

HONORS STUDENT HANDBOOK



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

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MISSION & INTRODUCTION

The Pine Honors College encourages: Excellence; Service & Community; Leadership & Intellectual Growth. We help strong students excel by providing: exceptional Honors classes, service and extracurricular opportunities, and support for student research and study abroad. We strive to unite a diverse community of scholars as they make the most of their four years at EIU and prepare themselves to lead and serve in the world.

WE OFFER:

- Small, Honors-only, engaging classes that challenge your mind and help you grow while meeting general education requirements.
- Service and extracurricular opportunities, on and off campus.
- Support for undergraduate research and study abroad.
- Honors Housing, priority registration, and scholarships.
- A great community of strong students with diverse interests.
- **FUN!**

A WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the Pine Honors College. Honors students enjoy small classes, engaging faculty, and a challenging, stimulating curriculum. You'll also benefit from Honors housing, advising, scholarships, priority registration, a committed staff, and a great community of peers. Honors can help you learn, grow, and excel; it can connect you with challenges and experiences that will build both your confidence and your résumé. In addition to excellent, purpose-built classes, we offer a rich extra-curricular program, ranging from hikes in nearby parks, to conversations over tea and games, to research conferences.



Questions? Check www.eiu.edu/honors for more info. Please also stop by and talk to the Honors staff in person! Come have tea with the dean!

Richard England

Dean, Sandra & Jack Pine Honors College
rengland@eiu.edu

HISTORY



Sandra and Jack Pine

Dr. Herb Lasky founded Honors in 1982 to meet the needs of academically talented students. By 2004, Honors had grown to become an Honors College, which was named for Sandra and Jack Pine in 2014, in recognition of their outstanding support of their alma mater. For more than 30 years, Honors at EIU has encouraged intellectual and social growth. Nearly 500 students from all academic areas are part of the Honors College.



STAFF

Dr. Richard England, Dean

rengland@eiu.edu, 217-581-2017

Ms. Sara Schmidt, Coordinator of Honors Student Development

smschmidt@eiu.edu, 217-581-2017

Dr. Jenny Sipes, Honors Advisor and Scholarship Coordinator

jlsipes@eiu.edu, 217-581-2017

ADMISSION

NEW FRESHMAN STUDENTS

New freshman students with a high school GPA of 3.75 are automatically offered admission to the Honors College. We also welcome students who show other evidence of excellence as Dean's Choice admits. Admitted students with a GPA below 3.75 can apply online (see below).

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students with a GPA of 3.5 from their prior institution are eligible to join the Honors College - they should apply at the link below, and contact Ms. Schmidt for advising (smschmidt@eiu.edu).

CURRENT EIU STUDENTS

3.5er Program: Students who achieve a 3.5 GPA in their first semester at EIU will be invited to join the Honors College.

Departmental Honors: Current students with a good GPA who are near junior standing should talk with their Departmental Honors coordinator to apply (see pp. 7-8). Departmental honors students are full members of the Honors College.

Not automatically admitted? Apply at: www.eiu.edu/honors/application.php

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The University Honors Program is intended to help new freshman and early career students challenge themselves and grow intellectually as they complete a flexible Honors curriculum that satisfies some of their General Education requirements. University Honors classes are small, discussion-centered, and usually open only to Honors students. They are challenging, stimulating and fun. The following courses and experiences are required.

A. UNIVERSITY HONORS LAUREATE: 26 CREDITS

- HON 1190 or HON 1290, in freshman year (1 cr) (or HON1191 for Presidential scholars)
- An Honors version of the required Senior Seminar (4 cr). This is the seminar taken for general education credit as a junior or senior. It must be in an area outside your major.
- Additional Honors coursework (21cr)
- **Any Honors classes** (often general education based)
- **Up to 12 hours** can be satisfied through Departmental Honors
- **Up to 12 hours** can be satisfied via any combination of:
 - Reflective projects about off-campus experiences such as study abroad, internships, service, etc. (1-6 cr)
 - 5000-level classes (1-6 cr)
 - Honors courses transferred from another college or university (1-12 hours)
- Reflective projects earn waivers of required Honors credit. Between 0.5 and 6 credits can be waived for each experience depending on the intensity of the activity and the nature of the final project. See www.eiu.edu/honors/reflectiveprojects.php

B. HONORS SCHOLARS: 15 CREDITS

The EIU Honors Scholar program is aimed at students who can't fit the full 26-hour Laureate program into their schedule (perhaps because they have brought in many hours of transfer or AP credit, because of a double major, or because they are joining Honors late). The 15 hours required of Honors Scholars can be satisfied through the following options:

- University Honors coursework (3-15 hours)
- Departmental Honors coursework (1-15 hours)
- Honors courses transferred from another college or university (1-6 hours)

FOR BOTH UNIVERSITY HONORS LAUREATES AND HONORS SCHOLARS THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS MUST ALSO BE MET:

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

You must take at least one honors class every semester until you have earned 21 hours of Honors credit (University Honors Laureate) or until you have earned 12 hours of Honors credit (Honors Scholar). Breaks may be granted by Dr. Sipes (jlsipes@eiu.edu).

GPA REQUIREMENT

Students receiving Honors College scholarships must maintain a GPA of at least 3.4 to keep the award. All other Honors students require cumulative GPAs as listed below:

- Freshmen (0-29 credits): 3.0 GPA
- Sophomores (30-59 credits): 3.2 GPA
- Juniors & Seniors (60-105 credits): 3.4 GPA
- To be certified with Honors at graduation: 3.5 GPA

DISMISSAL FROM UNIVERSITY HONORS

Students who do not meet continuous enrollment or GPA requirements will be granted a one semester grace period. If at the end of that period they have not met all requirements, they will be dismissed from University Honors. Seniors with 101 or more credits who have a GPA less than 3.41 will be dismissed without a grace period.

EXTENDED GRACE PERIOD

Students who face major life events that lead to a grace period may request an extension of that grace period by meeting with Dr. Sipes (jlsipes@eiu.edu). If such an extension allow the student to meet Honors GPA and continuous enrollment requirements, then an extension of probation may be granted with the approval of the Dean.

REVERSAL OF DISMISSAL

Students previously dismissed from either University Honors program for low GPA may request a reversal of dismissal should their GPA improve to meet the requirement tied to their current class standing (see above). Please contact Dr. Sipes (jlsipes@eiu.edu) to request readmission.

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Departmental Honors consists of 12 hours of classes. These are primarily individualized courses that focus on research or creative activity supervised by faculty. Students pursue areas of personal interest by undertaking independent investigation of their chosen topics at a deep level. Each Departmental Honors program has its own unique requirements, though all culminate in a thesis or equivalent creative capstone project.

ADMISSION TO DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

To be admitted to Departmental Honors students must:

1. have a 3.5 or higher GPA for 12+ hours of EIU coursework. Transfer students who have not completed 12 hours at EIU but who have a 3.5 GPA or higher from their prior post-secondary institution may be recommended by their DH Coordinator.
2. meet all specific DH program requirements
3. be approved by both the DH Coordinator and the Honors Dean

Continuous Enrollment: Students must continue to complete DH courses as outlined in your application. Changes in course sequence must be reported to Ms. Schmidt.

GPA Requirement: Students must keep a GPA of at least 3.5 to remain in the program. Students dismissed from Departmental Honors for low GPA may request a reversal of their dismissal as soon as their cumulative GPA is at or above a 3.5. Please contact Ms. Schmidt (smschmidt@eiu.edu) to request this.

Departmental Honors programs and their faculty coordinators are listed below.

Ms. Schmidt (smschmidt@eiu.edu) is the Honors College liaison for Departmental Honors.

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS COORDINATORS

FACULTY NAME	DEPARTMENT	E-MAIL
Barbara Carlsward	Biological Sciences	bscarlsward@eiu.edu
Tina Wang	Business	nwang@eiu.edu
Ed Treadwell	Chemistry	emtreadwell@eiu.edu
Angela Anthony	Comm. Disorders & Sci.	abanthony@eiu.edu
Angie Jacobs	Communication Studies	asjacobs@eiu.edu
Linda Ghent	Economics	lsghent@eiu.edu
Melissa Caldwell	English	mcaldwell@eiu.edu
Christiane Eydtt-Beebe	Foreign Languages	ckeydt@eiu.edu
Jim Davis	Geography	jadavis2@eiu.edu
Katie Lewandowski	Geology	kjlewandowski@eiu.edu

Lauri DeRuiter-Willems	Public Health & Nutrition	ljderuiterwillems@eiu.edu
Ed Wehrle	History	efwehrle@eiu.edu
Eunseong Kim	Journalism	ekim2@eiu.edu
James Barkley	KSS, & Rec. Admin.	jrbarkley@eiu.edu
Andrew Parrish	Math & Computer Sci.	ajparrish@eiu.edu
Rebecca Johnson	Music	rrjohnson2@eiu.edu
Jonelle DePetro	Philosophy	jmdepetro@eiu.edu
Donald Pakey	Physics	ddpakey@eiu.edu
Kevin Anderson	Political Science	kranderson@eiu.edu
Steve Scher	Psychology	sjscher@eiu.edu
Angela Glaros	Socio./Anthro./Crimin.	acglaros@eiu.edu
Kathryn Havercroft	Special Education	kahavercroft2@eiu.edu
Isaac Slaven	Technology	islaven@eiu.edu
Anne Thibault-Green	Theatre Arts	athibault@eiu.edu

BENEFITS OF HONORS

ADVISING

All honors students receive extra advising from Honors College staff. Our resident expert is Ms. Schmidt, who works with presidential scholars and some juniors and seniors. Dean England and Dr. Sipes round out the advising team and work on class schedules. All of us help students make sure they are still on track with Honors requirements.

PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Honors students register during the first week of undergraduate registration, which is a particular advantage to early career students. This should happen automatically. If you have questions please ask Dr. Sipes (jlsipes@eiu.edu). This benefit is for students in good standing with the Honors College.

HONORS HOUSING

Honors students have the option to live with other Honors students on dedicated floors in Thomas Hall. This can ease your transition to college as you will meet other Honors students with whom to study and socialize. Your Resident Assistants will also be Honors students, and residential programming on the Honors floors frequently has an Honors-related theme.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS/ GRAD PROGRAM ADVISING

Ms. Schmidt (smschmidt@eiu.edu) helps students who apply for National Scholarship

(p. 11), graduate school, or medical/veterinary school. Contact her early to get help with these applications.

HONORS COMMUNITY

The Honors College is a community. We have regular social gatherings (Ice Cream Social, Pizza Crawl, Tea with the Dean) and special excursions to nearby attractions, as well as occasional outings to cities and cultural events. Students prepare the Honors Homecoming tent, get involved in annual service projects and give feedback to the Honors College. All events are listed in the weekly e-mail: read it, come, make some friends, and have fun!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We invite Honors eligible high school seniors to apply for our Presidential, Pemberton Presidential, and Honors Award scholarships: eiu.edu/honors/Freshman_scholarships.php

Usually the deadline for Presidential scholarships is in early January for students who will be admitted as Freshman students the following August.

The awards below are open to current EIU students in good standing with the Honors College in all years (freshman to senior) unless otherwise noted. The Honors weekly e-mail will post deadlines – read it! Details, including deadlines and eligibility, are at eiu.edu/honors/Current_student_scholarships.php.

Unless otherwise noted, submit all applications online through Academic Works by March 15th.

DOROTHY DAVIS BUNGE SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an Honors student from DuPage County, Illinois, with a GPA of at least 3.5.

FIRST NEIGHBORHOOD BANCSHARES, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an Honors student for academic excellence.

HONORS TRANSFER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

This award is awarded to a few incoming transfer students who have been involved in an Honors program at their prior college, and who are planning to be involved in Honors at Eastern: eiu.edu/honors/HTS.php.

LASKY FUND EXCELLENCE AWARD

This prize is given to a top graduating Honors student, who has exemplified excellence in his or her academic pursuits, and has been very involved with Honors events. An essay and a recommendation are required.

SANDRA & JACK PINE SCHOLARSHIP

This \$10,000 scholarship is awarded to an Honors student majoring in chemistry, physics, or mathematics. Unlike the other named awards listed here, both incoming freshman students and currently enrolled Honors students may apply for this award. For details, see eiu.edu/honors/Pinescholar.php

STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for Honors students who study abroad are offered each semester. The generally range from \$500-2000. *Application deadlines vary with semester of travel.*

RACHAEL RICHARDSON SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a current EIU Honors student for academic excellence.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS ADVISING

The Pine Honors College offers all EIU students support and guidance in major national scholarship and fellowship competitions. In order to plan for competition, interested students should make appointments for information with designated campus representatives as early in their academic careers as possible. We encourage all students (and recent alumni) with exemplary academic, service, and leadership records to talk to Ms. Schmidt (smschmidt@eiu.edu). For national scholarship links see eiu.edu/honors/National_scholarships.php.

GROUPS

ASSOCIATION OF HONORS STUDENTS (AHS)

AHS is a voluntary student organization that plans and executes social and service activities. All Honors students are encouraged to join. Invitations to AHS recruiting events are sent out in the Honors weekly e-mail.

HONORS COUNCIL

This group is composed of faculty, staff, chairs, and students from across campus. It reviews Honors curricular or policy changes, evaluates Presidential Scholarship applications, and reviews and approves other Honors College scholarship applications. For more details, and a list of current members, visit eiu.edu/honors/Honors_Council.php

ALUMNI COUNCIL

This group of alumni and friends of Honors meets twice a year to discuss networking, development, and the activities of the Pine Honors College. They are a great support to current students. All alumni are invited to participate in Honors homecoming and other special events on and off campus.

ANNUAL CHECKLISTS

FRESHMAN STUDENTS

- Take HON 1190 or HON 1290 and 2-3 other Honors classes
- Achieve a 3.0 GPA (or a 3.4 GPA if you receive a scholarship from the Honors College) by the end of fall
- Think about Study Abroad, a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), or an internship: speak with your advisor, and plan your future classes
- Look for scholarships and apply!

SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

- Take 2-4 Honors sections of classes over the year
- Consider an Honors reflective project (talk to Ms. Schmidt)
- Achieve a 3.2 GPA by the end of fall to stay in good standing
- Go on your study abroad, NSE, REU, or internship or continue planning for them
- If interested, apply for Departmental Honors in spring semester
- Look for scholarships and apply!

JUNIOR STUDENTS

- Finish taking your Honors classes
- Consider an Honors reflective project (talk to Ms. Schmidt)
- Once you have 60 hours, sign up for your Honors Senior Seminar. Students with 60-89 hours must be assisted by Ms. Schmidt. Students with 90+ hours may self-register
- Achieve a 3.4 GPA by the end of fall
- If applicable, take 6 Departmental Honors hours this year
- If applicable, go on your study abroad, NSE, REU or internship
- If applicable, in the spring see Ms. Schmidt early about graduate/medical/veterinary school applications
- Apply for graduation through the Registrar's Office
- Look for scholarships and apply!
- Start planning for jobs or post-graduate study
- Start lining up letters of recommendation for jobs and graduate or professional school applications

SENIOR STUDENTS

- Be sure to complete your Honors Senior Seminar to meet University Honors Laureate requirements!
- Consider an Honors reflective project (talk to Ms. Schmidt)
- If applicable, see Ms. Schmidt about graduate/medical/veterinary school applications

- Achieve a 3.5 GPA by the end of the academic year
- If applicable, take 6 Departmental Honors hours and complete your DH thesis/capstone project
- Talk to faculty and Honors staff about post-graduation plans

OFF-CAMPUS RESEARCH PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Pine Honors College invites faculty to nominate students to present original work at the Honors Council of the Illinois Region Student Research Symposium, and for students to propose presentations for the National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

KNOW YOUR HONORS ACRONYMS

AHS: Association of Honors Students

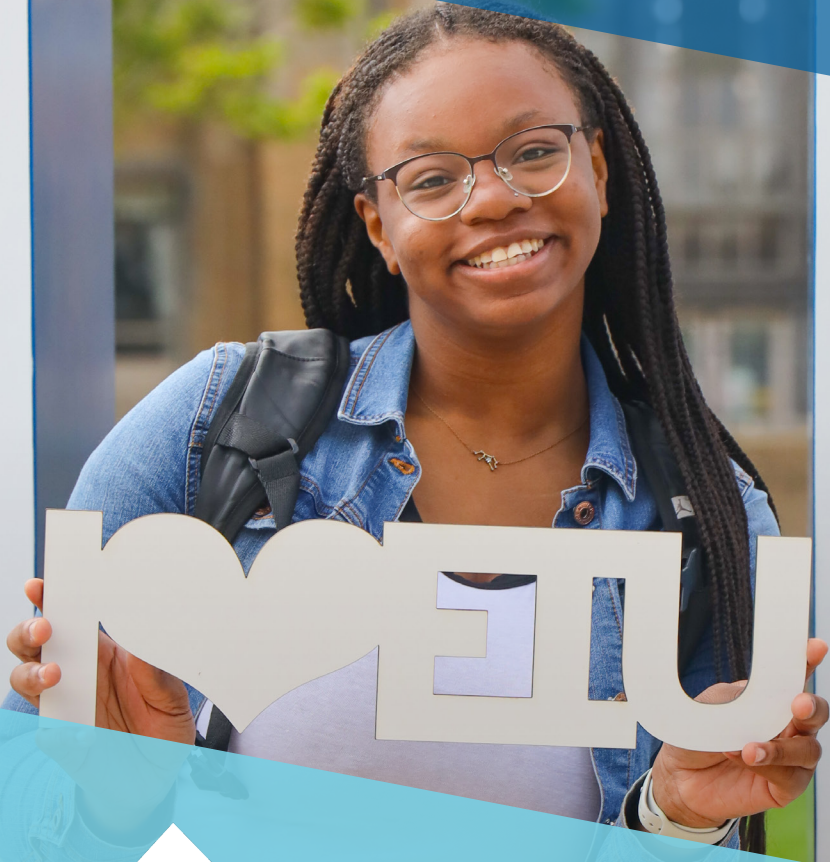
HCIR: Honors Council of the Illinois Region

NCUR: National Conference on Undergraduate Research

SRCA: Student Research & Creative Activity Conference

URSCA: Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Awards





**SANDRA & JACK PINE
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