAMS

The **CULLEN HONORS ENGINEERING** program provides challenging coursework, research opportunities, and cohort building. Project-oriented learning through hands-on activities leads to the open-ended thinking employers look for.

The **BAUER BUSINESS HONORS** program combines a solid liberal arts foundation with specialized business curriculum in small, discussion-based classes. Networking and internship opportunities offer students a competitive edge in the job market.

The **HONORSMED (HMed)** program provides selected students with a conditional acceptance pathway to medical school. HMed is a partnership between the Honors College and the Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine.

The **CLASS HONORS** program, in partnership with the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, offers internship, scholarship, and networking opportunities, along with invite-only events, to a select community of liberal arts scholars.



## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Learning occurs both in and out of the classroom. Co-curricular opportunities provide an experiential component where you get to apply what you're learning to real-life situations and affect real-time outcomes. Whatever your major or your interests, we have co-curricular programming for you.

### CARE PROGRAM

Engage with the greater Houston community through service that responds to the economic, social, and cultural challenges affecting the quality of life in Houston.

### HONORS IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

Help build healthy communities through a multidisciplinary approach to overcoming barriers for underserved populations. This collaborative, student-led organization uses its understanding of the social determinants of health to explore multiple types of service: community engagement, advocacy, and research.

### SPEECH AND DEBATE

Harness your competitive energy to engage in research, argumentation and leadership as part of Honors award-winning Speech and Debate program. Travel and compete nationally with teams in four styles of speech and debate.

### MODEL DEBATE

Contribute to cross-cultural dialogue on international geopolitical issues as a participant in Model United Nations, Model Arab League, and Model G20.



## MIKAEL FLOYD ('20)

Political Science major

Truman Scholarship winner

Former Associate Justice for the University of Houston Supreme Court

"I ran for office at 18 years old and took on the role of a state party officer just a year later because I believe that young people and our voices are essential in government. I cannot think of a more important mission than that of revitalizing our democracy."



## HONORS SOCIETIES

Honors is the home of three of the biggest National Honor Societies:

### OMICRON DELTA KAPPA

Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, recognizes exemplary leaders in scholarship, athletics, service, communication, and the arts.

### PHI BETA KAPPA

Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society, celebrates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences.

### PHI KAPPA PHI

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest honor society to recognize excellence across the academic disciplines. Invited members graduate in the top 10 percent of their class.



## CO-CURRICULAR ENGAGEMENT

The Honors in Co-Curricular Engagement designation provides formal recognition of a student's commitment to experiential learning opportunities outside the classroom throughout the academic career.



**HONORS IS THE PLACE  
TO EXPLORE.**

## MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

Over 8,000 students live on campus in nine residential communities. Living in campus housing is a unique opportunity to live and learn among your peers.

One of the most important ways to foster success in school is to connect with other students. That connection has shown to result in higher GPAs and higher graduation rates.

## HONORS LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY

You can choose to live and learn exclusively among other Honors students in the Honors Living Learning Communities in Cougar Village and Cougar Place.

Make yourself at home with WiFi/internet access, computer labs, full kitchenettes, free laundry facilities, 24-hour desk operation and security, and social and study lounges on each floor.

Eat in one of two full-service dining halls; grab food at one of the 30 on-campus eateries; or use a mobile app to order from vendors on campus. A rotation of local food trucks also sets up shop on campus.



**73%**  
of Honors freshmen  
live on campus



# HONORS IS THE PLACE TO CALL HOME.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

When you're not in class, there's a lot to do on campus! Shop, see a movie, or hang out with friends at the Student Center. Chill out at the Student Center Bowling Alley and enjoy pool tables or video games.

The state-of-the-art Campus Recreation & Wellness Center offers a rock-climbing wall, running track, basketball courts, lap pool, outdoor leisure pool, gym, personal training, group fitness classes, and wellness coaching to get your sweat on. Bike racks are stationed outside every building for easy transportation across campus.

## CAMPUS AND BEYOND

The University is centrally located in the heart of Houston — providing access to the best of Houston's restaurants, theaters, parks, and museums, in addition to a wide range of industries for internships. Several bus lines and a light-rail line crisscross campus for easy access to the diversity and abundance that Houston offers.

## HONORS IS COMMUNITY

Being an Honors student means getting involved. Whatever your interests, there is a wide range of Honors organizations and activities that will broaden your peer group, enrich your perspective, and serve your Honors community.

These are just a few of the many social organizations and activities that build community beyond the classroom.



## HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

### HONORS COLLEGE MENTORS

Honors Mentors provide incoming students guidance and support through a variety of community-building events and excursions to ensure a successful college transition.

### HONORS AMBASSADORS

Honors Ambassadors represent the College at college nights at local high schools, Honors College Open Houses, Cougar Previews, and recruitment initiatives.



### CLUB THEATER

Club Theater students write, direct, act, build sets, and design costumes for original productions that are staged each semester.

## HONORS STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### HONORS RETREAT

Honors Retreat marks the beginning of each school year. At Retreat, incoming Honors College students meet upperclassmen, faculty, staff, and alumni and solidify their sense of community before classes begin. Upperclass students serve as Retreat Counselors to welcome and guide incoming Honors students during this two-day event.





**HONORS IS THE PLACE  
FOR COMMUNITY.**

## GET OUT OF TOWN

Travel can be life changing. No matter your major, you can make travel a part of your undergraduate education with the Honors College.

The Honors College organizes faculty-led trips year-round.



## LEARNING ABROAD

Honors students have been all over the world. They have stood atop Machu Picchu in Peru, trekked to Tintern Abbey in Ireland, studied marine life in the Galápagos Islands, and worked with international aid organizations in Jordan.

## LEARNING AWAY

Honors also travels a little closer to home. In the past few years, our students have examined the foundation of the early American Republic in Virginia, visited the environs of Delta Blues musicians in Mississippi, interned at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C., and saw the Sinfonietta and a Cubs game in Chicago.



“Our classrooms became untamed woods, breathtaking hikes, and a brilliantly clear ocean. Seeing sea turtles, playful sea lions, and prehistoric birds became as ordinary as the squirrels on campus. While the islands were extraordinary, the people I shared the trip with made this experience life-changing.”

**Liam Gallagher**

Galápagos trip



"It was so meaningful to me to know that I could go there and lend a hand. Being a part of this trip taught me that, as health care providers, we won't always be able to solve every problem, but the most important thing we can do is be a human and connect to others."

**Jemima Brittlebank**

Medical trip to Haiti



"Being in Barcelona was like nothing my experiences here could have prepared me for. Barcelona has no end of delicious food and breathtaking sights to offer, but what will stay with me forever are the people I met and the things they taught me."

**Sahar Baig**

Barcelona trip

HONORS IS THE PLACE  
**TO GO GLOBAL.**

# MAKE DISCOVERIES THROUGH RESEARCH

The University of Houston's Office of Undergraduate Research and Major Awards is located in the Honors College, making it easy to pursue a number of research opportunities mentored by University faculty throughout your undergraduate career.

Through funded opportunities, you will engage with other researchers and experts in your field of study, explore research fundamentals, and receive guidance from faculty and mentors. Design your own projects, present on Undergraduate Research Day, and attend conferences or publish in academic journals.

## NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE AWARDS

The award-winning Office of Undergraduate Research and Major Awards provides support for undergraduate students to learn about nationally competitive scholarship opportunities and provides application guidance. These external, merit-based competitions support research, language learning, graduate tuition, and provide generous scholarships to recipients.





## KALENA HOLEMAN ('25)

English major, Creative Work and Classical Studies minors  
Gates Cambridge Scholarship Recipient  
Mellon Research Scholar

"I didn't think I had a place in academia, but undergraduate research has opened my eyes to the communities that exist between marginalized scholars in English Studies. My time as a researcher has taught me that I do have a voice, and can contribute to a growing conversation among diverse scholars."

"Undergraduate research has granted me opportunities, experiences, and knowledge that have helped me build my story. My interest in the regenerative power of stem cells led me to MD Anderson.

I am excited to see where research takes me as I pursue becoming a physician-scientist."

### Paul Daniel

Biology major,  
Medicine & Society minor  
Amgen Scholar  
MD Anderson Partnership for  
Careers in Cancer Science Participant



"Participating in undergraduate research has been a formative experience for me here at UH.

Through OURMA research opportunities, I discovered and developed my passion for chemistry research and plan to pursue a doctorate in chemistry, taking with me all the lessons I learned as an undergraduate researcher."

### Kevin Fleming

Chemical Engineering major  
DAAD RISE recipient



## FULBRIGHT DISTINCTION

The University of Houston has been named a Top Producing Fulbright Institution four times with 74 Fulbright recipients since 2018. UH Fulbrighters have taught English and conducted research in countries including France, Ghana, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Turkey, and Uzbekistan, just to name a few.

## HONORS IS THE PLACE

# FOR RESEARCH.

# YOUR UNIVERSITY.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



## EXPLORE CAMPUS

The Fertitta Center

The Cynthia B. Woods Mitchell  
Center for the Performing Arts

The Hilton Hotel

Cullen Performance Hall

The Student Center

TDECU Stadium

The Blaffer Museum

Moore's Opera House

Public Art

Athletics/Alumni Center

Cougar Hall of Fame

## A CUT ABOVE

**TOP TIER:** The University of Houston is Texas' third largest university and a designated Tier One Research Institution, with 38 research centers.

**STUDENT POPULATION:** 38,000 undergraduates, with 6,000 students living in campus residence halls, apartments, and townhouses.

**GET INVOLVED:** With 600+ student organizations and 39 fraternities and sororities offered, you can find your people easily.

**CAMPUS:** We're ranked in the Top 100 Most Beautiful Campuses in the U.S. (Bestcollegereviews.org)

**CONVENIENCE:** From UH, you can easily access restaurants, theaters, parks, museums, and music venues, in addition to a wide range of industries for internships. The light-rail and multiple bus lines run close to campus.

**HEALTH:** UH has a state-of-the-art Campus Wellness and Recreation Center, as well as a Student Health Center that provides primary care services at a cost-effective student rate.

**A WINNING TEAM:** University of Houston sports teams have 7 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four appearances, two College World Series appearances, a football victory at the Peach Bowl, and joined the Big 12 in 2023.

**COUGAR RED FRIDAYS:** Cougar Pride is real — We wear red on Fridays to prove it!

**WE'RE EXPANDING:** Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine, The Quad, The RAD Center dining and retail facilities, John M. O'Quinn Law Building, Innovation Hub, University Plaza, Centennial Plaza and Wilhelmina's Grove.

# HOUSTON, TEXAS: NOT JUST ANY CITY

Houston is not only the perfect place to get a quality college education but also a great place to get an internship. To start your career. To experience culture. To make connections. And more.

**DIVERSITY:** Houston is the most ethnically and racially diverse city in the nation. 145 languages are spoken here.

**JOB:** Headquarters to over 20 Fortune 500 companies and 5,000 energy-related firms, Houston is ranked #2 in the nation for job creation.

**FOOD:** From food trucks to white-tablecloth meals, Houston's food scene features cuisine from practically every country around the globe.

**OUTDOOR RECREATION:** With over 380 parks, Houston ranks 3rd in the country for total acreage of parkland.

**MUSEUM DISTRICT:** Houston's renowned Museum District houses 21 museums.

**CULTURE AND MORE:** Houston boasts more than 500 cultural, visual, and performing arts organizations, 90 of which are devoted to multicultural arts.

**SPORTS:** Astros, Texans, and Rockets, oh my — and don't forget the Dynamo and Dash — Houston's professional sports teams win!



# YOUR CITY. HOUSTON, TEXAS

## EXPERIENCE HOUSTON

Attend Houston's annual Livestock Show and Rodeo

Shop at The Galleria

See a play at The Alley Theatre

Take a yoga class at Discovery Green

Discover Houston's street art

Visit the renowned Menil Collection and neighboring Rothko Chapel

Check out an Astros game

Hear the Houston Symphony at Jones Hall

Tour NASA or Space Center Houston

Bike through Buffalo Bayou Park

Take a day trip to the beaches of Galveston

# GRADUATION AND BEYOND

An Honors education is a transformative experience that prepares you for a lifetime of learning and achievement after graduation, whether you choose to immediately enter a career or continue to graduate school.

Our faculty and advisors will help you identify your strengths and passions. Our strong partnerships in the Houston community will help you build your professional network through internships, guest lecturers, and co-curricular opportunities. You'll graduate prepared to make an impact.



**As a University of Houston Cougar,  
you will have a ready network of  
330,000 proud alumni.**



"The Honors College provided me with an exciting, interdisciplinary education. As I pursue my MD, I am grateful for my understanding of humanity in healthcare through the Medicine & Society minor. With a smaller community and more opportunities for flexibility, discussion, and creativity, Honors greatly enriched my learning experience."

**Jenna Zamil ('25)**

Biology major, Medicine and Society minor





## JOSHUA ELLIS, M.D., MPH ('12)

History major, Medicine and Society minor  
 Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine,  
 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
 Howard University Medical School Graduate  
 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
 Medical Education Fellowship at Harvard Medical School and  
 Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

"I am forever grateful for my Honors College undergraduate experience, both in and out of the classroom. Life is epic! From having the most incredible life-long friends and mentors to rushing the football field after an upset victory, I owe the Honors College for the perfect start to my journey through my medical education."

"The magic of the Honors College comes from the community of professors and University staff who provide the passion and resources to achieve and fellow students who make the Commons and hallways buzz with life. I have felt genuine support and camaraderie with this amazing group of people."

## Paul Vaughan ('22)

Economics major,  
 National Security Studies minor  
 Gilman Scholar  
 Fulbright Recipient



"The Honors College has been instrumental in my success as a student. With professors who genuinely care about individual students, support for research opportunities and fellowship applications, and a community focused on encouraging each student to excel, the Honors College has helped me create a home within the University of Houston."

## Cassidy Lee ('22)

Political Science and Spanish major



# HONORS IS THE PLACE

# TO THRIVE.

# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We know financing your education might look complicated. But there are a number of financial aid and scholarship opportunities available to you that can make — and keep — college affordable.

## UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Students must complete the University of Houston application at [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org) or [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) by the priority date for scholarship consideration.

Visit [uh.edu/scholarships](http://uh.edu/scholarships) for more information.

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

- Automatic consideration based on UH application
- Awards based on academic merit
- Up to \$7,000 per year awarded

### TIER ONE SCHOLARSHIP

- University of Houston's premier academic scholarship
- Funding for four years of tuition and fees, two years of on-campus room and board
- Stipends for research and study abroad
- Students with a competitive academic profile (1400 SAT/30 ACT composite score; top 10 percent class rank) have improved chances of moving forward in the selection process
- Application opens Aug. 1

### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

- Funding for four years of tuition and fees
- Stipends for research and study abroad
- Automatically awarded to National Merit Finalists who list the University of Houston as their first choice institution according to National Merit Scholarship Corporation rules and deadlines

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

### HONORS SCHOLARSHIP

- Ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,500 annually
- Competitive academic profile (1360 SAT/29 ACT; top 10 percent class rank)
- Must attend an Honors College Open House during their senior year of high school and apply to be considered for Honors Scholarships

### TERRY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

- The Terry Foundation is a Houston-based philanthropic organization that provides full-ride scholarships (tuition, fees, books, room and board, study abroad, and miscellaneous expenses) for outstanding students. Eligible students must:
  - have financial need
  - have a record of leadership in school and community
  - have strong academic abilities proven through grades
  - graduate from a Texas high school or home school
- Please visit [www.thehonorscollege.com/terry](http://www.thehonorscollege.com/terry) for more information.



Have any questions?

Need more information?

Would you like to arrange a campus visit?

Call [713.743.1766](tel:713.743.1766) or [1.888.827.0366](tel:1.888.827.0366) (toll free), email [honorsadmissions@uh.edu](mailto:honorsadmissions@uh.edu) or visit [www.thehonorscollege.com](http://www.thehonorscollege.com).

**HONORS IS THE PLACE**

**TO APPLY.**

## APPLY TO THE HONORS COLLEGE

The Honors College welcomes you, wherever you are in your academic career.

Apply to the Honors College by checking the Honors box on the ApplyTexas or Common application, or by visiting [www.thehonorscollege.com/apply](http://www.thehonorscollege.com/apply).

Submit the following required supplemental materials to [honors@uh.edu](mailto:honors@uh.edu) to complete your application:

1. Academic writing sample (3-5 pages), such as a literary analysis from a previous English or history class
2. Extracurricular résumé listing work experience, volunteerism, awards, honors, organizations, etc.

Separate transcripts and test scores do not have to be submitted to the Honors College if they have been sent to the University of Houston.

# YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS HERE.



The Honors College  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

thehonorscollege.com  
713-743-9010  
1-888-827-0366

*The University of Houston is an EEO/AA institution.*

**University of Houston**  
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