Call for Proposals

University Honors Program: Spring 2020

The University Honors program seeks course proposals for our Fall 2019 UHON 351 seminars. Honors students are academic high achievers who take UHON seminars (capped at 15) to fulfill their University Core requirements. We encourage proposals that are innovative in concept and design, subject and pedagogy from all disciplines on our campus -- sciences, arts, humanities, and social sciences. Experimental and interdisciplinary approaches that integrate theory and practice, the university and the community are particularly welcome. Faculty from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. You may submit individually or in pairs.

For Spring 2020, we invite proposals in either one of the following two categories:

1. General call for proposals: A topic of your choice that would be of interest to a vast array of undergraduate majors. Remuneration: faculty incentive, i.e., $3200 in OTS, if taught in addition to regular teaching duties; or Department incentive, i.e., $3200 to the Department for release of faculty to teach the course.

2. Call for Honors Teaching Fellows in Cluster: You will join a cluster of Honors faculty whose classes coalesce around a specific theme. Our Fall 19-Spring 20 theme is Survival (Read call below). Faculty in the cluster will participate in a weekly seminar with others in the cluster, including graduate and undergraduates (by invitation), and make one public presentation on their research on the theme in the semester. The Honors program will coordinate our prestigious speaker series with the theme as well. Honors teaching fellows will teach their courses on load and receive $3200 in OTS.

Proposals must be submitted on the UHON 351 Proposal Form

Due: February 25th 2019. Results will be announced March 12th, 2019

All proposals will be vetted by the Honors Advisory Council. The current Advisory Council members are:

Laura Morthland CASA
Carola Daffner COLA
Lisa Brooten MCMA
John Fraedrich COBA
John Farnish AG
Om Agarwal ENGR
Kelly Bender COS
Pradeep Ambati COEHS
CFP for the Cluster on survival

The concept of Survival is generally traced to Charles Darwin and the natural sciences, to the understanding of the human as a species interconnected with other life. Survival also means to persevere and this connects us to all the ways in which history, memory, and knowledge is passed on through human artifacts and technological innovations. Survival is, thus, both archeology, i.e., it looks into the past, as well as contemplates possible futures. It brings together the arts, humanities, sciences, and social science. Possible topics for courses may include, but are not limited to:

- The survival of the species; survival strategies of other species; sustainability; environment and climate change
- Representations of survival in art and culture; narratives and artistic practices as history-making and memory devices; art as survival
- Surviving trauma, violence; psychological and historical understanding of trauma and survival
- Solidarity economies and other ways to survive economic and social crisis
- The body and survival; technology and survival
- Theorizing survival
- Risk and life

We welcome courses that bring your disciplinary training, research and creative practice to bear on contemporary issues and big questions that reflect on the human condition and our future.