

## University Honors Program

### *“Living to Learn, Learning to Live”*

**Mission:** The Chapman University Honors Program is designed for highly motivated and academically talented students who want to pursue challenging studies in a wide range of enduring intellectual concerns that cross disciplines and cultures. Its mission is to foster continued intellectual development, nurture a lifelong love of learning, and prepare each student for a personally fulfilling and socially responsible life during their college years at Chapman and beyond.

**Program:** In a broad interdisciplinary program based on great books and events, Honors students and faculty concentrate on mutually critical exchanges between the classics of human cultures and the contemporary world. The goal of these dialogical exchanges is collaborative and intentional learning in which students and faculty together connect enduring and emerging ideas, drawing on shared texts, lectures, seminar discussions, and cultural experiences.

- The heart of the Honors Program is therefore seminars in a flexible liberal arts curriculum, with three main areas of Honors Core courses:
  - Human Sciences
  - Natural Sciences
  - Social Sciences
- In Honors Core courses, students encounter cultural classics in interdisciplinary ways and engage in seminar-based conversations that consider classic texts and paradigm-shifting events in their cultural and intercultural influences, their effects on our contemporary world, and their possible future consequences.
  - Core courses aim to integrate disciplinary depth with multidisciplinary breadth.
  - Course topics are wide-ranging, taking up such issues, for example, as the cross-cultural origins of mathematics; historical ideas of race; the rise and fall of gods; the scientific and social implications of human genome mapping; the city and its future; visual rhetoric – with new topics introduced each year.
  - These courses, innovative and experimental in nature, are unique to the Honors program.
- Honors seminars are supplemented by lectures and gatherings with Chapman University’s most outstanding scholar-teachers during the academic year and by preceptorials during interterm.
- Honors students have an enhanced opportunity to pursue grants, research, study abroad, and engage in community-based learning.
- Honors students complete a total of 6 Honors courses, with a minimum of one course in each of the Honors Core areas. In addition, incoming students must take the Honors Forum their first year at Chapman, and the Honors Capstone Seminar in their senior year, for a minimum of 24 credits. The required Honors courses satisfy the GE Inter/Multidisciplinary Cluster. Select courses may also satisfy major and minor requirements or electives as well as GE requirements.
- Transfer students with 60 units or more (prior to matriculation) will, upon acceptance, take 3 Honors courses. One course must come from each of the Honors Core areas and they must be at the 300 level or above. In addition, transfer students must take the Honors Forum in their first year at Chapman, and the Honors Capstone Seminar in their senior year.
- **Admission:** The Honors Program is a university-wide program open to students whose intellectual curiosity enables them to commit to the program’s curricular and co-curricular demands. Its purpose is less to recognize past academic accomplishments than to encourage intellectual curiosity and scholarly research. Honors has both core members – students who complete the requirements of the Honors program – and community participants, who enroll by permission in particular Honors courses of special interest and relevance to their major course of study.