

Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program

www.salisbury.edu/honors

The Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program at Salisbury University offers superior undergraduate students the opportunity to study together in small discussion-oriented classes which encourage and enable them to become independent learners and active seekers of knowledge rather than merely passive recipients of another person's ideas.

The goal of the program is to provide Honors students with courses offering intellectual breadth as well as depth, and to cultivate in them a desire for the pleasure of active and independent thinking and learning.

Admission

The program seeks applications from all high school students with good grades, a love of learning and an interest in small interdisciplinary discussion classes. Strong academic performance, leadership and extracurricular interests are all considered in Honors admission. To apply to the Bellavance University Honors Program, students must send an essay best exemplifying their written work to the Honors director.

SU students possessing a grade point average of 3.50 after taking 48 hours of college credits are eligible for admission to Honors courses and to the Bellavance General Honors Program.

Transfer students who have been active in an Honors Program at the college from which they transfer are admitted upon request to their choice of the Bellavance University Honors or the Bellavance General Honors program.

Transfer students coming to SU with no post-secondary Honors background may apply for admission to the Bellavance General Honors program when they have a total of 48 credits with a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

For further information, contact Dr. Richard England, 410-546-6902 or honorsprogram@salisbury.edu.

Curriculum

The program offers a variety of enhanced courses to satisfy the needs and interests of all Honors students. Enhanced courses meet for three hours a week and are available to all students admitted to the program. Some of them, as explained in the next section, are required for students intending to graduate with Honors.

Honors Core Curriculum Courses

Students take three of four courses in the Honors core curriculum:

▶ HONR 111: Critical Thinking and Writing

Examines the processes for developing and supporting arguments with clear, unambiguous language and methods for evaluating the soundness of arguments.

▶ HONR 112: Issues in Social Sciences

A topics course designed to introduce students to enduring and pertinent issues in the social sciences and to teach them the methods and underlying assumptions of these disciplines.

▶ HONR 211: Issues in Humanities

A topics course designed to introduce students to enduring and pertinent issues in the humanities and to teach them the methods and underlying assumptions of these disciplines.

▶ HONR 212: Issues in Natural Sciences

A topics course designed to introduce students to enduring and pertinent issues in the natural sciences and to teach them the methods and underlying assumptions of these disciplines.

HONR 311: Honors Interdisciplinary Seminars

These courses often address topics that transcend individual disciplinary boundaries. These courses may be team-taught by faculty from different departments or they may be directed by a single faculty member who calls upon the expertise of several guest lecturers. Often a single faculty member selects texts from several disciplines to help students explore the topic from various disciplinary perspectives. These seminars are designed to be of interest to Honors students from a number of various disciplines.

HONR 312: Honors Research/Creative Project

The Honors Research/Creative Project is a one credit independent study course in which a student develops a research or creative interest into a project suitable for public presentation at SU's Undergraduate Research Conference or an off-campus student research or Honors conference. With guidance from Honors faculty, students work with a mentor to complete and present this independent project.

HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation and HONR 495 Honors Thesis

The Honors Thesis is a three- or four-hour course of independent study which culminates in substantial original research, scholarship or creative work; the zero credit corequisite HONR 496 ensures the thesis is represented on the Honors student transcript. The Honors Thesis Preparation is a one-credit course of independent study designed to get the thesis project under way. Students may apply to the Honors director for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study class for HONR 495.

Curriculum Requirements for Graduating With Bellavance University Honors

Students who enter SU as freshman and transfer students who have been active in a post-secondary Honors program are eligible to participate in Bellavance University Honors.

Three Core Courses:

	Credits
HONR 111 Critical Thinking and Writing.....4 (General Education ENGL 103)	4
or	
HONR 211 Issues in Humanities4 (General Education Group IIIA)	4
HONR 112 Issues in Social Sciences.....4 (General Education Group IIIB)	4
HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences 4 (General Education Group IVB)	4
	Credits
HONR 311* Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar4 and	4
HONR 311* Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar4	4
HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project1 (Students complete a research or creative project in a 300-400-level course of their choosing [this does not have to be an Honors course] and present their project at one of several symposia.)	1
or	
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation.....1	1
HONR 495**Honors Thesis 3-4 (To fulfill this requirement, the Honors thesis must be completed with a grade of B or better.)	3-4
HONR 496 Honors Thesis Consultation0	0

* Three or four credits from an approved study abroad course may take the place of one HONR 311 course.
** Students may apply to the Honors director for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study class for HONR 495.

All Honors students develop an outcomes portfolio consisting of class essays and reflections on campus citizenship, to be updated annually.

Students graduating with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and who have completed the requirements listed above receive the designation "Bellavance University Honors" on their transcripts and diploma.

Curriculum Requirements for Graduating With Bellavance General Honors

SU students must have completed at least 48 college credits with a 3.5 grade point average and have completed a minimum of two semesters at SU to be admitted to this program.

Students desiring to graduate with "Bellavance General Honors" complete the following program requirements:

	Credits
HONR 311* Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar4	4
HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project1 (Students complete a research or creative project in a 300-400-level course of their choosing [this does not have to be an Honors course] and present their project at one of several symposia.)	1
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation.....1	1
HONR 495**Honors Thesis 3-4 (To fulfill this requirement, the Honors thesis must be completed with a grade of B or better.)	3-4
HONR 496 Honors Thesis Consultation0	0
HONR XXX Elective Class4 (Choose from HONR 111, 112, 211, 212 or 311)	4

* Three or four credits from an approved study abroad course may take the place of one HONR 311 course.
** Students may apply to the Honors director for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study class for HONR 495.

All Honors students develop an outcomes portfolio consisting of class essays and reflections on campus citizenship, to be updated annually.

Students graduating with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and who have completed the requirements listed above receive the designation "Bellavance General Honors" on their transcripts and diploma.

Honors Courses and General Education Requirements

The four Honors core courses may satisfy some General Education requirements as follows:

HONR 111: Honors Core I—Critical Thinking and Writing (satisfies Group IA: ENGL 103)

HONR 112: Honors Core II—Issues in Social Sciences (satisfies Group IIIB)

HONR 211: Honors Core III—Issues in Humanities (satisfies Group IIIA)

HONR 212: Honors Core IV—Issues in Natural Sciences (satisfies Group IVB)

► General Education Requirements for Honors Students

Credits

Group I: English and Literature—two courses

- A. HONR 111 Critical Thinking and Writing.....4
- B. ENGL XXX Gen. Ed. IB Literature course.....4

Group II: History—two courses

- A. HIST 10X Gen. Ed. IIA (HIST 101, 102 or 103)4
- B. HIST XXX Gen. Ed. IIB History course4

Group III: Humanities and Social Sciences—three courses

- A. HONR 211 Issues in Humanities4
- B. HONR 112 Issues in Social Sciences.....4
- C. Select one course from these areas:
Art, Anthropology, Communication Arts, Conflict Analysis and Dispute Resolution, Economics, Human Geography, Modern Languages, Music, Philosophy; Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Theatre Arts or Dance3-4

Group IV: Natural Science, Math and Computer Science—four courses

- A. Select two courses with labs from at least two of these areas:
Biology, Chemistry, Geology or Physical Geography, Physics8
- B. HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences4
- C. One mathematics course3

Group V: Health Fitness—one course

- PHEC 106 Personalized Health/Fitness.....3