

The Montclair State University Honors Program

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To apply for the honors program, go to

montclair.edu/honors/

Some Features of the MSU Honors Program

Honors courses

Our diverse honors curriculum features **8 honors courses** students take over their 4 years, including several honors elective options. Most of these courses satisfy MSU's General Education requirements.

Many of the very finest,
most experienced scholars,
researchers, and teachers
from across MSU teach for
the Honors Program



Montclair professor Jeffrey Miller among MacArthur 'genius' grant winners

Rodrigo Torrejon, North Jersey Record

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An associate professor at Montclair State University was among the 26 people granted a MacArthur Fellowship, often known as the "genius grants."

Jeffrey Alan Miller, an associate professor in the university's English department, received one of the coveted fellowships, which comes with \$625,000 in grant money, announced the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Miller, 35, is a scholar of early modern English literature and theology, the foundation's website says.



Jeffrey Miller was among the winners of the MacArthur Foundation 'genius' grant. (Photo: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation)

Miller's research — for which he was awarded the grant — focuses on "the emergence of key ideas about the role of faith in daily life and government among Reformation and Renaissance scholars."

In 2015, Miller announced that he had discovered the earliest known draft of the King James Bible, the most widely read book of all time. The draft dates as far back as 1604, when King James commissioned the translation of the Bible. The draft was penned by one of the translators who worked on the Bible, Miller said.

"Miller's expansive view of the writing process and of what constitutes a draft manuscript are changing our understanding of seminal works at the foundation of modern Christianity, philosophy, and literature," the foundation said on its website.



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**Honors class sizes are kept
small (15-18 students per class)**

– and you'll be surrounded by
other extraordinarily bright and
stimulating students

- For example, instead of taking the college composition courses - WRIT 105 and WRIT 106 - in their freshman year, Honors students take **HONP 100: Great Books and Ideas I** and **HONP 101: Great Books and Ideas II**.
- These two courses introduce literature and ideas from ancient and modern cultures. They are focused on intellectual enrichment rather than just writing instruction. They're fun, engaging, stimulating seminars.

- Other Honors courses cover General Education requirements in such areas as **Philosophy/Religion, Fine and Performing Arts, Mathematics, Computer Science, and Natural/Physical Science** .
- There are also Honors electives students can take in such subject areas as **Contemporary American Issues** and **Contemporary Issues in Science**.

Other Features of the Program

- Each semester, honors students have priority enrollment, which means they can register for courses before most other MSU students (including seniors).

Honors Scholarships

- Honors students can apply for special **honors scholarships** starting in March of their freshman year. Honors students can apply in their freshman, sophomore, and junior years for these one-year scholarships. Awards range between \$250 and \$3000.
- We awarded more than 30 honors scholarships last year.

Book Stipend

- Every honors student receives a \$60 MSU Bookstore stipend for book purchases for each honors course you take.
- For example, an honors student taking two honors courses in one semester, will receive a \$120 book stipend for that semester.

First-Year Housing

- First-year students have the opportunity to live in an honors community in **Dinallo Heights**, a recently-built residence hall on campus. (Some of our Honors students are also commuter students.)

Mission and Values

Frequently Asked Questions

Residence Halls

- [The Heights](#)
- [Bohn Hall](#)
- [Blanton Hall](#)
- [Freeman Hall](#)
- [Russ Hall](#)
- [Hawk Crossings](#)
- [The Village Apartments](#)
- [Frank Sinatra Hall](#)
- [Stone Hall](#)

Academic Calendar

Campus Map

Contact Us

Montclair State Guest House

[Montclair State](#) » [Residence Life](#) » [About Us](#) » [Residence Halls](#) » [The Heights](#)

The Heights

The Heights, Montclair State University's newest residence halls complex opened in the fall 2011. This is the first public-private partnership to be initiated under the 2009 NJ Economic Stimulus Act. It is located at the north end of campus.

Complex Highlights

- Project - 567, 271 square feet (includes 2 complexes and 24,216 SF of dining)
- Each complex includes 4 residential buildings and 2 floors of common area
- 1,978 total project beds (approximately 125 units or 250 beds per building)
- Unit types are single and shared bedroom units (no more than two students to a bathroom)
- Each building maintains one unit type. One complex maintains 2 buildings of shared and 2 buildings of single bedroom units. Another complex includes 3 buildings of shared and 1 building of single bedroom units.



Achievements at MSU

- MSU Honors students have recently served in important positions in the MSU student government; as editor of the student newspaper and literary magazine; and as members of the field hockey, football, soccer, and swim teams.
- They regularly attend study abroad programs and have won national academic competitions.

After You Graduate

Graduating with an Honors degree is a significant mark of distinction on our students' final transcripts and resumes. It attracts elite graduate schools, medical, law, and business schools, as well as top employers.

- Our students have continued their education at institutions such as Harvard Law School, Columbia University's School of Journalism, Yale University, and New York University. They pursue careers as filmmakers, art scholars, writers, musicians, lawyers, activists, business leaders, researchers, and master teachers.

My Role as Honors Program Director

I provide advising to honors students throughout their four years in the program. Along with the honors secretary, Chrystal Williams, I assist students in planning their honors curricula and help them to navigate the university. When students have academic or other problems to resolve, we're often the first people they contact because they know we're here for them.

I also provide support and guidance to students as they prepare applications for graduate, law, medicine, and business programs, resumes for job searches, and applications for competitive national scholarships like the Fulbright and Rhodes Scholarships.

Other Scholarship Programs

- MSU has other scholarship programs that are **not** associated with the Honors Program. These include a program for in-state students - the **Presidential Scholars Program** - and one for out-of-state students - the **National Student Scholarship**.

- While many honors students participate in one of these two scholarship programs, both programs are **separate and distinct from the Honors Program**. To find out more about these two programs, see:

montclair.edu/red-hawk-central/paying-for-college/scholarships/

**What distinguishes our
honors program above all
else is our range of courses**

**Here Are Some More
Specifics on MSU Honors
Program Courses**

Honors Program Courses

In their first year at MSU, honors students will usually take **four required honors courses**: **two** in the fall and **two** in the spring

Two Fall First-Year Honors Courses:

- **HONP 100: Seminar in Great Books and Ideas I** - A writing-intensive course on major works of literature and philosophy from ancient and medieval civilizations. Fulfills the General Education Communication: C1-Writing requirement (replaces WRIT 105)
- **HONP 102: Honors Seminar in 20th-Century Civilization**- Often taught by Social Science faculty. Fulfills the General Education K1 requirement in Social Science

Two Spring First-Year Honors Courses:

- **HONP 101: Great Books and Ideas II** – On major works in early modern to contemporary literature and philosophy. Fulfills the General Education Communication C2 - Literature requirement (replaces WRIT 106)
- **HONP 103: Honors Seminar in Contemporary Civilization.** Addresses important issues in the world today.

Student Choose 4 More Honors Elective Courses

After their first year, honors students will select courses such as...

- **HONP 104: Seminar in Fractals and Infinity** (fulfills the Gen Ed H-Mathematics requirement (not required for BFA majors))
- **HONP 112: Seminar in Computing** (fulfills the General Education G -Computer Science requirement)
- **HONP 210: Seminar in Science** (fulfills the Gen Ed I-Natural/Physical Science Laboratory requirement)

Qualifications for the Honors Program

Applicants should meet at least **two** of the following criteria to be accepted into the Honors Program:

- Rank in the top 10% of your high school class
- Best SAT score of at least 1250 or best ACT score of at least 26
- Extraordinary ability in the creative arts, exceptional commitment to leadership, or other similarly unique accomplishments
- A strong record of achievement in AP or IB courses

How To Apply to the MSU Honors Program

The online application is at

montclair.edu/honors/

Please apply soon!

For further info, call us at

973-655-7374 or email us at
williamsc@montclair.edu or
behlmanl@montclair.edu