

# HONORS PROGRAM

Honors Program (<http://www.csuchico.edu/hnrs/>)  
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The Honors Program, also called Honors in General Education, adds value to a California State University, Chico degree and enhances opportunities after graduation by providing an innovative, inclusive, and challenging interdisciplinary arts and sciences education that culminates in an integrative capstone project. The program attracts and supports an inquisitive and diverse group of first-year, transfer, and international students through personalized advising, engaged faculty, and intentional community.

Any student committed to excellence is encouraged to apply. There are no GPA or test score requirements to apply.

The Honors Program fulfills half of the University's General Education (GE) requirements, as well as other graduation requirements, and requires no additional courses for graduation (except for students in some majors and transfer students—see the Admission/Transfer (p. 3) tab).

Honors Program students receive many benefits, including

- Early registration for courses.
- Individual and personalized advising.
- Community with other honors students.
- Instruction from award-winning faculty.
- Student lounge with snacks, computers, and printing.
- Honors recognition on diploma and transcript.

To graduate with Honors in General Education, students must achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA in General Education courses and complete the following GE Areas with Honors (HNRS) courses. Honors Program students in their first year should plan ahead and avoid taking non-HNRS courses in the following GE Areas unless the courses are required for the major. Students who complete all required courses can also fulfill the University's diversity requirements (USD and GC), and at least one writing (W) course.

- A1 Oral Communication (met with HNRS 100)
- B1 Physical Science (met with HNRS 103)
- C1 Arts (met with HNRS 101)
- C2 Humanities (met with HNRS 102W)
- F Ethnic Studies (met with HNRS 300)
- Upper-Division B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning (met with HNRS 350)
- Upper-Division C Arts and Humanities (met with HNRS 391W or HNRS 392)
- Upper-Division D Social Sciences (met with HNRS 390 or HNRS 393)

To graduate with Honors in Upper-Division General Education, students must achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA in General Education courses and complete the following courses:

- HNRS 350 (Upper-Division B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning)
- HNRS 391W or HNRS 392 (Upper-Division C Arts and Humanities)
- HNRS 390 or HNRS 393 (Upper-Division D Social Sciences)

Students may request the following substitutions from the Honors advisor or director:

- For students who first enrolled at Chico State as a first-time freshman,
  - a maximum of two Honors lower-division GE Areas (A1, B1, C1, C2, or F) may be substituted with required GE course(s) for the major or with courses completed prior to admission to Honors;
  - a maximum of one Honors upper-division GE Area (B, C, or D) may be substituted with a required GE course or substitution for their major;
  - Honors GE Area(s) may be substituted by a successful AP, IB, or CLEP test score; and
  - Honors GE Area(s) may be substituted by study abroad courses.
- For students who first enrolled at Chico State as a transfer student,
  - any lower-division HNRS course or HNRS 300 may be substituted for one of the required courses.

Honors GE Area(s) may be substituted by GE Area(s) completed by an Adelante student prior to admission to the Adelante Program (<https://www.csuchico.edu/adelante/researchers-program/index.shtml/>).

See Course Description Symbols and Terms (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/academic-standards-policies/course-description-symbols-terms/>) for an explanation of course description terminology and symbols, the course numbering system, and course credit units.

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## HNRS 100 Communication and Social Change 3 Units GE

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program.

**Typically Offered:** Fall only

This course equips students with essential skills needed to lead and join conversations that respond to public problems. Students develop a deeper understanding of at least one specific issue of social concern, such as race, gender, or class, and learn about how communication contributes to the status of that issue. With the goal of preparing students to engage in deliberative processes needed to improve our current social situation, students enrolled in this class learn how to craft and deliver messages for diverse audiences across a variety of mediums, understand the power and influence that communication has over our identities and shared realities, and learn about the ethical and practical dimensions of advocating for change. This course prepares students to be engaged, reflective, ethical citizens across contexts, audiences and issues. 3 hours lecture. (022234)

**General Education:** Oral Communication (A1)

**Grade Basis:** Graded

**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units

**Course Attributes:** Lower Division

**HNRS 101 Arts****3 Units GC, GE****Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

An interdisciplinary introduction to the arts with an emphasis on the visual arts, cinema, dance, music, and/or theatre in diverse cultural and international contexts. The specific content of the course varies by section and instructor. 3 hours lecture. (022235)

**General Education:** Arts (C1)**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Lower Division; Global Cultures**HNRS 102W Humanities (W)****3 Units GE, W****Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

An interdisciplinary introduction to Humanities with an emphasis on literature, history, comparative religion, and/or philosophy. The specific content of the course varies by section and instructor. 3 hours lecture. (022272)

**General Education:** Humanities (C2)**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Lower Division; Writing Course**HNRS 103 Physical Sciences****3 Units GE****Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This course approaches a topic or problem in the physical sciences from multiple disciplinary perspectives. The specific content of the course varies by section and instructor. 3 hours lecture. (022236)

**General Education:** Physical Science (B1)**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Lower Division**HNRS 198 Honors Special Topics****1-3 Units****Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the Honors Program, faculty permission.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This course is a special topic offered for 1.0-3.0 units. 3 hours seminar. (021325)

**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course more than once**Course Attributes:** Lower Division**HNRS 289 Internship in Honors****1-3 Units****Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the Honors in General Education Program.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This is an internship offered for 1.0-3.0 units. Students must register directly with the Honors Advisor or Honors Director. The internship provides work experience within the Honors Program on special projects. 9 hours supervision. (020887)

**Grade Basis:** Credit/No Credit**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 15 units**Course Attributes:** Lower Division**HNRS 299 Special Problems****1-3 Units****Prerequisite:** Faculty permission.**Typically Offered:** Inquire at department

This course is an independent study of special problems. You must register directly with a supervising faculty member. 0 hours supervision. (021918)

**Grade Basis:** Credit/No Credit**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 6 units**Course Attributes:** Lower Division**HNRS 300 Honors Ethnic Studies Methodologies****3 Units GE****Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program (Honors students only); Instructor Permission.**Typically Offered:** Spring only

In this course, students explore Ethnic Studies research methodologies. The course content is variable with a focus on at least one of the following groups: American Indian/US Native American Studies, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, and Chicana/Latina Studies. The course is centered on experiential learning opportunities to engage in introductory explorations of research methodologies. The course uses both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies; therefore, students are expected to produce course projects that demonstrate their understanding in both approaches. 3 hours lecture. (022226)

**General Education:** Ethnic Studies (F)**Cross listing(s):** MCGS 300H**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Upper Division**HNRS 350 Multidisciplinary Science****3 Units GE**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program; GE Oral Communication (A1); GE Written Communication (A2); GE Critical Thinking (A3); GE Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4) requirements, or consent of the instructor.

**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This course approaches a topic or problem in the physical and/or natural sciences from multiple disciplinary perspectives. This course welcomes transfer students to the Honors Program, and introduces the Honors Program capstone options: undergraduate research/creativity, or leadership. The specific content of the course varies by section and instructor. 3 hours lecture. (022237)

**General Education:** Upper-Division Scientific Inq/Quant Reason (UDB)**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Upper Division**HNRS 389 Internship in Honors****1-3 Units****Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the Honors in General Education Program.**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This is an internship offered for 1.0-3.0 units. Students must register directly with the Honors Advisor or Honors Director. The internship provides work experience within the Honors Program on special projects. 9 hours supervision. (004810)

**Grade Basis:** Credit/No Credit**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 15 units**Course Attributes:** Upper Division**HNRS 390 Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project I****3 Units GE**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program; GE Oral Communication (A1); GE Written Communication (A2); GE Critical Thinking (A3); GE Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4) requirements, or consent of the instructor. Recommended: LIBR 130.

**Typically Offered:** Fall only

As the first course in a two-course capstone, students learn how to choose an interdisciplinary topic for a thesis or creative project, and how to begin the research/creative process with a focus on social science approaches to their topic. 3 hours lecture. (022238)

**General Education:** Upper-Division Social Sciences (UDD)**Grade Basis:** Graded**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units**Course Attributes:** Upper Division

**HNRS 391W Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project****II** **3 Units GE, W**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program; HNRS 390; GE Oral Communication (A1); GE Written Communication (A2); GE Critical Thinking (A3); GE Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4) requirements, or consent of the instructor.

**Typically Offered:** Spring only

As the second course in a two-course capstone, students continue the research/creative process with a focus on humanistic approaches to their topic, and complete an interdisciplinary thesis or creative project. 3 hours lecture. (022242)

**General Education:** Upper-Division Arts/Humanities (UDC)

**Grade Basis:** Graded

**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units

**Course Attributes:** Upper Division; Writing Course

**HNRS 392 Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory** **3 Units GE**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program; GE Oral Communication (A1); GE Written Communication (A2); GE Critical Thinking (A3); GE Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4) requirements, or consent of the instructor.

**Typically Offered:** Fall only

This course examines the issues of power, influence, and change within the context of world cultures. The course includes comprehensive review of issues and perspectives on leadership, multidisciplinary and classic theoretical approaches and literature, moving to the examination of evolving contemporary beliefs of leadership, power, and change. Through a process of readings, self-discovery, group observations, film, and case studies, students identify, observe, and analyze change philosophies in historical and cultural contexts. 3 hours lecture. (022268)

**General Education:** Upper-Division Arts/Humanities (UDC)

**Grade Basis:** Graded

**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units

**Course Attributes:** Upper Division

**HNRS 393 Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory to****Practice** **3 Units GE, USD**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Honors Program; GE Oral Communication (A1); GE Written Communication (A2); GE Critical Thinking (A3); GE Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4) requirements, or consent of the instructor.

**Typically Offered:** Spring only

Students study leadership and its impact on social, economic, and political structures and institutions from a contemporary perspective. Throughout the course, students identify, apply, and reflect on aspects of leadership development, power, influence, and social change. Topics cover leadership theories, personal assessment and development, motivation, power, followership, group dynamics, equity in leadership, conflict resolution, change process, and citizenship. Through a process of selected readings, self-reflection, group observations, and case studies, students identify, observe, analyze, and apply new leadership behaviors through integrated project-based application. 3 hours lecture. (022269)

**General Education:** Upper-Division Social Sciences (UDD)

**Grade Basis:** Graded

**Repeatability:** You may take this course for a maximum of 3 units

**Course Attributes:** Upper Division; US Diversity

**HNRS 398 Honors GE Special Topics****1-3 Units**

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the Honors Program, faculty permission.

**Typically Offered:** Fall and spring

This course is a special topic offered for 1.0-3.0 units. 3 hours seminar. (004811)

**Grade Basis:** Graded

**Repeatability:** You may take this course more than once

**Course Attributes:** Upper Division

## Course Requirements for Honors in GE: 24 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates.

Students must select one of the following for completion of Honors in GE:

- Honors in GE (p. 3)
- Honors in Upper-Division GE (p. 3)

### Honors in GE: 24 units

Course	Title	Units
HNRS 100	Communication and Social Change	3
HNRS 101	Arts	3
HNRS 102W	Humanities (W)	3
HNRS 103	Physical Sciences	3
HNRS 300/ MCGS 300H	Honors Ethnic Studies Methodologies	3
HNRS 350	Multidisciplinary Science	3
Select two of the following:		6
HNRS 390	Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project I	
HNRS 391W	Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project II	
HNRS 392	Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory	
HNRS 393	Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory to Practice	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>24</b>

### Honors in Upper-Division GE: 9 units

Course	Title	Units
HNRS 350	Multidisciplinary Science	3
Select two of the following:		6
HNRS 390	Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project I	
HNRS 391W	Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project II	
HNRS 392	Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory	
HNRS 393	Leadership, Power, and Change: Theory to Practice	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>9</b>

To apply, complete the online application located on the Honors Program (<http://www.csuchico.edu/honors/>) website. There are no GPA or test requirements for admission to the Honors Program.

Before applying, applicants in the following high-unit majors must first receive permission from the Honors Program Advisor. These majors require multiple and specific non-Honors courses for Honors GE Areas, and first-time freshman applicants to the Honors Program from these majors commit to retaking at least one GE Area (thus adding units to graduation).

- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Science
- Liberal Studies
- Mathematics (option in mathematics education)
- Music (option in music education)
- Nursing and Pre-nursing

With careful planning and advising, students who start at Chico State as a first-time freshman in all other majors should be able to complete Honors in General Education without taking any additional General Education courses. However, most students who start at Chico State as a transfer student will likely need to take at least one additional General Education HNRS course to graduate with Honors in General Education.

Transfer students who complete the program requirements will receive "Honors in Upper-Division General Education."