

Brothers, Sheila C.

From: Smith, William T.
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 4:45 PM
To: Brothers, Sheila C.
Cc: Bird-Pollan, Jennifer
Subject: RE: Honors admission

Proposal: New Admissions path into Lewis Honors Program for Sophomores

This is a recommendation that the University Senate approve the Lewis Honors College proposal for sophomore admission. The details of the sophomore admission would be administered per Dean Brady's November 19, 2019 memo to the University Senate Council.

Rationale: The Honors college has two points of admission: as incoming Freshman or as rising Juniors. The Lewis Honors College desires to expand admissions to include rising sophomores. The sophomore admission requirements are similar to the freshman but with removal of classes students would have already taken during their freshman year.

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To: Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Chair, University Senate Council

From: Christian Brady, Dean, Lewis Honors College

Date: November 19, 2018

RE: Proposed Program Changes, Lewis Honors College

The current Honors curriculum, effective Fall 2018, was approved in Spring 2017 and appeared on the April 17, 2017 Senate transmittal. The curricular changes in that transmittal were based on work by the Honors Transition Committee. Included in that transmittal was a pro-rated 15-credits curriculum for students starting in Honors as juniors. The following proposes a 21-credit curriculum for students starting in Honors as sophomores and the process for Upper Level Admission (ULA) students to be accepted into the Honors College as sophomores or juniors.

This proposal was discussed and approved by the Honors College Council on October 26, 2018.

1) New proposed 21-credit curriculum for Honors students starting as sophomores.

Complementary to the 15-credit curriculum option for students accepted into the Lewis Honors College as rising juniors, Honors proposes a 21-credit curriculum option for students accepted as rising sophomores (defined as students entering their second year of attendance at UK). This curriculum doesn't include the CIS/WRD 112 requirement, typically taken in a student's first-year. The total credits required in the lower and upper level Honors courses is reduced by three credits each. Remaining credit requirements will be reflective of students' time remaining to degree completion, six semesters.

Starting as a Second-Year Honors Student, 21 credits

Three Credits of HON 101 Knowledge and Society

Three Credits of Lower Level Honors Courses:

Three Credits of Upper Level Honors Courses

Three Credits of Honors Elective

Six Credits of Honors Experiences

Three Credits of Honors Thesis

A comparison between the three curriculum options is shown on the next page.

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HONORS 30, 21, AND 15 CREDIT CURRICULUM COMPARISON
 INCORPORATING THE MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES PENDING APPROVAL SPRING 2019

Starting as a First-Year Honors Student	Starting as a Second-Year Honors Student	Starting as a Junior Honors Student (4-5 semester remaining)
Six Credits of Required Courses	Three Credits of Required Courses	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIS/WRD 112 Accelerated Comp. and Comm. II (3) • HON 101 Knowledge and Society (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 101 Knowledge and Society (3) 	
Twelve Credits of Honors Courses:	Six Credits of Honors Courses:	Six Credits of Honors Courses:
Students choose at least two lower level Honors courses, 6 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 151 Honors in Humanities (3) • HON 152 Honors in Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences (3) • HON 251 Honors in Social Sciences (3) • HON 252 Honors in Arts & Creativity (3) • or Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses (3) 	Students choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 151 Honors in Humanities (3) • HON 152 Honors in Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences (3) • HON 251 Honors in Social Sciences (3) • HON 252 Honors in Arts & Creativity (3) • or Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses (3) 	Students choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 101 The Knowledge and Society (3) • HON 301 Proseminar (3)
Students choose at least two upper level Honors courses, 6 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 301 Proseminar, 3 credits • Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses, 3 credits • or a graduate course that meets the needs and interests of the student* 	Students choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 301 Proseminar (3) • Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses (3) • or a graduate course that meets the needs and interests of the student* (3) 	
Three Credits of Honors Elective		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any HON course or departmental honors section. 		
Six Credits of Honors Experiences	Six Credits of Honors Experiences	Three Credits of Honors Experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Abroad, HON 352 or equivalent • Service Learning or Community Outreach, HON 399 or equivalent • Independent Research, HON 395 or equivalent • Internships/Co-op Experiences, HON 396 or equivalent 		
Honors Thesis, 3 credits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HON 398 Senior Honors Capstone or college/departmental equivalent 		
*Must be approved by the Director of Academic Affairs.		

2) Application process for Upper Level Admission students

Currently, the Lewis Honors College has a 30-credit curriculum for students starting in Honors as first-year students. We also have a 15-credit curriculum for UK students that transfer into Honors as juniors with four to five semesters of coursework remaining before graduation. In addition, we have submitted a proposal to add a

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21-credit curriculum for UK students that join Honors as sophomores (second-year at UK, with three years of coursework remaining). Students joining the LHC as sophomores or juniors are referred to as Upper Level Admission (ULA) students.

The Lewis Honors College at the University of Kentucky welcomes applications for Upper Level Admission (ULA). Membership in the Honors College provides students with enhanced opportunities to deeply explore their chosen field of study. Students will also have access to expanded course offerings, faculty mentorship, Honors advising as well as counseling and career support through the Center for Personal Development (CPD).

Upper Level Admission is available to current UK students that would like to join the Honors College as a sophomore or junior. While a large number of students apply to the Honors College when they apply to UK for freshman admission, we believe that students that may not have been interested in or aware of the Honors College while they were in high school, could very well be excellent candidates for Honors. ULA allows these students an opportunity to join the Honors College based on their academic and leadership performance at UK.

Students entering their second or third year of attendance at the University of Kentucky are eligible for acceptance into the Lewis Honors College. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the fall and spring semester. Applicants who submit their materials by the last class day of the fall semester and are accepted into the Honors College will be eligible for priority registration in the spring semester. All students accepted through the ULA process will begin enrollment in the Lewis Honors College starting the fall semester after notification of their acceptance, regardless of when the application was submitted, or a decision was received.

The application for Upper Level Admission to the Lewis Honors College consists of five parts:

1. General information: Online form collecting student and academic data
2. Statement of Intent: State the rationale for wanting to apply to the Lewis Honors College. Be sure to explain how prior experience (academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, leadership, service work, etc.) has prepared you to be successful in the Honors College and beyond (300 words maximum).
3. Short Essay: Address the following prompt (500 words maximum): In the original Jurassic Park film, Ian Malcolm, played by Jeff Goldblum, says with emphasis, “Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they could, they didn’t stop to think if they should.” Honors students often work tirelessly for change and innovation. Still, we value thinking through ethical dilemmas - especially when there are no easy answers. What is a breakthrough or innovation that you think humanity could accomplish where you can’t decide if we should? Explain your stance and concerns.
4. Writing Sample: Submit a writing sample (preferably from a course in your intended major) that highlights excellence in thought. The writing sample should be double-spaced (12-point standardized font, 1-inch margins).
5. Statement of Endorsement: Applicants should submit the name, title, and email address of a faculty representative from their primary major who has agreed to write a statement of endorsement on the applicant’s behalf. When arranging to secure a statement of endorsement, students should inform potential faculty that the letter needs to include a) details outlining how Honors will enhance the applicant’s educational journey, and b) clear indication that the endorsing faculty member (or other faculty in the department) will support the applicant’s Senior Honors Thesis completion. The faculty

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representative will be contacted with instructions on how to submit their statement of endorsement upon submission of the ULA application.

The ULA Admissions Committee, made up of Honors Faculty, reviews applications to ensure that the applicants will have a high probability of success in the LHC. The student will be evaluated on UK GPA, quality of writing samples, and support of the department. The admission committee will consider whether the student's current GPA indicates that the student will be able to maintain the minimum required GPA for the remaining semesters in Honors. The writing sample and essay must also be of the caliber that is expected from an Honors student.

Students that are accepted as an ULA student may only start in the Fall semester. If their graduation plan indicates that they will have least six semesters to graduation, the student is placed on the 21-credit curriculum. If the student has four or five semesters to graduation, the student is placed on the 15-credit curriculum.

Starting the same fall semester that they start in Honors, the ULA student will receive a minimum of \$500 per semester ULA Scholarship. This scholarship will offset the Honors fee, which is \$250 per semester. The remaining funds can be used as the student desires

More information can be found on our [website](#).

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