

# Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program

[www.salisbury.edu/honors](http://www.salisbury.edu/honors)

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The Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program at Salisbury University offers highly motivated 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 passive recipients of ideas.

The program gives students courses offering intellectual breadth as well as depth, and cultivates in them a desire for the pleasure of active thinking and learning.

Honors students develop skills, which help them engage in distinctive research and capstone experiences.

Those graduating with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 who have completed the program requirements receive a Bellavance Honors designation on their transcript and diploma.

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## Freshman Admission

The program seeks applications from all high school students with good grades, a love of learning and an interest in small, interdisciplinary, discussion-based classes. Strong academic performance, leadership and extracurricular interests are all considered in Honors admission. To apply to the Bellavance University Honors Program, students must submit an application via the Honors Program website.

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## Transfer and Current Student Admission

Transfer students coming to SU may apply for admission to the Bellavance Honors Program when they have a total of 48 credits with a minimum grade point average of 3.50.

Transfer students who have been active in an Honors Program at the college from which they transfer are admitted upon request to the Honors program.

For further information, contact the Honors Program director, 410-546-6902 or [honorsprogram@salisbury.edu](mailto:honorsprogram@salisbury.edu).

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## Curriculum

The program offers a variety of enhanced courses to satisfy the interests of all Honors students. Enhanced courses meet for three hours a week and are available to students admitted to the program as well as any SU student with at least a 3.5 GPA.

The curricular requirements for both Bellavance University and General Honors programs are noted in this chapter and full University checklists for them can be found at [www.salisbury.edu/honors/checklist.html](http://www.salisbury.edu/honors/checklist.html). Full course descriptions for Honors unique topics courses can be found at [www.salisbury.edu/honors/courses.html](http://www.salisbury.edu/honors/courses.html).

Honors Program students must earn a C or better in all courses used to fulfill Honors Program requirements; Honors courses cannot be taken pass/fail.

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## Honors Courses

### ▶ HONR 111: Critical Thinking and Writing

Examines processes for developing clear and sound arguments. The course emphasizes critical thinking, debate, information literacy and research skills.

### ▶ HONR 112: Issues in Social Sciences

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the social sciences through a study of a particular issue. New topics are offered every semester.

### ▶ HONR 211: Issues in Humanities

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the humanities through a study of a particular cultural issue. New topics are offered every semester.

### ▶ HONR 212: Issues in Natural Sciences

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the natural sciences through a study of a particular scientific issue. New topics are offered every semester.

### ▶ HONR 311: Honors Interdisciplinary Seminars

These courses often address topics that transcend individual disciplinary boundaries. Courses are taught by carefully selected professors from a wide variety of disciplines. These seminars appeal to Honors students of all majors. New topics are offered every year.

### ▶ HONR 312: Honors Research/Creative Project

In this one-credit independent study course, a student develops a research or creative project suitable for presentation at an undergraduate research conference or equivalent public venue. Students work one-on-one with a faculty mentor from a department of their choosing and with Honors faculty to complete and present this independent project. Honors faculty members assist with arrangements and accompany students to presentations at Honors conferences.

### ▶ HONR 490: Honors Thesis Preparation

Honors thesis preparation is a one-credit course designed to set up the framework and faculty support for the project. This is a required course for those who wish to complete a thesis.

### ▶ HONR 495: Honors Thesis

The Honors thesis is generally a four-credit course of independent study with culminates in substantial original research, scholarly or creative work. Students may apply for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study course for HONR 495. The thesis must be completed with a grade of B or better to fulfill the Honors program requirement.

## Honors Outcomes Portfolio

All Honors students develop an outcomes portfolio by compiling class essays and reflections on campus citizenship in an electronic file.

## Study Abroad Option

Three or four credits from an approved study abroad course may take the place of one HONR 311 course.

## 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.

### ► Four Required Courses:

	Credits
HONR 111 Critical Thinking and Writing.....4 (General Education ENGL 103)	4
or	
HONR 211 Issues in Humanities .....4 (General Education Group IIIA or IIIC)	4
HONR 112 Issues in Social Sciences.....4 (General Education Group IIIB or IIIC)	4
HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences ..... 4 (General Education Group IVB)	4
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4	4

### ► Additional Courses:

Complete two additional courses from Group 1 or Group 2.

#### Group 1:

	Credits
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4 and	4
HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project .....1 (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

#### Group 2:

	Credits
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation.....1 and	1
HONR 495 Honors Thesis ..... 3-4	3-4

## Curriculum Requirements for Graduating With Bellavance General Honors

Transfer and SU students who have completed at least 48 college credits may be eligible to participate in the Bellavance General Honors program.

	Credits
HONR XXX Elective Class.....4 (Choose from HONR 111, 112, 211, 212 or 311)	4
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4	4
HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project .....1	1
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation.....1	1
HONR 495 Honors Thesis ..... 3-4	3-4

## Honors Courses and General Education Requirements

Honors courses may satisfy some General Education requirements as follows:

- HONR 111: Critical Thinking and Writing (satisfies Group IA: ENGL 103)
- HONR 112: Issues in Social Sciences (satisfies Group IIIB)
- HONR 211: Issues in Humanities (satisfies Group IIIA)
- HONR 212: Issues in Natural Sciences (satisfies Group IVB)

### ► General Education Requirements for Honors Students

#### Group I: English and Literature—two courses Credits

- 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 course .....4

#### Group III: Humanities and Social Sciences—three courses

- A. HONR 211 Issues in Humanities .....4
- 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 Dance .....3-4

#### 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, Physics .....8
- B. HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences.....4
- C. One mathematics course .....3

#### Group V: Health Fitness—one course

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