UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM
STUDENT HANDBOOK

LEARN. LEAD. SERVE.

Morris Library, Suite 110
Southern Illinois University
618.453.2824
www.honors.siu.edu

Note: Students are responsible for knowing and understanding all the material contained in this handbook.

2014
Director’s Welcome

Congratulations on your acceptance into the University Honors Program. The Honors path upon which you are about to embark is an experience that will make a marked difference in your education at SIUC. This handbook is designed to answer many basic questions as well as define your benefits, privileges and expectations as an Honors student. Please take the time to read it, as we expect you to know and understand the information presented here.

On behalf of the UHP staff, allow me to extend a heartfelt welcome, and say that we look forward to having you as part of the Honors family!

Lori Merrill-Fink
CHECKLIST FOR NEW MEMBERS:

_____ Attend the New Student Launch
_____ Sign up for a mentoring appointment with your mentor
_____ Read the weekly 4-1-1
_____ Supply your Honors mentor with a copy of your resume
_____ Have photo taken by UHP staff

YEARLY CHECKLIST FOR RETURNING MEMBERS:

_____ Pick up new Honors ID card
_____ Provide office with any changes to contact information, address, or your major/minor
_____ Provide office with updated resume
_____ Make an appointment with your Honors Mentor each semester to ensure you are making satisfactory progress toward your Diploma or Certificate
MEET THE STAFF

Lori Merrill-Fink became Director of the UHP in 2008, after two years as Associate Director, and 18 years as a member of the faculty of the Department of Theater. Her 20+ year professional career as director-choreographer, singer, and actress includes over 125 productions. She earned an MFA from the University of Arizona in 1987 and was recognized there as one of 12 Outstanding Teaching Assistants. She is the proud recipient of Outstanding Teacher of the College of Communication and Fine Arts, the Undergraduate Student Government Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and the Undergraduate Teaching Enhancement Award, and is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi, and an honorary member of the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Zenetta McDaniel Coleman, Associate Director Zenetta McDaniel Coleman, Associate Director, is a native of Carbondale and a two-time alumus of SIU. She holds a BS in Speech Communication and a MS Ed in Workforce Education and Development. She has spent over 15 years working in higher education, specializing in areas of student development and mentoring. Her teaching and administrative talent has been applied in various university settings including Wheaton College (IL), Columbia College Chicago and Eastern Kentucky University. In her spare time, she enjoys Latin dance and traveling.

Pam Gwaltney, Associate Director Pam Gwaltney, Associate Director, is originally from O’Fallon, IL and has been in Southern Illinois since 1986. She is a two-degree alumna of SIU. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in University Studies and a Master’s Degree in Educational Administration and Higher Education with an emphasis in College Student Personnel. She began her career at the university in 2000 at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and then joined the University Honors Program in 2010. She is also the Director of the Office of Major Scholarship Advisement. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and the National Association of Fellowship Advisors.

David Milley, Assistant Director joined the Honors team mid-fall semester 2014, coming from the Bluegrass of central Kentucky. He is a native of Massachusetts, with a B.A. in English from Gordon College and a M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Counseling from Rhode Island College. David has been highly affiliated with students in campus activities, co-curricular life, leadership development, orientation, residence life, student government and organizations at six colleges in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Iowa and Kentucky, along with academic support, personal enrichment and wellness teaching with middle school students in Kentucky. He has had an active civic engagement “career” focusing on child and youth advocacy in community, educational, human services, recreational, spiritual and youth program settings in Mount Vernon IA, North Adams, MA and Berea, KY.

Cheryl Holder, Office Administrator is a life-long resident of southern Illinois and is married with four children. She began her career at SIUC with the College of Science, Dean’s Office in Fall Semester of 1990. Though she has served as Office Administrator for the University Honors Program for almost 15 years, she was a student of the Program and knows the advantages of taking Honors classes. Cheryl completed the old University Honors Program Graduation Option and received her BS degree in Paralegal Studies for Legal Assistants in spring of 2005.

Matt Martin, Office Support Specialist is a lifelong resident of Southern Illinois and a two-time graduate of SIU, with degrees in English and Social Science Education. He has taught high school English, World History, and Sociology in Ste. Genevieve, MO and Steeleville, IL. He has also written for entertainment websites and for MTV. In his spare time, Matt enjoys reading, gaming, and visiting the Disney Parks. He and his wife live in Elkville.
Table of Contents

Section 1 – Program Overview
  p. 6 – Mission Statement; Our Office; Honors Student Profile
  p. 7 – Privileges and Benefits; Expectations of Honors Students
  p. 8 – Community; Service; Communication
  p. 9 – Honors Diploma; Honors Certificate

Section 2 – Honors Courses
  p. 10 – Courses; Honors Contracts
  p. 11 – Recognized Courses
  p. 12 – Selecting Honors Courses

Section 3 – Policies and Procedures
  p. 13 – Advisement; Registration
  p. 14 – Satisfactory Progress
  p. 15 – Probation and Suspension; Voluntary Withdrawal; Exit Interviews

Section 4 – Opportunities in the UHP
  p. 16 – UHLO; OMSA; Awards, Scholarships
  p. 17 – Research
  p. 18 – Study Abroad; Lecture Series; Extern Program
  p. 19 – Leadership and Involvement
  p. 20 – Honors Societies

Section 5 – Tips for New Students
  p. 22 – Tips

Appendix: Forms
Section 1 - PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MISSION STATEMENT

The University Honors Program (UHP) is a university-wide undergraduate program intended to reward SIUC’s best students for their high academic achievements. We value community, diversity, leadership, service, lifelong learning, global awareness and research, and are committed to providing both experience and opportunity to foster those values.

OUR OFFICE

The main office is located in Morris Library, Suite 110. Hours are 8:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday.

Office phone number: 618.453.2824
Office fax number: 618.453.2831

Please feel free to stop by if you have questions, or want to chat. Our doors are open and we are here to assist you in any way possible.

Email Addresses:
Lori Merrill-Fink, Director  lomerfi@siu.edu
Zenetta M. Coleman, Associate Director  zenetta@siu.edu
Pam Gwaltney, Assistant Director  gwaltney@siu.edu
Cheryl Holder, Office Administrator  cholder@siu.edu
Matt Martin, Office Support Associate  mattmartin@siu.edu

HONORS STUDENT PROFILE

Honors students at SIUC:

• Enjoy learning and want to get the most of their studies
• Like the thought of studying in small, energetic and friendly settings with some of the best students and faculty
• Are eager to get involved in research opportunities as an undergraduate
• Want to prepare themselves to apply to quality graduate and professional schools, or want to distinguish future job applications
• Believe in sharing their time, talent and knowledge to benefit others
• Are hungry for the experiences and friendships that will launch them on a lifelong quest for knowledge and personal growth
PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS

Members in good standing with the UHP have the following benefits and privileges:

- Specially designed, small classes that substitute for Core Curriculum Courses or electives
- Access to Honors staff who take a personal interest in you, and are there to assist you in any way possible in reaching your academic and personal goals
- Advisement and support for applications to competitive national scholarships
- Eligibility for paid undergraduate research through the Saluki Scholars Research Opportunity
- Access to the Honors Living Learning Communities in Thompson Point and Schneider Hall
- Extended borrowing privileges from Morris Library
- Early registration for all classes
- Participation in UHP sponsored events at little to no cost
- Peer support
- Recognition ceremony

EXPECTATIONS OF HONORS STUDENTS

Your participation in the UHP requires a commitment to the values and expectations of the program. These expectations are rooted in our desire to help you in achieving your individual goals:

- Fulfilling the requirements for the Honors Program membership and graduation
- Demonstrating maturity and appropriate behavior, punctuality, and dependability
- Making good on your commitments
- Taking responsibility for your education, personal success, and actions
- Regular advisement with your Honors Mentor twice a year
- Satisfactory progress toward your Diploma or Certificate
- Involvement in UHP events and activities
- Attending Honors Lecture Series
- Timely response to any and all contact from the UHP
- A minimum of ten hours of service activity each semester or 20 hours per year
- Demonstrated campus involvement/leadership
COMMUNITY

The University Honors Program is the fastest growing program on campus. As members of the UHP, we want you to feel as if you are part of that community. To that end, the program will host events that give you opportunities to meet and interact with other honors students.

Here is what you can do to create a sense of community for yourself. Get involved. Make friends in your honors classes. Attend UHP sponsored events. Make a point to check in with your UHP Mentor beyond the mandatory twice a year appointments.

SERVICE

Serving the campus or community is a rewarding activity that substantially enriches the life of a student. These activities need not be tied to a student’s major, and also provide a means to explore areas of interest. Activities may be on or off-campus, and must be logged.

A list of opportunities will be posted on The 4-1-1.

COMMUNICATION

Honors students are automatically subscribed to the UHP email listserv. All students are responsible for checking their SIU email accounts frequently and being aware of the information that is sent. Important: Only SIU email addresses will be added to the UHP listserv. For incoming freshmen, your personal email address is used until you come to campus in August, at which point, your listserv address will switch to your SIU email account.

The UHP sends out a weekly e-newsletter called The 4-1-1 every Friday to your SIU email account. The 4-1-1 is full of important announcements, deadlines, opportunities, and requests. Be sure to read it, as it is our primary means of communicating this information to you!

Three Strike Policy!

With over 800 students in the program, it is imperative that your UHP Mentor have timely contact with you. This permits us to successfully track your progress.

In addition to The 4-1-1, you will receive emails from your Honors Mentor or staff. Most of these communications will be related to your progress in the program. We expect you to respond within 48 hours. If you fail to respond, we will send you a reminder email (second chance). If you do not respond to the reminder, we will then call or text your cell phone (third chance). Failure to respond to these attempts to reach you will result in you being separated from the program. [Note: failure to make a schedule mandatory mentoring appointment or failure to show for an appointment constitutes one strike.]
HONORS DIPLOMA

Requirements

Completion of 24 hours of UHP-approved coursework including a senior project or thesis. For transfer students with an Associate Degree, the number of UHP-approved coursework is 15 credits including a senior project or thesis. This work may include up to 9 hours of AP credit or up to 9 hours of honors courses taken at other institutions. The total number of courses may also include ENGL 120H and must include at least two UHON 351 courses and a senior project or thesis under the direction of faculty member. These are prepared in advance and approved by the director of the UHP. Transfer students with an Associate Degree must complete at least 15 hours. This may include up to 6 hours of AP credit or up to 6 hours of honors coursework taken at other colleges, and must include one UHON 351 course.

Thesis proposals are generally submitted by the end of your junior year. For more information, pick up a “Thesis Handbook” at the UHP office, or download it from the website.

Switching to Certificate

Students may elect to switch from the Honors Diploma to the Honors Certificate once during their matriculation. In order to do so, the matter should be discussed with your Mentor. Upon completion of a revised Letter of Intent, your status will be changed.

HONORS CERTIFICATE

Completion of 15 hours of UHP-approved coursework. Transfer students with an Associate Degree must complete at least 9 hours. This may include up to 6 hours of AP credit or up to 6 hours of honors coursework taken at other colleges. The total number of courses may also include ENGL 120H, and must include one UHON 351 course.

Switching to Diploma

Students may elect to switch from the Honors Certificate to the Honors Diploma once during their matriculation. In order to do so, the matter should be discussed with your Mentor. Upon completion of a revised Letter of Intent, your status will be changed.
Section 2 – HONORS COURSES

COURSES

UHON 351 seminars are the heart of the Honors Program and are small, special seminars on interesting topics. Better yet, your peers actively participate in class alongside you! They won’t be sleeping, texting, or coming late to class. Courses change every semester with at least fifty percent new courses on the roster. For a complete listing of current and upcoming courses, visit the UHP website www.honors.siu.edu, or come by the UHP office.

Students must receive a C or better in any UHON 351 course in order to receive honors credit.

HONORS CONTRACTS

The Honors Contract allows the student to receive honors credit in a regular course. Students should approach the professor on the first day of class at the very latest. Ideally, students should contact the professor in the semester preceding enrollment in the course, and if possible, come with ideas.

Some possible example of honors contracts include, but are not limited to:

- A paper on a more challenging topic than those required of other students
- More sophisticated experiments, or problems
- Extra problem sets or experiments in an area touched on but not thoroughly covered
- Extended readings on an author or historical figure not thoroughly covered in the class
- Viewing films or documentaries related to the subject matter and writing response papers
- Leading a class discussion on a topic thoroughly studied and prepared by the student
- Translating a short work into English in a basic foreign language course
- Meetings with the instructor to discuss additional readings

The contract form is submitted to the Director of the UHP for approval. The deadline is Friday of the third week of classes. During the Summer term, the contract deadline is the Friday of the first week of classes.

The Contract form is included in this handbook, but it also may be downloaded from the website, or a hard copy can be picked up at the UHP front desk. Students must receive a final grade of C or better to receive honors credit.

If you find you are unable to complete the terms of your honors contract, please notify the University Honors Program office and your instructor immediately.
## RECOGNIZED COURSES

The UHP accepts the following courses in partial fulfillment of honors requirements. In order to assure that students receive credit, they must complete the Recognized Course Form (found on the website, and turn it into the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 310H</td>
<td>Honors People and Cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 405H</td>
<td>How to Do Anthropological Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 499</td>
<td>Honors Thesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 200H</td>
<td>Chemistry of Atoms and Molecules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 202H</td>
<td>Atoms &amp; Molecules Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 210H</td>
<td>Chemistry of Matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 490H</td>
<td>Honors Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 496H</td>
<td>Honors Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 499H</td>
<td>Honors Thesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 310H</td>
<td>Honors Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Mediterranean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 391H</td>
<td>Honors Reading in Latin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 491H</td>
<td>Classics Honors Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 497H</td>
<td>Honors Thesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 321H</td>
<td>Software Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 329H</td>
<td>Computer Organization and Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 345H</td>
<td>Electronics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 355H</td>
<td>Signals &amp; Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 375H</td>
<td>Intro. to Electromagnetic Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 396</td>
<td>Software Tools for Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 443</td>
<td>Honors Seminar in Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 120H</td>
<td>Advanced Freshman Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 489</td>
<td>One-to-One Teaching Practice and Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR 492</td>
<td>Special Studies for Honors Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 422H</td>
<td>Economics in Environmental Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 424H</td>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 431H</td>
<td>Climatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 433H</td>
<td>Field Methods in Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 439H</td>
<td>Global Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 480H</td>
<td>Internship in Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 487A</td>
<td>Honors in Geography: Tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 487B</td>
<td>Honors in Geography: Honors Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 487C</td>
<td>Honors in Geography: Supervised Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 395</td>
<td>Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 495</td>
<td>History Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 310</td>
<td>Advanced Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHSL 491</td>
<td>Independent Research for Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBL 492</td>
<td>Honors in Plant Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSS 391</td>
<td>Honors in Plant and Soil Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI SCI 494A</td>
<td>Honors Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI SCI 494B</td>
<td>Honors Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 499</td>
<td>Senior Honors in Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REHB 205H</td>
<td>Disability and Chronic Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REHB 401H</td>
<td>Disability, Diversity and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REHB 406H</td>
<td>Introduction to Behavioral Analysis and Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REHB 493H</td>
<td>Clinical Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REHB 499H</td>
<td>Senior Honors in Rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 301B</td>
<td>McNair Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOL 493</td>
<td>Honors Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES:
- ANTH 410H is not considered for honors credit.
SELECTING HONORS CLASSES

In September (for Spring classes) and February (for Fall classes), the UHP has “Reservation Day”. The actual dates and location of these events will be announced on The 4-1-1. Students must come in person and reserve a seat in a maximum of two courses per semester. Students will be given a reservation card with the course and CRN to keep until Early Registration. If students fail to register on Early Registration Day, they will forfeit their seat reservation(s).

Courses fill up quickly on a first-come, first-served basis. Should a student decide to not take a course, they must notify the UHP office.
All honors students are required to be advised by their Honors Mentor prior to registration each semester. This is in addition to advisement within your major. Ideally, Honors advisement and course selection should take place before the student meets with their major advisor. Honors advisement is to ensure that the student is making satisfactory progress in the UHP and to make sure you are up to date on information and opportunities.

Advisement appointments are for 20 minutes. You will receive an email or a message on The 4-1-1 requesting that you set up an advisement appointment with your Honors Mentor. Lori Merrill-Fink mentors Honors Diploma students, and Zenetta M. Coleman mentors Honors Certificate students.

About your advisement appointment:

- Come prepared! Know your outstanding Core Curriculum requirements.
- If you have questions about your major degree requirements, contact your primary academic advisor prior to your visit with your Mentor.
- Be on time! It is essential that you arrive on time. If you are late for your scheduled appointment, you risk being bumped to a later time slot.
- If you need to cancel, please contact the office ahead of time. If you fail to contact us in advance, you will be bumped.

Early registration generally takes place in October (for Spring semesters), and March (for Fall semesters). That date will be publicized on The 4-1-1. This is a single date. Honors students who fail to register on that date not only forfeit any UHP course reservations, but are then put back in the queue.

When registering, students will need to have a RUN number which is obtained from their major academic advisor.

Should a student decide not to take an honors course for which they have a reservation, they should contact Matt Martin (mattmartin@siu.edu).
Satisfactory Progress

Honors students pursuing the Diploma (24 credit) Option must complete at least:

- 2 honors courses/contracts by the end of freshman year
- 5 total courses/contracts by the end of sophomore year
- 7 total courses/contracts by the end of junior year
- UHON 499 (Thesis) in senior year
- Exceptions to this timeline must be discussed with and approved by your Honors Mentor

Honors students who transfer in with an AA or AS degree pursuing the 15 credit Diploma Option must complete at least:

- 2 honors/contracts courses by the end of their first year
- 4 total courses/contracts and a senior project or thesis by the end of their second year (At least one course must be a UHON 351.)

Certificate (15 credit) Option must complete at least:

- 1 course/contract by the end of freshman year
- 3 total courses/contracts by the end of sophomore year
- 5 total courses/contracts by the end of junior year (At least one course must be a UHON 351.)
- Exceptions to this timeline must be discussed with and approved by your Honors Mentor

Honors students who transfer in with an AA or AS degree pursuing the 9 credit Certificate Option must complete at least:

- 1 honor course or contract by the end of the first year
- 3 total courses or contracts by the end of the second year

Note: If you are not making satisfactory progress toward the Diploma/Certificate, you will be notified by your UHP Mentor and asked to respond. If you do not respond (see Three Strike Policy), you will be separated from the Honors Program, regardless of your GPA.

If you decide to change options, you may do so once by submitting a revised Letter of Intent found on the UHP website under “Application”.
PROBATION AND SUSPENSION

If the student’s SIU cumulative GPA drops below 3.3, the student will be placed on probation for one semester. Students on UHP probation will be allowed to reserve seats for the upcoming semester, but will not be able to register for those UHON courses until their GPA is confirmed at the end of the semester.

If the student’s cumulative SIU GPA remains below 3.3 for two consecutive semesters, students will be suspended from the program for at least one semester. Students must request reinstatement to the UHP when their cumulative SIU GPA rises to 3.3 or higher. Students who receive a failing grade in an Honors course will be suspended, without a term of probation. Students on suspension lose all rights and membership privileges.

Students who are suspended from the program are ineligible for Honors housing in Smith Hall, and will be asked to relocate.

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL

On rare occasions, students decide the UHP is not for them. When this happens, students complete a Voluntary Withdrawal Form which may be obtained at the front desk. The UHP asks that the student have a brief meeting with their Honors Mentor to discuss their reasons for withdrawal.

EXIT INTERVIEWS

Exit interviews are conducted in April for all students graduating with the Diploma or Certificate. Students will be contacted by their respective mentors about scheduling an appointment. Topics discussed are the student’s UHP experience, suggestions for improvement, and future plans.
Section 4 – OPPORTUNITIES IN THE UHP

UNIVERSITY HONORS LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION (UHLO)

Started in 2012 by a handful of committed UHP sophomores, the University Honors Leadership Organization is comprised of undergraduate members. The purpose of the organization is to promote involvement in the UHP, to create a sense of community through social and service activities, and to assist the UHP in the recruitment of students to the program.

The organization has an executive board, and several subcommittees. Watch The 4-1-1 for information and announcements.

OFFICE OF MAJOR SCHOLARSHIP ADVISEMENT

The Office of Major Scholarship Advisement (OMSA) is the central coordinating office on campus that provides information, advice, and support for students who wish to apply for nationally competitive major scholarships.

The OMSA scholarships are highly competitive, typically requiring a minimum overall grade point average of 3.75 or higher. In addition to academic excellence, each scholarship requires that a student have an outstanding record of service, leadership, research, or all of the above.

Because these applications are very labor-intensive, students should think about beginning their preparation during their freshman and sophomore years. Students who compete for these scholarships may be able to use their applications as the basis for successful graduate school applications. Contact information:

Pam Gwaltney
gwaltney@siu.edu
Office of Major Scholarships
(618) 453-3471
http://majorscholarships.siu.edu/

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

The UHP has a modest number of scholarships:

Albert and Leyla Somit Award. These are cash awards of $1000 and are awarded for Fall semester to continuing Honors students.

Partial tuition-waiver awards for continuing Honors Students for Fall semester.

The deadline for applications is February 15th. Applications can be obtained on the website or at the UHP office.
SIU is fairly unique in support of undergraduate research. There are many opportunities on campus to engage in either independent research or research under the direction of a faculty member. Below are just a few:

**Saluki Research Rookies (for 1st year students)**
Deadline: August through October
Website: [http://srrp.siu.edu/](http://srrp.siu.edu/)

Student Benefits
- Increased awareness of academic opportunities available at SIUC and within prospective major
- Opportunity to participate in organized undergraduate research experiences
- Develop relationship with faculty, staff and students
- Informal social and academic support and mentoring
- Financial compensation for research participation ($400 during spring semester)

The **Saluki Scholars Research Opportunity (SSRO)** seeks to provide research and creative activity assistantships to enhance the scholarship of students in *Illinois Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (ILSAMP), McNair Scholars Program, Saluki Research Rookies Program, or University Honors Program (UHP)* by engaging in faculty-mentored undergraduate research projects throughout the academic year. Students who have won these awards majors range from Theater to Mechanical Engineering. This is a tremendous opportunity to engage and explore in a more concentrated area of your major area with the assistance of a faculty mentor.

Deadline: Mid-April
Website: [http://majorscholarships.siu.edu/salukischolar.html](http://majorscholarships.siu.edu/salukischolar.html)

**REACH (Research-Enriched Academic Challenge)**, the undergraduate research program at SIUC, supports and promotes the integration of research, scholarly, and creative activities into the entire undergraduate experience. Research may be conducted in any discipline, from science to the humanities; it is defined as activities of self-directed inquiry, discovery, and creation of new knowledge and understanding about the world and its phenomena. The REACH program is coordinated by the Office of Research Development and Administration

Deadline: Late January
Website: [http://reach.siu.edu/index.html](http://reach.siu.edu/index.html)
STUDY ABROAD

If you are interested in studying abroad, it is important to begin those discussions with your Honors Mentor early in your academic career. We also recommend visiting the SIU Study Abroad website, and spending time in the UHP office with the large study abroad binder to investigate the many possibilities.

LECTURE SERIES

Each year the UHP hosts a Distinguished Lecture Series of 2-4 speakers. These engaging lecturers are from a broad range of disciplines and are selected based on their expertise as it applies to the human condition. The schedule of lectures will be posted on The 4-1-1. Honors students are expected to attend unless they have class or work conflict. Sign-in sheets will be outside of the lecture hall.

Students are expected to model professional behavior during the lectures. This means giving the lecturer your full attention and refraining from talking and texting.

The morning after the lecture, the UHP hosts a breakfast discussion with the Distinguished Lecturer and up to 20 honors students. Students must reserve a seat for the breakfast by coming to the UHP office. Things come up occasionally that prevent a student from attending a breakfast s/he signed up for. If that should happen, please contact Matt Martin at 453-2824. Failure to do so will exclude the student’s eligibility for one full year of breakfast seminars.

EXTERN PROGRAM

Established by the Alumni Association in 1984, the Extern Program provides students with professional experience in their chosen career fields. Each year over 150 SIU students complete externships throughout the U.S. Students are matched with SIU alumni and friends during spring break. They apply skills learned in the classroom in a professional work environment. The program is individualized and enhances the student’s education.

To participate in the Extern Program, students must:

- Meet the 2.75 GPA requirement
- Be an undergraduate with at least 56 hours of credit
- Be enrolled full-time at SIU for both Fall and Spring semesters
- Satisfy an extensive application process
- Complete a screening interview
- Participate in a JobBound workshop
- Contact the sponsor prior to the externship
- Attend the Extern Ceremony after returning to campus
- For more information, visit siualumni.com/extern.
LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT

With over 400 Registered Student Organizations (RSOs), SIU is sure to have something to appeal to everyone. Research shows that students who are engaged in activities outside the classroom express deeper satisfaction with their educational experience. During the first week of classes of the Fall term, students who are interested in those opportunities can attend the RSO Fair.

In the first year, we expect that you will get involved in one or more of the following ways. Here are a few suggestions:

- Join UHLO (University Honors Leadership Organization)
- Join an RSO that is related to either your major, or one of your hobbies or interests
- Participate in Student Government or intramural sports
- Attend non-UHP campus lectures and events

All we ask is that you be intentional in your choosing. We would prefer the student find one or two things to which they can fully commit to (and enjoy), rather than padding their resume. Being an engaged and productive member of the University community is something that will continue throughout your four years in the UHP.

The resume you bring to your semesterly conferences with your Honors Mentor should reflect your involvement.
HONOR SOCIETIES at SIUC

Accounting/Finance -
Beta Alpha Psi – Honor Society in accounting and financial information.

Achievement –
Alpha Kappa Delta – Helps identify academically strong undergraduates to increase Undergraduate and Graduate recruitment.

Alpha Lambda Delta – To encourage superior academic achievement among students in their first year of higher education.

Golden Key International Honour Society – To create, organize and manage projects that promote academic achievement, service to the community and valuable social interaction.

Sigma Alpha Lambda – To recognize and reward academic achievement; to create opportunities for community service

SUMMIT (Scholars United Making Major Input a Tradition) – To positively impact the university, provide an open forum for communication for Full Academic Scholars

Phi Kappa Phi – The recognition and encouragement of superior scholarship in all academic disciplines

Agriculture –
Alpha Zeta - A professional organization of men and women whose educational and career objectives fall within the field of agriculture and natural resources.

Xi Sigma Pi - Forestry Honor Society to promote, secure and maintain a high standard of scholarship within the forest resources management education.

Architecture –
Tau Sigma Delta

Aviation –
Alpha Eta Rho - Aviation Fraternity that actively associates interested students of aviation with the leaders and executives in the industry.

Biology/Sciences –
Beta Beta Beta - A national honors/professional society for students of life sciences. Promotes scholarship, dissemination of biological knowledge and research.

Education –
Eta Sigma Gamma - An honorary Health Education fraternity for health education students; dedicated to teaching, research and service in the professional area of health education.

Kappa Delta Pi - To recognize excellence in education and elects to membership those who exhibit the ideals of scholarship, high personal standards, and promise in teaching and allied professions.
Engineering –

**Eta Kappa Nu** - To uphold the purposes and to promote and encourage excellence in electrical and computer engineering education.

English -

**Sigma Tau Delta** - An international honor society for students majoring or minoring in English with a 3.0 GPA.

Greek Life –

**Order of Omega** - A co-ed national honor society comprised of the top 3% of SIU's Greek community; members are successful student leaders dedicated to SIU, community service, and scholarship.

**Rho Lambda** - To honor those women in the sorority community who have exhibited the highest qualities of leadership & service to their Greek community & their sorority.

History –

**Phi Alpha Theta** - As a honor society to promote historical study, recognize scholastic achievement while fostering an atmosphere of camaraderie amongst history scholars.

Language –

**Eta Sigma Phi** - National honor society designed for students who study and appreciate the classical Greek and Latin languages and literatures and Greek and Roman civilizations.

Psychology –

**Chi Sigma Iota** - An international honor society of counseling professionals and professionals-in-training dedicated to excellence in scholarship, research, and clinical practice.

**Psi Chi** - A national honor society in Psychology; to encourage academic achievement among members and to advance the science of psychology.
Section 5 – TIPS FOR NEW STUDENT

TIPS FOR NEW STUDENTS

Perhaps you were class president in high school or a member of the honor society. You could have graduated in the top percentile of your graduating class; perhaps you were even valedictorian. Maybe you were in all honors and/or A.P. classes or the International Baccalaureate program. Actually, it doesn't really matter what you did in high school as you make the transition to college. High school success (or lack of it) doesn't automatically apply to college.

You start college with a clean academic slate, along with a lot of independence and a myriad of critical decisions as you begin the transition into adulthood. The decisions that you make and the actions you take during this first year of college will have a major impact on the rest of your college experience.

- The first few weeks on campus are extremely important for all new students. It is during this time that you make critical decisions that will have an effect on the rest of your life. Whatever you do, be sure to be yourself and try to enjoy your college experience as much as possible. Expect to feel some stress and homesickness, but don't let these issues wear you down.
- **Get Organized.** In college, the professors post the assignments -- often for the entire semester -- and expect you to be prepared. Buy an organizer, a PDA, a big wall calendar -- whatever it takes for you to know when assignments are due.
- **Find the ideal place for you to study.** It may be your dorm room or a quiet corner of the library, but find a place that works best for you to get your work done -- while avoiding as many distractions as possible.
- **Go to class.** Obvious, right? Maybe, but sleeping in and skipping that 8 a.m. class will be tempting at times. Avoid the temptation. Besides learning the material by attending classes, you'll also receive vital information from the professors about what to expect on tests, changes in due dates, etc.
- **Become an expert on course requirements and due dates.** Professors spend hours and hours preparing course syllabi and calendars so that you will know exactly what is expected of you -- and when. One of the lamest excuses a student can give a professor: "I didn't know it was due today."
- **Meet with your professors.** Be assured there are only upsides to getting to know your professors, especially if later in the semester you run into some snags. Professors schedule office hours for the sole purpose of meeting with students -- take advantage of that time.
- **Get to know your academic adviser(s).** This is the person who will help you with course conflicts, adding or dropping courses, scheduling of classes for future semesters, deciding on majors and minors. This person is a key resource for you -- and should be the person you turn to with any academic issues or conflicts.
• **Seek a balance.** College life is a mixture of social and academic happenings. Don't tip the balance too far in either direction.

• **Get involved on campus.** A big problem for a lot of new students is a combination of homesickness and a feeling of not quite belonging. A solution? Consider joining a select group -- and be careful not to go overboard -- of student organizations, clubs, sororities or fraternities, or sports teams. You'll make new friends, learn new skills, and feel more connected to your school.

• **Strive for good grades.** Another obvious one here, right? Remember the words of the opening paragraph; while good grades could have come naturally to you in high school, you will have to earn them in college -- and that means setting some goals for yourself and then making sure you work as hard as you can to achieve them.

• **Take advantage of the study resources on campus.** Just about all colleges have learning labs and tutors available. If you're having some troubles, these resources are another tool available to you. Another idea: form study groups.

• **Make time for you.** Be sure you set aside some time and activities that help you relax and take the stress out of your day or week. Whether it's enlisting yoga techniques, watching your favorite television shows, or writing in a journal, be good to yourself.

• **Don't feel pressured to make a hasty decision about a career or a major.** It doesn't matter if it seems as though everyone else seems to know what they're doing with their lives -- believe me, they don't -- college is the time for you to really discover who you are, what you enjoy doing, what you're good at, and what you want to be. It's not a race; take your time and enjoy exploring your options.

• **Take responsibility for yourself and your actions.** Don't look to place the blame on others for your mistakes; own up to them and move on. Being an adult means taking responsibility for everything that happens to you.

• **Make connections with students in your classes.** One student said their technique in the first week of classes was to meet at least one new person in each of their classes. It expanded their network of friends -- and was a crucial resource at times if they had to miss a class.

• **Don't procrastinate; prioritize your life.** It may have been easy in high school to wait until the last minute to complete an assignment and still get a good grade, but that kind of stuff will not work for you in college. Give yourself deadlines -- and stick to them.

• **Stay Healthy/Eat Right.** A lot of problems first-year students face can be traced back to an illness that kept them away from classes for an extended period of time that led to a downward spiraling effect. Get enough sleep and eat right. If you haven't heard the jokes about college food, you soon will. And without mom or dad there to serve you a balanced meal, you may be tempted to go for those extra fries or cookies. Stay healthy and avoid the dreaded extra "Freshman 15" pounds by sticking to a balanced diet.

• **Learn to cope with homesickness.** If you are living away from home, it's only natural that there will be times when you miss your family, even if you were one of those kids who couldn't wait to get away. Find a way to deal with those feelings, such as making a phone call or sending some email home.
• **Stay on campus as much as possible.** Whether it's homesickness, a job, or a boyfriend or girlfriend from home, try not to leave campus too soon or too often. The more time you spend on getting to know the campus and your new friends, the more you'll feel at home at school. And why not take advantage of all the cultural and social events that happen on campus?

• **Seek professional help when you need it.** Most colleges have health and counseling centers. If you're sick or feeling isolated or depressed, please take advantage of the many services these offices provide students. You don't have to face these issues by yourself. Should you need assistance you can seek out your UHP Mentor to help you get connected to the appropriate campus resources.

• **Keep track of your money.** If you've never had to create a budget, now is the time to do so. Find ways to stretch your money - and as best you can, avoid all those credit card solicitations you'll soon be receiving. The average credit card debt of college grads is staggering.

• **Don’t cut corners.** College is all about learning. If you procrastinate and cram, you may still do well on tests, but you'll learn very little.

• **Be prepared to feel overwhelmed.** There's a lot going in your life right now. Expect to have moments where it seems a bit too much. As one student says, be prepared to feel completely unprepared. The trick is in knowing that you're not the only one feeling that way.

• **Final Words of Advice**

You've done all the prep work -- you've gotten good grades in high school, scored well on a standardized test, and been accepted into the college you want to attend -- so enjoy all your hard work while laying the groundwork for a successful college career. Take advantage of your network of new friends and professors, have fun while learning as much as you can, and get the most out of your college experience.

APPENDIX: Forms
[Resume Template]

Name
Address
Phone
Email

Education

Work Experience

Volunteer Involvement

Leadership

Memberships

Honors and Awards

Skills
University Honors Program

Recognized Course Credit Request Form

University Course: ____________________________  Semester/Year: ___________________

Student Name: ______________________________  Dawgtag: _______________________

Phone: _____________________________________  E-Mail: _________________________

Instructor Name: ______________________________  E-Mail: _________________________

Student Signature: ____________________________  Date: ______________

Notes:

- To receive credit, a Recognized Course Credit Request Form must be submitted to the UHP office no later than the end of the third week of the semester.
- Courses from the approved course list marked with an asterisk: If the course is required of all majors, an Honors student should submit an Honors Contract for receive Honors credit, as well as have a qualitatively different or additional component to the course that other students do not.
- Departments that have developed Honors tracks (with an H designation following the course number) fulfill the Honors Certificate or Degree requirements.

- Database: ______
- Student’s File: ______
- Filed: ______
**University Honors Program**  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

**Contract for Honors Credit**

An honors contract is the agreement between a student who is enrolled in the University Honors Program and a professor that defines the terms whereby the student will complete an enhanced and enriched requirement for an existing course. The student will receive honors credit for the completion of the contracted requirements and will benefit from the opportunity to experience more responsibility, more student/instructor interaction and a more in-depth study of the course material. The honors contract defines and formalizes the method and means of this enhanced opportunity.

**To the Honors Student:**

The initiation of an honors contract is the responsibility of the student. Ideally, contact should be made with the instructor during the semester previous to the semester for the requested course. You should choose an instructor whose work interests you and with whom you would like to pursue a more in-depth academic experience. You may also choose a course based on subject matter alone.

You should discuss your interests with the instructor and define the work that will be included in the honors contract. It is important to remember that even though more work is a part of the honors component, *more* alone does not fulfill the requirement. The emphasis is on **quality, breadth and depth** of work. For example, extra readings alone are not enough but need to lead to a more in-depth discussion or more substantive or original paper or project. After you and your professor agree on the requirements of the honors course, the honors contract must be completed.

Once approved by the faculty member and/or Departmental Chair, the honors contract must be submitted to the University Honors Program by the **Friday** of the third week of the semester for approval.

If you find you are unable to complete the terms of your honors contract, please notify the University Honors Program office and your Honors instructor immediately.

**To the Honors Instructor:**

Even though students are encouraged to initiate the honors course process, instructors are encouraged to be aware of honors students and to encourage promising students to pursue honors courses and the honors contract process. Individual dialogue with the university’s brightest and most motivated students can benefit faculty as well as the student. The satisfaction of mentoring, the establishment of relationships with future leaders, and the opportunity to teach on a higher level are reasons for encouraging this process.

When a student requests the development of an honors contract with you, you should discuss the possibilities and formulate an enhanced curriculum that offers a qualitatively more demanding experience. The actual requirements will vary but must be approved by the department and by the University Honors Program. Please familiarize yourself with the honors contract form and approval process.

Questions about the honors contract and process and examples of honors contracts are available from Lori Merrill-Fink, University Honors Program, Morris Library, Room 110, 605 Agriculture Drive, Mail Code 6532, Carbondale, IL 62901.  
618 453 2824  fax: 618 453 2831  
Website: [www.honors.siu.edu](http://www.honors.siu.edu)
University Honors Program
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

The Honors contract form must be submitted to the UHP office no later than the end of the third week of classes.

Please be advised that a student must earn at least a grade of “A” or “B” for credit to be given towards their Honors intent.

University Course: ___________________________ Semester/Year: ______________

Student Name: ___________________________ Student ID: ______________

Local Address: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

Instructor Name: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

Please answer the following questions completely and in detail. You may attach additional materials to clarify your answers.

1. Why do you want to take this course via an honors contract?
2. Describe the work to be completed that will make this course an honors course. How does this work differ from the regular course work? Please emphasize the specifics and how this work relates to your academic goals.
3. Describe how you will be evaluated on this work. (A grade of B or above must be earned for the course to be considered for honors credit).

Attach your responses and supporting materials to this form before submission

Signatures:

Student: _______________________________________________ Date: ____________

Instructor: _______________________________________________ Date: ____________

Department Chair: __________________________________________ Date: ____________
(required if class instructor is a graduate/teaching assistant)

University Honors Program Director: _______________________________
University Honors Program  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Application for Independent Study: UHON 399, Sec. ____ (Section is assigned by UHP)

Name: __________________________________________ Major: ______________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________

SIU Email: ____________________ Dawgtag: ____________________ Phone: __________

Applying for: _____ credit hours in the Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer ___ semester of 20____.

Working title of independent study: ________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Summary of project proposal: _______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

_________________________  _______________________  _______________________
Signature of Student        Signature of Faculty Sponsor        Signature of UHP Director

_________________________  _______________________  _______________________
Date                      Date                         Date

__________________________________
Faculty Sponsor’s Dawgtag
University Honors Program
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Application for Senior Honors Thesis or Project: UHON 499, Sec. _____ (Section is assigned by UHP)

Name: ____________________________________________ Major: __________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

SIU Email: ___________________ Dawgtag: ___________________ Phone: _____________

Applying for: _____ credit hours in the Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer ___ semester of 20 _____.

Working title of thesis or project: ______________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Summary of thesis or project proposal: _____________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________  ____________________________________  ______________________
Signature of Student             Signature of Faculty Sponsor           Signature of UHP Director

_________________________  __________________________  __________________________
Date                                 Date                                  Date

_________________________
Faculty Sponsor’s Dawgtag
UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM – SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

DEADLINE: February 15th

Name ____________________________________ Dawgtag ____________________________

Local Address _________________________________________________________________

Home Address _________________________________________________________________

Local Phone No. ________________________ Home Phone No. _________________________

Current E-mail Address _____________________________________ Male ☐ Female ☐

Please attach: 1) A statement of personal, professional and academic goals.
2) A statement of financial need.  
3) A current resume.

Return to: University Honors Program SIU
Morris Library, Room 110 Mailcode 6532
Carbondale IL 62901

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Major ___________________________ Academic College ___________________________

Total number of hours completed at SIUC _____ SIUC Cumulative GPA _____

Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐

Course No. Title Instructor Semester taken Course grade

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Prior Scholarship History: ____________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________