

# Honors

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(non major/minor)

The University Honors Program (UHP) provides enhanced educational opportunities for Cal Lutheran's most academically motivated students. The mission of the UHP is to challenge students at a higher level as they grapple with deeper questions of life, identity, and purpose within a global community. It encourages intellectual exploration and experimentation by involving students in an intensive study of works that bridge diverse historical contexts, cultural settings and fields of knowledge. By balancing tradition and innovation and discovering or creating links between areas of knowledge currently separated by disciplines and departments, the UHP encourages students to think holistically and critically about these works and the global issues they illuminate.

The UHP is open to students by invitation upon admission to Cal Lutheran, although other admitted students may petition the Honors Committee for admission to the program. In addition, up to five transfers a year may petition to enter the Honors Program either during their sophomore or the beginning of their junior year.

First-year UHP students must attend one of two year-long foundational seminar courses. One of these courses is Humanities Tutorial, a course that explores a wide array of themes in literature and philosophy. From the origins of Western thought in Greek philosophy and literature to an extensive survey of contemporary themes (both Western and non-Western) in more recent writings, the Humanities Tutorial foundational seminar provides a stimulating atmosphere in which to explore important ideas in the humanities.

The second choice of foundational seminar is At Home in the Universe: a Scientific World View. This course affords students the opportunity to delve into some of the most important ideas in post-Enlightenment thought, and provides them with a modern, scientific understanding of man and nature. From cosmological theories for the birth of our universe to the intricate neurological underpinnings of human consciousness, the processes by which our current perception of the natural world has been elucidated will be explored.

During their second and third years, University Honors students must attend at least two honors seminars (preferably one in each year). In their final year, students must attend one capstone honors seminar course. With the successful completion of the capstone and seminars, the student will achieve University Honors. Transfer students will be required to attend at least four honors seminars and the capstone to achieve University Honors.

## Requirements for completion of the Honors Program

Successful completion of 4 honors seminars (16 credits); successful completion of a capstone honors seminar. Students entering on or after the 2007-2008 academic year must maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA to sustain their membership in the UHP.