

# Academic Outline of the Montclair State University Honors Program

Honors Sequence.....Minimum 8 courses

## A. Required Honors Courses

**Freshman Year**     **Honors Seminar in Great Books and Ideas Parts I and II**  
**(HONP 100, HONP 101)** Fulfills the general education requirement in writing/literature .....**6 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Twentieth Century Civilization**  
**(HONP 102)** Fulfills the general education requirement in American or European history.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Contemporary Civilization**  
**(HONP 103)** Fulfills the general education requirement in Contemporary Issues III.....**3 semester hours**

**Sophomore Year**     **Honors Seminar in Science**  
**(HONP 210)** Fulfills general education requirement in Natural/ Physical Science Lab.....**4semester hours**  
**(Students with required science courses in their majors may waive the Honors Seminar in Science)**

## B. Honors Electives (choose 3; students waiving the Science course choose 4 electives):

**Honors Seminar in Fractals and Infinity(HONP 104)** Fulfills the general education requirement for mathematics.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Computing(HONP 112)** Fulfills the general education requirement for computer science.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Creative Process(HONP 201)** Fulfills the general education requirement for fine and performing arts.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Contemporary Issues I (HONP211)** Fulfills the general education requirement for Contemporary Issues I .....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Contemporary Issues II (HONP 202)** Fulfills the general education requirement for Contemporary Issues II.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Ways of Knowing(HONP 301)** Fulfills the general education requirement for philosophy/religion.....**3 semester hours**

**Honors Seminar in Research Methods(HONP 302)** Designed to support departmental honors work.....**3 semester hours**

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# Montclair State University

## HONORS PROGRAM

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### **Q What are the benefits of the Montclair State University Honors Program?**

**A** The Montclair State University Honors Program provides outstanding students with the rich and challenging educational preparation they need to become social and professional leaders, whatever their choice of major or career. In the Honors Seminars students take part in an intellectually stimulating, interactive educational experience like that of highly selective liberal arts colleges. Honors students at Montclair State profit from their discussions with each other in the Seminars and they also benefit from the more varied student body and the wider choice of degree programs that only a large state college can offer.

### **Q Who is eligible for the Honors Program?**

**A** Entering freshman that meet two of the following criteria:

- 1) Rank in the top 10% of their high school class.
- 2) Score at least 600 on either the verbal or math SAT.
- 3) Achieve a combined SAT score of at least 1200.
- 4) Show unusual ability in the creative arts or exceptional leadership or other extraordinary accomplishment.

### **Q What are the requirements for an Honors Certificate?**

**A** A student must complete 8 courses of Honors Seminars mostly in the freshman and sophomore years. Most of these courses replace General Education courses required of all students.

### **Q What is the relationship between the Honors Program and work in my major?**

**A** Honors students may major in any discipline. Seminars in research methodology and ways of knowing in the junior year are designed to make it easier for students to do an independent research project in their major field of study. However, students do not have to do a senior thesis to receive an university honors diploma.

### **Q Will becoming an Honors student lower my grade point average or hurt my chances for getting into graduate or professional school?**

**A** Students do well in small seminars with inspiring teachers and stimulating fellow students. They have the opportunity to become well acquainted with faculty who can

give them helpful information and professional contacts. Students also receive a special enclosure with their transcripts that informs prospective employers and graduate programs about the quality of the program. An Honors Certificate signifies that the recipient has successfully completed a selective, intellectually demanding educational experience.

### **Q If I join the Honors Program what will I take in my freshman year?**

**A** Freshman who are accepted into the Honors Program take two interdisciplinary honors seminars in their first year at college: 1) Great Books and Ideas 2) Twentieth Century Civilization (each seminar is three credit hours each semester). They select their remaining courses in conference with the Director of Honors, a special academic advisor, or an advisor in their major department.

### **Q Can I join the Honors Program and then decide it's not for me?**

**A** A student may choose to withdraw from the Honors Program at the end of any semester without penalty. The course credit earned in Honors Seminars fulfills general education and graduation requirements whether or not the student completes the Honors Program.

### **Q How do I join the Honors Program?**

**A** Eligible entering freshman must fill out an application to the program (which includes a brief essay in some cases). They must also submit two letters of recommendation from knowledgeable evaluators.

### **Q How do I find out more?**

**A** Call or write:  
Dr. Gregory Waters  
Director, University Honors Program  
Montclair State University  
College Hall 121  
Montclair, New Jersey 07043  
(973) 655-7374

# Honors Program

Montclair State University  
121 College Hall  
Montclair, New Jersey 07043  
(973) 655-7374 (VOICE) (973) 655-7867 (FAX)

## Application

*Answers can be typewritten or printed **neatly**. Where questions are not applicable, write N/A. Applications are received at anytime. However, an early return can facilitate enrollment in the Honors Program for the semester following admission.*

*Note that this application is **separate and independent** from your **application for admission to the University**. You must be accepted for admission before acceptance to the Honors Program.*

## APPLICATION TO THE HONORS PROGRAM

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Name E-mail address

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Date of Birth Place

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Address

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City State Zip Code Telephone Number

Please check the item that applies to you.

- Currently enrolled in high school  
 Currently enrolled at Montclair State University  
 Currently enrolled at another college  
 None of the above, but I am... \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your current grade point average and class ranking

\_\_\_\_\_ Out of a possible \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Out of a possible \_\_\_\_\_  
GPA CLASS RANK

Please list your best scores on the SAT

\_\_\_\_\_ Verbal \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics

Please indicate the high school that you attend and your guidance counselor's name.

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High School Name

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Address

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City State Zip Code

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Guidance Counselor's Name Telephone Number

For career or post graduate education, I would like to:

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Please list any gifted, honors, accelerated, advance placement courses.

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Have you ever taken any Advance Placement Tests? If so, please indicate the courses and the score achieved on the exam.

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During my college experience, I expect my personal growth to include...

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Please list any honors or awards, academic or otherwise, received.

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Please list your extracurricular activities, interests, and work experiences.

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Please list a single community or extracurricular activity, which has been especially meaningful or important to you.

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If there is anything else that you would like to tell us, any unusual circumstance, or any special information about you that would be relevant, please describe it on a separate sheet and indicate **“Special Considerations”** at the top of the paper.

Please send with this application a **recent graded term paper or essay**, or an original typewritten essay of 500 to 1,000 words which reflects your thoughts on the following question: ***“If I had the opportunity to have a conversation with anyone in the world, past or present, who, would I choose and why?”*** The essay offers an opportunity for you to help us become acquainted with you in ways different from courses, grades, test scores, and other objective data. It enables you to demonstrate your creativity to display your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself.

Please submit two letters of teacher recommendations that outline your characteristics as a prospective honors student and have them send the letter directly to the Honors Program using the enclosed forms.

Although a personal interview is not mandatory for admission to the Honors Program, at the discretion of the Honors Program Advisory Board, an interview may be requested.

***I, submit this application to the Honors Program answering all questions to the best of my ability and with truthfulness.***

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Signature

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Date

All materials should be sent to:

Dr. Gregory Waters  
Director, University Honors Program  
Room 121 College Hall  
Montclair State University  
Upper Montclair, New Jersey 07043

Montclair State University  
**Honors Program**  
Student Waiver and Recommendation

Reference Statement Concerning: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name

I hereby waive my right to see this reference statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The student name above has applied for admission to the Honors Program. Will you please comment on his or her ability to participate in such a program, with special reference to the following areas: initiative, intellectual curiosity, cultural and social awareness, communication skills, and conceptual reasoning ability. Please also indicate how well you know the student and in what capacity. Please feel free to use the space provided or attach a letter on your school stationery.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

All materials should be sent to:  
Dr. Gregory Waters  
Director, University Honors Program  
Room 121 College Hall  
Montclair State University

Upper Montclair, NJ 07043

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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Title