

Honors College

The Honors College at Prairie View A&M University is advancing PVAMU’s Journey to Eminence by elevating recruitment and retention efforts to attract top-tier students and foster an intellectually stimulating environment that promotes leadership, research, and global engagement, prioritizing academic relevance, teaching excellence, and student success.

Vision

The Honors College at PVAMU will serve as a national model of Honors education, shaping changemakers, innovative thinkers, and leaders with global impact. Through interdisciplinary inquiry, research, and seminar-style courses, students will engage in practices and exploration that foster a deep sense of responsibility for reimagining systems and communities they serve.

Mission

The Honors College is dedicated to fostering an enriched environment that encourages students pursuing STEM, Education, the Arts, and community-driven work to engage in dynamic intellectual exchanges, develop advanced problem-solving skills, and contribute meaningfully to their academic communities. Anchored in excellence and guided by purpose, Honors College scholars will be equipped to steward progress with intention. Grounded in PVAMU’s legacy of producing visionary leaders, the Honors College will prepare students with intellectual curiosity & promise and address future challenges with purpose and impact.

Core Values

- Curiosity & Rigor
- Excellence
- Inquiry
- Engagement
- Scholarship
- Leadership

Learn more about the University's Honors College at <https://www.pvamu.edu/honorsprogram/>.

Honors College Curriculum

The PVAMU Honors College curriculum is intentionally designed as a sequenced, credit-bearing academic experience that emphasizes discovery, problem solving, entrepreneurship, and professional development. The Honors College Curriculum comprises nine (9) semester credit hours of coursework and co-curricular experiences aligned with PVAMU’s mission to develop leaders, innovators, and scholars prepared to address complex societal challenges.

The Honors College curriculum is structured around a coherent developmental arc that guides students from exploration of ideas and interests to experimentation through creative and analytical inquiry, and then to application in real-world and research-based contexts. This progression culminates in synthesis and impact, where students integrate knowledge across disciplines to produce original, publicly engaged scholarly or professional work.

Honors College Curriculum ^{1,2}

HCOL 1321	Honors Colloquium II	3
Service Learning & Community Impact Lab		
Honors Gateway: First-Year Seminar		
HCOL 2310	Honors Advanced Seminar Research Design & Interdisciplinary Inquiry	3
Work-in-Practice		
Global Perspectives Workshops & Travel		
HCOL 4310	Honors Capstone Thesis Design or Innovation Project	3
Total Hours		9

¹ Pathway A is the traditional pathway for freshmen and sophomores. The curriculum can be completed within six to eight semesters. Due to the structured nature of the Nursing curriculum, Nursing students may only be admitted to the Honors College at the point of initial university enrollment (first freshman semester).

² Pathway B is the accelerated pathway for transfer students.

Freshman

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
HCOL 1321		3 Service Learning & Community Impact Lab	
Honors Gateway: First-Year Seminar			
Total		3 Total	0

Sophomore

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
HCOL 2310 Advanced Seminar in Research Design		Work-in-Practice	
Total		0 Total	0

Junior

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
Global Perspectives Workshops & Travel		Global Perspectives Workshops & Travel	
Total		0 Total	0

Senior

		Spring - Semester 2	Hours
		HCOL 4310 Honors Capstone	
		Total	0

Total Hours: 3

¹ Pathway A is designed for freshman and sophomore students admitted to the Honors College.

Pathway B²

Junior

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
HCOL 1321		3 HCOL 2310 Advanced Seminar in Research Design	
Service Learning & Community Impact Lab		Work-in-Practice	
Honors Gateway: First-Year Seminar			
Total		3 Total	0

Senior

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
HCOL 4310 Honors Capstone		Global Perspectives Workshops & Travel	
Global Perspectives Workshops & Travel			
Total		0 Total	0

Total Hours: 3

² Pathway B is an accelerated track designed for transfer students accepted into the Honors College.

Courses***HCOL 1321 Honors Colloquium II: 3 semester hours.***

This course examines creativity as a disciplined and researchable process rather than an innate trait. Drawing from psychology, cognitive science, humanities, and innovation studies, students analyze how original work emerges across domains. Weekly creativity experiments and structured reflection foster metacognitive awareness and disciplined creative practice. Students produce an original scholarly or creative work grounded in research, accompanied by a public presentation and reflective defense.

HCOL 2310 Honors Advanced Seminar Research Design & Interdisciplinary Inquiry: 3 semester hours.

This seminar prepares students for advanced research and innovation by introducing common methodologies across disciplines. Students learn to conduct literature reviews, develop research questions, design studies, analyze data, and validate findings. Collaborative team projects emphasize interdisciplinary problem solving.

HCOL 4310 Honors Capstone Thesis Design or Innovation Project: 3 semester hours.

The capstone represents the culmination of the Honors College curriculum. Students complete a substantial original work -- traditional research thesis, interdisciplinary project, or applied innovation -- demonstrating mastery of inquiry, analysis, and communication. Projects are comparable to publishable scholarship or professional-level deliverables. Students present their work publicly and engage in advanced professional preparation for graduate study or employment.