



NORFOLK STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# ROBERT C. NUSBAUM HONORS COLLEGE HANDBOOK







# Welcome to the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College

The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College provides an exciting academic and social community dedicated to maximizing your college experience. We offer enhanced academic classes, co-curricular activities and special programs for high-ability students in all majors. The Honors College is a true community of scholars where critical thinking, curiosity, imagination and creativity are encouraged. Challenging courses, spirited debate, international study, research projects and special living and learning communities can all be part of the Honors College experience. The preparation you receive here will set you apart and improve your global marketability in the career of your choice.

**The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College has three component programs:** the prestigious Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences (DNIMAS) Science Honors Program for selected math and science majors; the Alison J. and Ella W. Parsons General Honors Program for all majors; and the Discipline-Specific Honors Programs currently available for students in History; Psychology; Interdisciplinary Studies; Technology; Nursing; Health Services Management; Health, Physical Education and Exercise Science; Social Work; and Business.

The goals of the Honors College, in full support of the university's overall mission, are

- to raise the level of academic standards and expectations at the university;
- to provide an enriched and challenging program of study for students who manifest exceptional academic potential and are willing to commit to a rigorous academic curriculum;
- to improve the university's ability to attract, matriculate and graduate such scholars; and
- to enrich the entire university community by sponsoring and co-sponsoring worthwhile academic and co-curricular events.

## Admissions Requirements

Unless you are otherwise notified, you must submit an application to the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College in addition to your regular Norfolk State University application. Admission criteria and deadlines for the DNIMAS program and the Parsons General Honors Program differ, so please study the applications diligently.

**Requirements for DNIMAS Honors College diploma:** See **DNIMAS** website at [www.nsu.edu/dnimas](http://www.nsu.edu/dnimas).

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARSONS GENERAL HONORS PROGRAM HONORS**

**COLLEGE DIPLOMA:** Students must take 30 hours of Honors courses, to include at least one Honors Seminar capstone course: General Studies (GST) 345H or GST 445H. The student must earn at least a "C" in that course. Students successfully completing GST 345H or GST 445H with at least a grade of "C" earn the privilege of requesting customized Honors courses.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC HONORS COLLEGE DIPLOMA:**

Students in a DSHP must take at least 18 hours of Honors courses from the General Education tiers as designated by their department and at least 12 hours of Honors courses in their major, to include at least one Honors capstone course. Students must earn at least a "C" in that course.

## The Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences

The primary goal of the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences (DNIMAS) is to address the severe shortage of minority scientists by producing graduates who are capable of successfully completing graduate studies in the basic and applied sciences. Graduates of the Institute will also be capable of entering medical or other professional schools. Successful completion of the DNIMAS program results in a Bachelor of Science in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Electronics Engineering, Optical Engineering, Mathematics, or Physics.



## Admission Criteria for DNIMAS Scholars

Entering freshmen must have a 3.3 unweighted cumulative grade point average from high school and a combined SAT score of 1600 (Math, Verbal and Writing), or a score of 1200 (Math and Verbal) or an ACT score of 23 or above. For further criteria and information on the DNIMAS Program, contact the DNIMAS Office at (757) 823-2511 or go to [www.nsu.edu/dnimas](http://www.nsu.edu/dnimas).

## Alison J. and Ella W. Parsons Scholars

The Parsons General Honors Program is open to all majors. Parsons Scholars include students supported by Presidential Scholarships, Provost's Scholarships, William L. Craig Honors College Scholarships, Barnes and Noble Honors College Scholarships, the Norfolk 17 Honors College Scholarship, and the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Scholarship. Students not receiving those scholarships are encouraged to inquire about eligibility, as well.



# Admission Criteria for the Parsons General Honors Program

Eligibility requirements for high school students are a 1080 SAT (Math + Verbal) and an unweighted high school GPA of at least 3.0. An ACT score of 21 is also acceptable. The requirement for current NSU students and transfer students is also a 3.0 GPA. For further criteria and information on joining the Parsons General Honors Program (the largest track within the RCNHC), contact the Honors College Office at (757) 823-8208. Contact us by email at [honors@nsu.edu](mailto:honors@nsu.edu).

## Benefits

### Academics

Whenever possible, Honors courses are taught in smaller, more intimate settings than regular classes. Students participate in a deeper exploration of topics presented by our world-class faculty and distinguished visiting scholars. The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College experience will extend beyond the classroom into the community (through service learning and internships) and into the world (through opportunities for domestic travel and study abroad).

### Scholarships

Renewable scholarship support for every major may be available for students who apply early. DNIMAS students are supported by a partial academic scholarship and/or grant aid which covers a certain percentage of tuition, fees, room and board, and a book allowance, that is renewed on an annual basis. Parsons participants are eligible to apply for partial to full scholarships covering tuition and fees.

### Advising and Registration

The RCNHC staff offers special advising for all Honors students, and all Honors students in good standing may pre-register. Juniors and Seniors who have completed the Honors Seminar have the additional privilege of customizing regular courses into Honors courses by agreements with their instructors approved before the semester begins.

## **The Honors College Residence Hall (Midrise)**

As a Junior Fellow (the title given to all undergraduate participants in the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College), you will enjoy living in a community with computer labs, quiet study rooms, a Junior Common Room where student-led movie fests, news and debates take place, and a Senior Common Room for mingling with visiting scholars, artists and (sometimes!) celebrities. Students also have access to dozens of peer, faculty and community mentors.

## **Internships and Study Abroad**

Guaranteed internships for a minimum of two summers or semesters allow you to explore your career choice first-hand. You will also have the option of studying up to one semester at an approved college or university abroad. Before you go, you will have the opportunity to learn and successfully speak a foreign language.

## **Graduation Honors**

Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College graduates receive an Honors medallion and highest recognition at graduation as well as an NSU diploma in the major with an Honors College seal and endorsement. For a special diploma, students must complete 30 hours of Honors credits, including at least one Honors Seminar (GST 345 H or GST 445 H) or an approved capstone Honors research project in the major department (for DSHP students). Students entering NSU as transfers with an A.A. or A.S. or A.A.S. plus General Studies certificate degree may receive a special diploma with 18 hours of Honors credit (including at least one Honors Seminar or Honors capstone major project).

## **Additional Benefits**

- Preparation for graduate school admissions tests
- Free trips to Honors conferences
- Leadership training
- Opportunities for service learning and civic engagement
- Membership in the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Student Association
- Free tickets to theater, opera and civic and cultural events



# Four-Year General Curriculum Overview for Honors College Students

This sheet is most useful for **Parsons General Honors Program Participants**. DSHP and DNIMAS students must follow additional guidelines found, in their departments, and/or on the specific program websites.

**NOTE: Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College students should take as many honors Gen Ed courses as possible because gen ed courses will constitute the majority of their 30 hours of honors work.**

At least 3 Honors courses must be taken every academic year to stay on track for completion of an Honors College Special Diploma. Remember that the required Honors capstone course may not be listed on your departmental curriculum, but it must be taken to complete your special diploma.

## **THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF HONORS COURSES:**

1. **STRAIGHT** (where all students are in the Honors College);
2. **DUAL-ROSTER** (where several Honors College students take a regular course but do special assignments and activities); and
3. **CUSTOMIZED** (where one Honors College student who has completed the Honors Seminar or his or her Honors Capstone Course contracts with an instructor to do special assignments and activities as part of a regular course).

**New Honors Courses are approved using the same University procedures as for regular courses.**

## Freshman Year

- Begin Gen Ed. Take SEM 101 H and English 101 H (in first semester) and SEM 102 H and ENG 102 H (in second semester). This assumes you have not already earned credit for these courses elsewhere.
- Take as many Gen Ed Honors courses as possible.
- Take Intro to Major course if necessary.

## Sophomore Year

- Gen Ed continues. Take as many Gen Ed Honors courses as possible. Take SEM 201 H.
- Take Honors Language 111, 112, or 211, 212 (depending on HS record and placement) if possible, according to major. The taking of a modern foreign language is very strongly recommended.
- Plan for Internships with your department and/or Career Services.
- Plan for Study Abroad if desired by consulting with the Honors College and the Office for International Programs.

## Junior Year

- Complete Gen Ed requirements.
- Begin Summer and/or Academic Year Internships if desired.
- Take Study Abroad semester if desired and possible.
- Prepare for (or take) Honors Capstone Course. This may be GST 345H, GST 445H or an approved Honors Capstone Course for students on a DSHP track.
- Continue Major courses (Honors and/or regular).

## Senior Year

- Complete one of the Honors Seminars (either GST 345 H or GST 445 H) or your DSHP Honors Capstone Course. Honors College majors from the school of education must take GST 345 H during the first semester of their senior year prior to student teaching.
- Complete Major courses (Honors or regular).

# DSHP Guidelines

## Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College

**Honors College:** Discipline-Specific Honors Programs (DSHP) are designed to augment the existing Honors College programs and provide additional opportunities for academically distinguished, highly motivated undergraduates to pursue academic study that (1) challenges their interests and abilities, (2) develops their leadership skills, and (3) helps them to acquire the research skills needed to be successful in graduate school or in a professional career.

To earn the Discipline-Specific Honors College Diploma, a student must successfully complete at least 18 hours of Honors courses from the General Education tiers as designated by the academic department and at least 12 hours of Honors courses in the discipline, to include the approved Honors capstone course.

Students interested in participating in one of the Discipline-Specific Honors Programs are encouraged to see their respective academic school or college Honors Liaison or the Dean of the RCNHC. Copies of the Discipline-Specific Honors Program Curriculum Sheets for the programs listed below are housed in each respective academic unit.

### **Discipline-Specific Honors Programs**

700 Park Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23504

Tel. (757) 823-8208 Fax: (757) 823-2302









## Proposal for Honors Credit for a Customized Honors Course

INSTRUCTIONS: This form must be typed and handed into the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Office (BMH 236) **Before classes begin** for the semester in which the Customized Course will take place. Applications handed in after this date cannot be considered. Students are strongly advised to consult with the Honors College Dean on a draft version of the form well before this final deadline. When classes begin, it will be too late to make revisions. On that date, the form must already have been signed by the instructor and department head, and it must be accompanied by the following items:

- 1) Syllabus for the non-honors version of the course the student wishes to customize.
- 2) Syllabus for the proposed Honors version of the course with the additions highlighted in color. These additions should conform to the sheet entitled "Characteristics of an Honors Course" (see pg. 14 of this document).
- 3) Course Section Update signed by the head of the department offering the customized course. The new customized course should bear the same course number as the regular course but be followed by an "H" suffix. The honors course section number should be 01.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID number \_\_\_\_\_

Semester and academic year in which the Customized Course will take place \_\_\_\_\_

Date when student completed GST 345 H or GST 445 H (Note: Only students who have completed one of these courses with a grade of "C" or higher are eligible to request customized honors courses.) \_\_\_\_\_

### I. General Information

A. Course Number and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Credits: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Catalog Description of Regular Course: \_\_\_\_\_

D. Professor(s) Responsible: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Overview

Statement of Regular (Non-Honors) Course Objectives taken from syllabus: \_\_\_\_\_

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B. Statement of Honors Course Objectives (if substantially different): \_\_\_\_\_

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C. Additional Specific Requirements for the Honors Course. PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MEASURABLE. For papers, please give the length in pages (typed and double-spaced). We suggest at least 15 pages of extra writing assignments. For presentations, please give the length and medium of the presentation. (N.B.: This is the material that should appear highlighted in color on the proposed Honors syllabus being submitted.) Please place the Honors College logo on the top of any Honors syllabus. (It may be cut and pasted from this form.)

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D. \_\_\_\_\_ Grading System for the Customized Honors Course (attach if necessary):

## III. Actions

### Course Instructor:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove Date\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

### Departmental Chairperson:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove Date\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

### Honors Dean:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove Date\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

### School or College Dean:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove Date\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature









# Characteristics of an Honors Course

**Designers of Honors syllabi should strive to give their courses the following common characteristics:**

- We suggest at least three readings of pertinent core texts (to be determined by the department and instructor) beyond the usual textbook or other regular course readings. **NOTE:** A text can be any length and any genre, and it can originate from any time period (including the present). Texts might also include films, paintings, seminal articles from journals, classic experiments, important case studies, great musical compositions, etc.
- We suggest at least one additional reading assignment (beyond the three core texts above) in the history of the discipline or history of ideas.
- We suggest at least four assignments (with a written or oral deliverable) that require CREW-related skills. CREW=Close Reading for Effective Writing. (See QEP materials.)
- We suggest students write at least two essays per course (free of significant errors) beyond the writing requirement already in place for the regular course. These two essays may be included in the QEP assignment total. This writing might be in the form of lab reports or problem sets for science or math courses.
- We suggest students do and present (as appropriate) research in the pertinent discipline(s). Students should be literate in information technology, i.e., the proper methodology for doing advanced library and internet-based research.
- We suggest an experiential, relevant, co-curricular component that is academically significant and coordinated with Honors College (including DNIMAS) programming. This may include service learning or civic engagement activities.
- We suggest the infusion of technology that is appropriate, state-of-the-art and well understood by faculty and students into Honors courses across the disciplines.
- We suggest that discussion of the scientific method, paradigm shifts, and the role of science in public life be incorporated into Honors courses across the disciplines.
- We suggest that Honors courses emphasize interdisciplinary perspectives whenever possible.
- We suggest that Honors courses be attractive to students and academically rigorous.





## Honors Seminar—GST 345H (Fall) GST 445H (Spring)

GST 345 H/445 H is a capstone course for the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Parsons General Honors Program students (or others) who hope to graduate with a special Honors College diploma. As a capstone course, it should enable students to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and values they have acquired and continue to acquire at NSU. It is intended for all majors and belongs in the tradition of liberal arts education for people in the humanities, social sciences, the sciences or technology. We strive for the highest values implicit in the term “liberal arts education.”

The academic world has fashions and trends, just as the nonacademic world does, and it is important for students to keep intellectually up-to-date. This is especially important for Honors College students who may be going to graduate school and choosing areas of emphasis within traditional disciplines. For that reason, the Honors Seminar is often devoted to intellectual trends.

### PAST TOPICS INCLUDE

**Spring 2018** – “Contested Memories: How Cultural and Memory Studies Can Promote Understanding and Justice”

**Fall 2017** – “Apocalypse Soon? What We Can Learn from Apocalyptic and Dystopian Visions”

**Spring 2017** – “The Divided States of America? America’s Culture Wars in Context”

**Fall 2016** – “Protest and Healing in a Culture of Violence: America and the World in 2016”

**Spring 2016** – “Black Bard: Shakespeare and Race”

**Fall 2015** – “Afropeans? New Visions for the African Diaspora in Europe (and elsewhere)”

**Spring 2015** – “Semper Aliquid Novi Ex Africam: Images of Africa in World Consciousness and Culture”

**Fall 2014** – “Great Migrations: Tracing Movements of People and Ideas”

**Spring 2014** – “The Spirit of the Laws: How Law and Social Justice Are Conceived of and Depicted in US and World Culture”

**Fall 2013** – “Mixed! A Study of Mixture and Hybridity in Living Things, Relationships, Concepts & Cultures”

**Spring 2013** – “Habitations for the Spirits: Collective Memory, Monuments, and Memorialization”

**Fall 2012** – “1619 and Way Beyond: An Introduction to Diasporan and Atlantic Studies”

**Spring 2012** – “Occupy America! Contesting the Gaps in Americans’ Wealth and Educational Attainment”



**Fall 2011** – “Going ‘Gentle’ Into That Good Night: Perspectives on Aging in America and the World”

**Spring 2011** – “Building Global Awareness: Focus on World Wealth and Poverty”

**Fall 2010** – “Lincoln, Race and the Lingering Legacy of the Civil War”

**Spring 2010** – “‘From-Heres’ and ‘Come-Heres’: Perceptions of the Immigrant Other in Virginia and North Rhine-Westphalia”

**Fall 2009** – “Behold the Green (and perhaps some Gold): Environmentalism Across the Disciplines”

**Spring 2009** – “Closed Minds/Closed Schools: Virginia’s Shameful Efforts to Resist Integration”

**Fall 2008** – “Dulce et Decorum Non Est: Suffering at the Front and Malaise on the Home Front”

**Spring 2008** – “Diaspora II: A Nation of Immigrants?”

**Fall 2007** – “Pretty American, Ugly American: American Pop Culture as Perceived Abroad.”

**Spring 2007** – “Voices from within the Veil: Democracy in America from Jamestown onward”

**Fall 2006** – “Dangerous Laughter: Political Satire from Aristophanes to Chappelle”

**Spring 2006** – “Great Divides: Partitioning America into Red/Blue and Black/White”

**Fall 2005** – “Introduction to Diasporan Studies”

**Spring 2005** — “Tree of Life/Tree of Death: The Role of Metaphor in the Arts and Sciences”

**Fall 2004** — “Furious Flowers: Perspectives on Art, Science and Protest”

**Spring 2004** — “Education and Race Before and After Brown V. Board”

**Fall 2003** – “Of Arms and the Man (or Woman): An Interdisciplinary Look at War”

**Spring 2003** – “As Others See Us: Images of America throughout the World”

**Fall 2002** – “The Power and the Glory: The Role of the Black Church in American Culture”

**Fall 2001** – “Nat Turner and Emmett Till: Avengers and Scapegoats in American Culture”

**Spring 2001** – “What happens to a Dream Deferred? An Interdisciplinary Approach to American Dreaming.”

**Fall 2000** – “The New Oz: An Interdisciplinary Look at Prison”

**Spring 2000** – “The Quest for Social Justice in the Arts and Technology”

**Fall 1999** – “Millennium Now: Apocalyptic vs. Rational Futurism”

**Spring 1999** – “Jefferson and Race: Myths of the Founding Fathers”

**Fall 1998** – “1968: An Interdisciplinary Inquiry into Ways of Knowing the Past”

**Spring 1998** – “Violence and Survival”

**Fall 1997** – “Genesis: The Idea of Origins”

**Spring 1997** – “The 3 R’s- Revolt, Rebellion and Revolution- an Interdisciplinary Study”

**Fall 1996** – “South Africa across the Disciplines”

**Spring 1996** – “Shakespeare across the Disciplines”

**Fall 1995** – “CLASH: An Introduction to Issues in Popular Culture”



## RCNHC Co-curricular Activities

Attendance at Honors College events will be credited according to a flexible points system. **All students are expected to accumulate at least 50 points in a semester in order to stay eligible for their scholarships and their Honors College privileges.**

Some events will be worth more points than others, with Dr. McClain and Dr. Laws assigning the point values for DNIMAS and Parsons/DSHP track students, respectively. Students should pick up point vouchers after each event from Dr. Laws or Dr. McClain. We will also rely, as always, on students' honor concerning their attendance at events where Dr. McClain or Dr. Laws cannot be present. Please note that you must sign up for certain events in advance because a limited number of tickets will be available.

Attending co-curricular events is a vital part of participating in the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College. Please keep track of schedule changes & additions, and sign up for activities in Brown Memorial Hall Suite 236. Except for out-of-town events, transportation is your responsibility. The Honors Office will help in setting up car pools to big ticketed events. All events, unless otherwise specified, are prepaid by the Honors College for you. **Never take a ticket you don't use and never arrive late at events. you must stay for the whole event even if you are tired or have other responsibilities.** Therefore you must PLAN ahead for these events! Regrettably Honors events tickets cannot be ordered for family members. Please call 823-8208 or stop by the Honors Office, BMH 236, for more information. Remember to collect a point voucher after events. **Please be sure to mark your own personal calendars, especially when you sign up for a ticket!! No cell phones may be used at any events. they must be silenced and may not be opened for texting or calls. this includes honors cafes, unless a guest speaker specifically asks you to use your devices.**

**When you sign up for a ticket, you will have until 4:00 p.m. on the day prior to the event to pick up your ticket. Any unclaimed tickets will be given away on the day of the performance.**

## Conferences and Affiliations

Conference participation is usually voluntary unless it is required for your honors course. Students seeking to participate in a conference should submit a proposal by the deadline indicated on the honors calendar or given by Dr. Laws. The Honors College belongs to the following Honors organizations, all of which host yearly conferences:

<b>The Virginias Collegiate Honors Council (VCHC)</b>	Spring Semester Conference
<b>The Southern Regional Honors Council (SRHC)</b>	Spring Semester Conference
<b>The National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)</b>	Fall Semester Conference
<b>The National Association of African American Honors Programs (NAAAHP)</b>	Fall Semester Conference

The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College also belongs to the Association for Core Texts and Courses. A core text is a “classic” work in some discipline. Sigmund Freud’s *The Interpretation of Dreams* (1900), for example, is a core text for Psychology. Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* (about 1604) is a core text for those in English, as is Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man* (1952). Charles Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species* (1859) is a core text for Biology.



# Internships & Study Abroad Opportunities

For internship information, contact the **NSU Career Services Office** making sure to say that you are an Honors College participant.

**For Study Abroad, contact the NSU Office of International Programs**, making sure to state the same thing. Honors College students have traveled worldwide to England, Spain, Egypt, Morocco, China and elsewhere. While the Honors College cannot pay for your Study Abroad directly, you may, in some cases, be able to use your NSU scholarship money to pay tuition and other expenses at foreign institutions of higher learning.

## Scholarships

The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College administers the William L. Craig, Barnes & Noble, Norfolk 17 and Robert C. Nusbaum Scholarships. The applications may be obtained at <https://www.nsu.edu/honors/forms>. Once awarded, the scholarships are renewable, as long as the recipient maintains at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA, full-time status, takes honors courses as required and completes the required number of activity points each semester. Scholarships may be permanently withdrawn at any time for failure to meet these requirements.

If students are interested in applying for national scholarships and fellowships (e.g. the Rhodes Scholarship, Marshall Scholarship or some other), please contact the Dean of the RCNHC (preferably as a sophomore).

# Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Probation & Removal

**A student will be placed on probation after the first infraction and is subject to permanent removal from the Honors College if a subsequent infraction occurs relative to the following:**

- GPA falls below the minimum 3.0 cumulative
- Student repeatedly fails to take honors courses as required and does not obtain a written waiver from the Dean
- Student repeatedly fails to submit the required 50 points worth of co-curricular activity points



Scholarship support can be withdrawn at any point during the occurrence of the infraction at the discretion of the scholarship administrator.

Please know that we value your participation in the Honors College, and we would hate to lose you. You must understand, however, that there are responsibilities that go with the privileges and failure to meet an important responsibility bears consequences.

## RCNHC Academic Honor Code

Students will conduct themselves ethically and responsibly, safeguarding their own integrity and that of the community. In fairness to themselves and in justice to others, students will not lie, cheat or steal others' ideas, nor will they tolerate egregious behavior in others. Students will avoid deception and collusion whenever they engage in academic activities offered under the auspices of NSU. As scholars, students will scrupulously avoid plagiarism by learning to select high-quality research sources and to cite them correctly.

## Honor Code Violations

Students in the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College are expected to set exemplary conduct standards for the whole University community. Students **MUST** inform themselves about plagiarism as it is defined among true scholars. Scholars **ALWAYS** cite borrowed **WORDS OR IDEAS** – even ideas that have been paraphrased. They do so graciously and consistently, introducing the sources within the body of the paper or speech, **ALONG WITH** the use of proper documentation (internal citations, endnotes or footnotes). Honors College students will maintain the utmost integrity in all their dealings with professors, classmates, staff, etc. here on campus and out in the community. Honors College students will never lie, cheat, steal or commit any other infraction of the Student Handbook rules. **Being convicted of any charges at NSU will result in immediate dismissal from the Honors College and the loss of any Honors-associated scholarship aid.**

# Honors College Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q. Where can I go to schedule my Honors courses?**

- A.** Courses may be scheduled with your advisor, or the Honors College Office Manager (in BMH 236) can help.

## **Q. What if I can't find an Honors course to take?**

- A.** Consult with the Honors College Dean. She can sometimes locate Honors course options that you cannot. If it proves impossible for her to find a suitable Honors course for you, she will give you a written waiver allowing you to omit the requirement for one semester. Otherwise **all students in honors college are expected to take at least three honors courses per academic year and stay on track to complete 30 hours (for dshp or parsons students) or the prescribed dnimas curriculum.**

## **Q. What happens if I go to an event and I am not able to stay until the end to get a voucher? What if I lose a voucher?**

- A.** If you don't stay the entire time, you are not eligible for a voucher. If you lose a voucher, come see the Honors Dean to explain.

## **Q. What happens if my cumulative GPA falls below a 3.0 (or 3.3 for DNIMAS students)?**

- A.** DNIMAS students, you will be removed from the DNIMAS program. If your GPA is still at least a 3.0 or above, you may apply to become a Parsons student. At that time, you become subject to all the regulations of that particular new track. **PLEASE NOTE:** DNIMAS students have additional guidelines they must follow. For questions, please consult the Director of DNIMAS. Parsons or DSHP students, you will have one semester of probation in which to pull your GPA back up. During that time you may not take Honors courses, but you should attend Honors events and keep up with your points. This is called "Honors College academic probation." **Note to DSHP and Parsons students on scholarships:** If your GPA falls below 3.0, the Office of Enrollment Management (in charge of all Financial Aid) may take away your scholarship! If your GPA falls below a 2.8, this almost always occurs. The Honors College cannot help you retain your scholarship if your GPA falls.

**Q. What happens if I do not complete 50 points worth of Honors events each semester?**

- A.** If you fail to accumulate 50 points, you will be placed on “events probation.” If it happens again, you will be removed from the Honors College.

**Very important note: you may use only one probation of any kind (academic probation or events probation).** This means you must be careful to stick to your obligations in both areas, AND take at least 3 H courses per academic year, to include, as a Junior or Senior, the proper Honors Seminar (GST 345 H or 445 H) or Capstone (if DSHP).

**Q. If I am removed from the Honors College will I be allowed to return?**

- A.** No. Removal from the Honors College is final. You may re-enter full participation in the Honors College after an academic probation, but you may not be removed and then re-enter.

**Q. May I switch from the Discipline-Specific Honors Program to the Parsons General Honors Program or vice versa?**

- A.** Yes. But this requires the approval of the Dean of the Honors College or the Provost’s Office. This option would most likely come into play if you change majors.

**Q. May I switch from DSHP or Parsons into DNIMAS?**

- A.** Yes. DNIMAS occasionally admits one or two students as sophomores. It is a fairly rare occurrence, however.







## Senior Fellows of The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College

Senior Fellows will be NSU faculty members, NSU administrators or members of the larger Hampton Roads community whose primary function will be to help raise funds for and awareness of the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College and to support its goals actively and enthusiastically. The goals of the Honors College, in full support of the university's overall mission, are

- to raise the level of academic standards and expectations at the university;
- to provide an enriched and challenging program of study for students who manifest exceptional academic potential and are willing to commit to a rigorous academic curriculum;
- to improve the university's ability to attract, matriculate and graduate such scholars; and
- to enrich the entire university community by sponsoring and co-sponsoring worthwhile academic and co-curricular events.

Senior Fellows will be invited to attend Honors College events both on and off campus plus weekly Honors Cafés at the Honors College Residential Hall in order to interact with students under the leadership of the Dean of the Honors College. (Attendance at least one Honors Café per month is suggested; attendance at Honors-sponsored events is encouraged as it is practicable for the individual Fellow.) Fellows may be asked to speak at such gatherings, and/or to offer students shadowing or internship opportunities. Senior Fellows (approximately 30 in number) will be appointed by the President for a renewable term of two years. NSU faculty members will receive credit on their faculty evaluations commensurate with their service; preference will be given to faculty who are currently teaching Honors courses, have taught such courses, or are willing to teach them in the future.

Faculty may self-nominate by sending a cover letter and curriculum vitae to Dr. Page Laws, Dean of the Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College, who will forward it to the Provost. The President appoints all Senior Fellows. The deadline for self-nominating or nominating others will be June 30 of each academic year. Call ext. 8208 for more information.





**NORFOLK STATE**  
UNIVERSITY  
ROBERT C. NUSBAUM  
HONORS COLLEGE