

CMU Honors Program Course Description Guide

Fall 2024

Priority Registration for the 2024-2025 academic year begins at 7:00 a.m. on February 12

Honors Program Courses					
Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times	Registration Requirements/ Honors Protocol	Instructor
HON 100 (3 cr)	Introduction to Honors	22451155	M 6:00-7:50 pm 8/26/2024-12/9/2024	First Semester Course for incoming Freshman	Patricia Williamson
HON 201WI (3 cr) I-A	Honors Study/Human Events & Ideas "The Philosophy of AI"	22453885	Tu Th 3:30-4:45 pm 8/27/2024-12/12/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Matthew Katz
HON 202WI (3 cr) I-B	Honors Studies in the Arts "Gaming Story, Reading Play: Games Across Media"	22457474	Tu Th 9:30-10:45 am 08/27/2024-12/12/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Gretchen Papazian
HON 205WI (3 cr) III-A	Honors Behavioral Sciences "Schooled: Exploring the Past, Present and Future of K-12 Education"	22453911	Tu 4:00-6:50pm 8/27/2024-12/10/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Troy Hicks
HON 206WI (3 cr) III-B	Honors Quantitative & Math Science "Place and American Popular Culture"	22459018	Tu Th 3:30-4:45 pm 8/27/2024-12/12/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Tyler Sonnichsen
HON 207WI (3 cr) IV-B	Honors Studies in Global Cultures "Life and Death of an Empire"	22453910	Tu Th 2:00-3:15 pm 8/27/2024-12/12/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Kathy Donohue
HON 208WI (3 cr) IV-C	Honors Studies in Racism & Diversity in the U.S. "Race and Science"	22459118	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 8/26/2024-12/11/2024	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students Counts as HON Cultural Diversity	Rachel Caspari-Wolpoff
HON 300 (3 cr)	Introduction to Honors II	22453898	M 6:00-7:50 pm 8/26/2024-12/9/2024	First semester course for Track II students	Patricia Williamson
HON 315 (1-9 cr)	Honors College Teaching Assistant	22454907	M 3:30-4:45 pm 8/26/2024-12/9/2024	By application only email honors@cmich.edu	Tracy Collins
HON 320 (3 cr)	"Who's Afraid of Books? Challenged and Banned in America"	22458957	Tu 6:30-9:20 pm 8/27/2024-12/10/2024		Maureen Eke
HON 320 (3 cr)	"Communication and Mentoring Behind Bars"	22459640	W 6:00-10:00 pm 08/28/2024-12/18/2024		Shelly Hinck & Ed Hinck
HON 321AP (3 cr)	"Real Intelligences: How Do We (and Others) Know What we Know?"	22459027	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/27/2024-12/12/2024		Christi Brooks

HON 321AF (3 cr)	“Obesity and Diabetes: A Growing Challenge and Our Strategies”	22458845	Th 5:30-8:20 pm 08/29/2024-12/12/2024		Lixin Li
HON 321C (3 cr)	“Creative Strategies for the Greater Good”	22458899	M W 2:00-3:15pm 8/26/2024-12/11/2024		Elina Erzikova
HON 399 (1-6 cr)	Independent Study	22451156	08/26/2024-12/14/2024	Independent study form	Patricia Williamson
HON 499 (3-6 cr)	Senior Project	2245157	08/26/2024-12/14/2024	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson
HON 499WI (3-6 cr)	Senior Project	22454915	08/26/2024-12/14/2024	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson

Departmental Honors Sections

Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times		Instructor
ASL 100H (3 cr)	Introduction to Deaft Community and Culture	22458915	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/27/2024-12/12/2024	Counts as HON Cultural Diversity	Susan Naeve-Velguth
BIO 111H (4 cr)	Foundations of Evolution and Diversity	22454309	M W F 9:00-9:50 am Lab Fri 1:00-3:50 pm 08/26/2024-12/13/2024		Kristen Nicholson
BIO 211H (4 cr)	Foundations of Genetics	22454984	Tu Th 11:00-12:15 pm Lab M 2:00-4:50 pm 08/26/2024-12/12/2024		Xantha Karp
BIO 213H (4 cr)	Foundations of Ecology	22455569	M W F 11:00-11:50 am Lab Wed 3:00-5:50 pm 08/26/2024-12/13/2024		Andrew McNaught
BUS 100H (3 cr)	Introduction to Business	22453324	Tu Th 11:00-12:15 pm 08/27/2024-12/12/2024		Staff
BUS 331HS (3 cr)	Integrated Business Experience	22454310	Tu Th 9:30-10:45 am 8/27/2024-12/12/2024	*course fee	Staff
CHM 131H (4 cr) II-B	General Chemistry I	22453319	M Tu W Th 10:00-10:50 am F 9:00-9:50 Lab 10:00-11:50 am 08/26/2024-12/13/2024		Janice Tomasik
COM 101H (3 cr)	Introduction to Communication	22453261	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/27/2024-12/12/2024		Wendy Papa
ENG 101H (3 cr)	Freshman Composition	22450670	M W 11:00-11:50 pm 08/26/2024-12/11/2024		Steve Bailey
HSC 106HQR (3 cr)	Healthy Lifestyles	22454110	Tu Th 12:30-1:45pm 8/27/2024-12/12/2021		Thomas Kozal

HSC 214H (4 cr)	Human Anatomy	22451199	M Tu W 9:00-10:50 am 08/26/2024-12/11/2024	Nicholas Kruse
HSC 308H (3 cr)	Physiology of Sport and Exercise	22453400	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 08/26/2024-12/11/2024	Paul O'Connor
HSC 411H (3 cr)	Pathophysiology	22453978	M W 12:00-1:15 pm 08/26/2024-12/11/2024	Leslie Wallace
PSY 250H (3 cr)	Abnormal Psychology	22455350	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/27/2024-12/12/2024	James Gerhart
SOC 201H (3 cr)	Social Psychology	22457478	Tu Th 2:00-3:15 pm 08/26/2024-12/11/2024	Alan Rudy
TAI 170H (3 cr) I-B	Oral Interpretation of Literature	22453106	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 08/26/2024-12/11/2024	Stacey Pattison

Honors Program Course Descriptions

HON 201WI: Philosophy of A.I.

Dr. Matthew Katz

Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45 pm Anspach 310

Artificially intelligent systems have the potential to remake society—but just what is artificial intelligence? What is it capable of and what are its hazards? This course will explore both the metaphysical and ethics dimensions of this rapidly advancing technology. Some specific topics covered will include: How do we know when a system is intelligent? What's the difference between an intelligent system and a conscious system? Could the former give rise to the latter, and how could we know? What concerns should we have regarding the development of AI, both technological and moral, and how we can mitigate those concerns? Students in this course will be required to read complex philosophical treatments of AI, to write daily short pieces analyzing what they have read, and they will take turns presenting material to the class. They will also write several short papers and one term paper. By the very nature of the content and approach, this course will force students to think very carefully about something.

HON 202WI: Gaming Story, Reading Play: Games Across Media

Dr. Gretchen Papazian

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 am Anspach 260

Characters. Avatars. Chapters. Levels. Plot. Boss Battles. Point of View. HUD. Drawing on both narrative and gaming theory, this course will explore dialogues between digital and print, as well as between reader/viewer/player and text, to consider how story games, game stories, and stories about games use play and narrative to make meaning. In exploring the structures and mechanics of various kinds of texts (novels, film, board games, and videogames), students will investigate the ways that games, stories, gaming stories, and story games offer insight into personal experiences, social dynamics, and even political ideas. Further, in looking to various ways that contemporary texts play with gaming features to create narrative structures (and vice versa), students will consider and deliberate the relationships between media and expression, between technology and the human/posthuman, and between cognitive processes and creative efforts. In all of this, the course aims to take up broader epistemological questions about how we understand, how we learn, and how we know. In addition to reading books, watching films, and playing games, students will have the opportunity to develop their own games (no prior skills or knowledge needed!) as they develop their skills in doing analytic work.

HON 205WI: Schooled: Exploring the Past, Present and Future of K-12 Education

Dr. Troy Hicks (TEPD)

Tuesday 4:00-6:50 pm EHS 137

We've all done it. Whether at home or in a classroom, whether public, private, or charter, you have arrived at CMU having been schooled as a K-12 student. Yet, what does it mean – for you, for those younger than you, and for the future of education – to be schooled in twenty-first century America? Through a series of brief writing activities in class, and sustained research projects outside of class, Honors students will explore the past, present, and future of American schooling and what it means to educate – and to be educated – in our modern world.

HON 206WI: Place and American Popular Culture

Tyler Sonnichsen (GEO)

Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45 pm Pearce 304

This course takes a geographic look at the historic patterns of American Popular Culture: Why and how did the movie industry settle in Hollywood? How do shows like *The Simpsons* use ideas about places to invent cities like Springfield and expand their own universes? How do fandoms like K-Pop circulate and spread around the globe? Above all, what does popular culture teach us about social structures in a way few other subjects can?

HON 207WI: Life and Death at the End of the Empire

Dr. Kathy Donohue

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00-3:15 pm Powers 136

In the 1940s, violence exploded throughout India as Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Communists, and others battled for their version of a post-colonial India that would come into being once the British left. Half a century later, 800,000 Rwandans lost their lives in a genocide that grew out of policies put in place when Rwanda was still a colony under Belgian control. This course places you at the center of both events. You will “travel” back to India in the mid-1940s, where you will try to come up with a road to independence that does not plunge the nation into violence. You will also explore colonialism’s catastrophic impact on Rwanda. Taking on the role of a UN ambassador, a representative of an NGO or a member of the press, you will advocate and navigate rapidly unfolding events as you wrestle with difficult questions. Taking on such roles is no easy task. You will be analyzing the speeches and writings of numerous historical figures, giving speeches of your own, debating the critical issues of the day and writing extensively. By the end of the course, you will have a deep knowledge of two critical moments in world history and, even more importantly, an understanding of some of the long-term consequences of colonial occupation.

HON 208WI: Race and Science

Dr. Rachel Caspari

Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:15 pm Anspach 258

This is a seminar designed to examine the relationship between science and social policies that impact “race” historically and in the present day. We will particularly focus on the role that science has played in the study of race and how it has been used and abused in sociopolitical arenas, with and without the complicity of the scientists themselves. Students will come to appreciate how the worlds of science, politics and society are interrelated and how their relationship has been used to undermine, and sometimes promote, different racial and ethnic groups. The course will be covering such topics as polygenism, race and evolutionary theory, race and intelligence, eugenics, the Holocaust, modern applications of genetics to questions of group identity, and the role of race in health and medicine. In addition to examining the social consequences of these issues, these topics will be vehicles for introducing evolutionary theory and the history of science. In the process of examining scientific racism, we will inevitably grapple with fundamental questions about the very existence and definition of race. What is race? What do genes tell us about race? What is its relationship to essentialism? Is it possible to study it scientifically? What are the dangers associated with its study? Does race exist at all? Is the reification of race in itself racist? This course critically examines the complex interrelationships between sociological and biological concepts of race. Throughout the course there will be an emphasis on the relationships between socially constructed racial categories and concepts of biological determinism that continue to undermine egalitarian treatment of social groups globally and within multiethnic societies.

HON 315: Honors College Teaching Assistant

Dr. Tracy Collins

Monday 3:30-4:45 pm Anspach 314; 6:00-7:50pm Biosciences 1010

HON 315 provides supervision, training, and mentorship for Honors Program students selected to serve as teaching assistants for HON 100/300. HON 315 offers a structured opportunity for students to develop the pedagogical knowledge, leadership traits, and essential job skills necessary to serve as impactful teaching assistants who support and mentor students of diverse identities as they transition into higher education and/or the Honors Program.

Note: To enroll in this course, students must first successfully complete the application process to be an HON 100/300 teaching assistant.

HON 320: Who's Afraid of Books? Challenged and Banned in America

Dr. Maureen Eke

Tuesday 6:30-9:20 pm Anspach Hall 157

Today, books are being banned, challenged, and removed from libraries. Why ban books? How does book banning affect our sense of ourselves, narratives of ourselves and the communities whose stories are being banned? While book banning is not new in America, PEN America reports more than "2,532 instances of individual book" bans and challenges across more than 37 states since January 2022. The consequences of book bans are traumatic for everyone and destroy our sense of community. Book bans undermine our knowledge of our history, communities, and the world in which we live. Furthermore, book bans rob us of our dignity and empathy, especially for those whose stories are banned. This course will provide students an opportunity to examine selected banned/challenged books that address various identities and themes, including but not limited to LGBTQ+, race, racism, and gender. Students will engage in critical conversations that examine the rationale provided for the bans; the implications for and impacts on the students, the affected communities, and the society in general; explore restorative ways to address or combat book bans; and develop individual or collective responses to book bans/challenges through guided final projects and research papers.

HON 320: Communication and Mentoring Behind Bars

Dr. Shelly Hink & Dr. Ed Hinck

Wednesday 6:00-10:00 pm Moore 205

This course explores how communication concepts, skills, and processes make possible the creation of mentoring relationships in prison. Themes of relationship development, overcoming stigma, transformation of self, and trust building within a context of incarceration will be explored as paths to personal development. Drawing upon a service-learning, the subject matter and purpose of the course were developed in coordination with program administrations at the Saginaw Correctional Facility. Individuals with extended sentences often serve as mentors to others within a correction facility. This course is intended to develop the communication skills of students and mentors to enhance one's effectiveness as a positive change agent. The format of the course involves traditional classroom content, along with six visits to the Saginaw Correctional Facility. Students interested in taking this course must complete a criminal background check, undergo volunteer training, and demonstrate a professional demeanor. Only open to students 18 years of age and up.

HON 321: Real Intelligences: How Do We (and Others) Know What we Know?

Dr. Christi Brookes

Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45 pm Pearce 304

As scientific enquiry and contemporary indigenous practices have noted, intelligence does not belong solely to the human enterprise. From tool use in animals to ChatGPT, the long-staid definitions of thinking and knowledge have blown open. While artificial intelligence may be able to produce reams of cogent and topical prose in a matter of seconds, does it or will it really possess enough the knowledge and wisdom to rival humans? What (or who!?) else in the animal and plant kingdoms stand on higher grounds than those to which they have been relegated by some human cultures? With headlines about a world now confronting intelligences of a non-humankind, it seems high time to explore and challenge some of these long-held practices and accepted definitions. From current questions about artificial intelligence to new discoveries about communities of knowledge in the animal and plant kingdoms, the class will explore the multi-faceted assumptions and understanding of what makes up knowing. Students will explore these questions with experts from across CMU and our community, will focus on indigenous insights, and will produce a final public-facing project to present to the community.

HON 321AF: Obesity and Diabetes: A Growing Challenge and Our Strategies

Dr. Lixin Li

Thursday 5:30-8:20 pm HPB 2022

Diabetes is emerging as a global health care problem that may reach pandemic levels by 2030. The growing prevalence of diabetes is strongly correlated with the increasing rates of obesity. This course aims to equip students with an understanding of the current state of knowledge regarding epidemiology, prevention, and treatment of these interconnected subjects.

HON 321C: Creative Strategies for the Greater Good

Dr. Elina Erzikova

Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:15 pm Moore Hall 205

This course explores the best practices of strategic communication employed by the Pure Michigan brand. Students will immerse themselves in the transformative potential of creative strategies through a campaign supervised by Pure Michigan managers. The knowledge and skills acquired during engagement with the Pure Michigan brand will equip students to craft communication campaigns that empower local communities and contribute to positive societal change in the future.