Robert Donald Clark Honors College

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The Robert Donald Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon is a competitively enrolled, small liberal arts college of approximately 700 students. Its classes—limited to nineteen students—and four-year curriculum feature close interaction between students and faculty members. The Clark Honors College emphasizes creativity, interdisciplinary scholarship, and independent research.

The college's curriculum—lower-division courses, upper-division colloquia, and thesis courses—integrate the humanities, social sciences, and sciences and feature the study of cultures and issues from around the globe. Honors college courses are taught by its resident faculty as well as by specially selected faculty members from other campus schools and programs. Fulfilling the college's curriculum satisfies the general-education requirements mandated for all university students.

Each honors college student selects a major from the academic departments or professional schools of the university. Fifteen percent of honors students have more than one major. Every school and department at the university, from architecture and music to biology and business, enrolls Clark Honors College students pursuing majors in those fields.

The student’s undergraduate education culminates in the thesis, a required advanced research project completed in his or her major field, designed to help students achieve future success in graduate school, postgraduation careers, and civic commitments. The thesis embodies the defining characteristics of a Clark Honors College education:

- intellectual discipline
- independent judgment
- capacity to design and execute a complex project
- ability to focus and pursue a subject in depth
- skills of analysis, synthesis, and clear writing

The thesis is the culmination of work in a major—a natural outgrowth from and expression of the ideas, problems, and approaches taught in that discipline. It creatively applies the methods of the discipline and tests their power and limits. It reflects dialogue, common work, and apprenticeship with faculty members in their specialized fields of interest.

Honors college students are assessed honors college tuition, established yearly by Oregon's State Board of Higher Education. Complete tuition information is available on the honors college website. The honors college awards need-based tuition-remission scholarships based on the expected family contribution listed on a student’s Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Students and Faculty

Clark Honors College has fifteen resident faculty members who hold appointments in the college, and numerous affiliated faculty members drawn from the university's departments and schools, including, among others, history, English, geology, journalism and communication, and music and dance, and programs including comparative literature, medieval studies, and Latin American studies. The honors college faculty has earned local and national and international recognition for research, publication, and pedagogy, including grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Science Foundation.

Honors college students participate in a range of campus and community activities: student and university government and committees; the student newspaper, the *Oregon Daily Emerald*; University Theatre; *Ephemera*, the Clark Honors College creative arts journal; Clark Honors College Student Association; Oregon Student Public Interest Group (OSPIRG); School of Music and Dance productions; forensics (debate and individual events speaking); intramural and varsity athletics; and ROTC.

Many honors college alumni continue their education in graduate schools across the country and around the world. They study such diverse fields as law, architecture, medicine, molecular biology, and English language and literature. Other graduates go on to endeavors in such areas as public service, private enterprise, Teach for America, and the Peace Corps.

Facilities

The honors college is located in historic Chapman Hall on the west side of the University of Oregon campus, close to Knight Library.

Honors college facilities consist of a classroom, seminar room, faculty and administrative offices, lounge, kitchen, the Robert D. Clark Library, and the David E. Boyes Computing Laboratory. Incoming honors college students have residential facilities in the Global Scholars Hall on the east side of campus.

Entering the Clark Honors College

Clark Honors College seeks high-achieving students who will bring their own unique and diverse contributions to the student body. The admissions committee looks for evidence of academic scholarship, motivation, and creative critical thinking.

Application Procedure

General university application procedures, prerequisites, and requirements apply. Applicants to Clark Honors College must complete a single online application to apply to both the honors college and the University of Oregon at one time.

Students with an excellent academic record who have attended another higher-education institution, or who are enrolled in the university but not in the honors college, may apply for admission by submitting a Clark Honors College supplemental PDF application by January 15 for fall term admission. Students interested in winter term admission should contact the Clark Honors College Office of Admissions directly. Winter term admission is on a space-available basis. Spring term admission is not available.

International students who wish to apply must complete an International Undergraduate Application for Admission and a Clark Honors College supplemental PDF application by January 15 for fall term admission.

A complete Clark Honors College online ***or*** supplemental PDF application must include a short note of introduction, an essay, and a description of accomplishments. Supporting documents also required are two teacher evaluations, official high school transcripts, official college transcripts (if applicable), and official test scores. *Transcripts and test scores will be shared between UO and honors college admissions offices.*

The Clark Honors College online application, available August through January 15 for the following academic year, is part of the University of Oregon online application. The Clark Honors College supplemental PDF application and Clark Honors College Teacher Evaluation form are available from the websites for the honors college and the UO Office of Admissions.

Application Deadlines

Early notification deadline: November 1
Supporting documents due by November 7
Regular notification deadline: January 15
Supporting documents due by February 1

Deadlines to apply are the same for all applicants including domestic and international freshmen and transfer students.

Faculty

Monique Balbuena, associate professor (diaspora and multilingualism, Jewish, Latin American, and Maghrebi literatures). BA, 1988, MA, 1994, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro; PhD, 2003, California, Berkeley. (2004)

Louise M. Bishop, associate professor (Old English, medieval and Renaissance literature). BA, 1978, Fairleigh Dickinson; MA, 1980, PhD, 1984, Fordham. (1987)

Mark Carey, associate professor (Latin American and environmental history). BA, 1991, State University of New York, Potsdam; MA, 1998, Montana; PhD, 2005, California, Davis. (2010)

Mai-Lin Cheng, assistant professor (19th-century British literature). BA, 1993, Brown; PhD, 2006, California, Berkeley. (2008)

Frances B. Cogan, professor (Victorian, 19th-century literature). BA, 1969, MA, 1970, PhD, 1981, Oregon. (1981)

Joseph G. Fracchia, professor (European intellectual history). BA, 1972, California, Davis; MA, 1975, California, Santa Barbara; PhD, 1985, California, Davis. (1986)

David A. Frank, professor (rhetoric and communication); dean; director, forensics. BA, 1978, MA, 1979, Western Washington; PhD, 1982, Oregon. (1979)

Samantha Hopkins, associate professor (evolution and paleoecology of aplodontoid rodents). BS, 1999, Tennessee, Knoxville; PhD, 2005, California, Berkeley. (2007)

Ocean Howell, assistant professor (urban and architectural history). BA, 1997, MS, 2005, PhD, 2009, California, Berkeley. (2010)

Terry L. Hunt, professor

Vera Keller, assistant professor (history of science). BA, 2002, Harvard; PhD, 2008, Princeton. (2010)

Susanna Soojung Lim, associate professor (19th- and 20th-century Russian literature with focus on representations of East Asia). BA, 1996, MA, 1998, Korea; MA, 1999, PhD, 2006, California, Los Angeles. (2007)

Roxann Prazniak, associate professor (Chinese history, European intellectual history). BA, 1970, California, Berkeley; MA, 1973, San Francisco State; PhD, 1981, California, Davis. (2002)

Daniel Rosenberg, professor (European intellectual and cultural history, 18th century). BA, 1988, Wesleyan; MA, 1991, PhD, 1996, California, Berkeley. (2000)

Helen Southworth, associate professor (20th-century French and English literature, women's literature). BA, 1989, London; MA, 1991, PhD, 1999, Southern California. (2002)

Kelly Sutherland, assistant professor (marine biology). BS, 1999, Tufts; MSc, 2004, South Alabama; PhD, 2009, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. (2011)

Emeritus

Henry M. Alley, professor emeritus. BA, 1967, Stanford; MFA, 1969, PhD, 1971, Cornell. (1982)

The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.

Affiliated

Edward Awh, psychology

Gregory D. Bothun, physics

Elisabeth Chan, landscape architecture

Suzanne Clark, English

Shaul E. Cohen, geography

Jenifer Craig, dance

Ken DeBevoise, history

Dave Frohnmayer, law

Esther Hagenlocher, architecture

Sara D. Hodges, psychology

Garrett K. Hongo, creative writing

Loren Kajikawa, music

Michael E. Kellman, chemistry and biochemistry

Jeffrey S. Librett, German and Scandinavian

Daniel L. Miller, journalism and communication

Helen Neville, psychology

John Nicols, classics

Dorothee Ostmeier, German and Scandinavian

Alan W. Rempel, geological sciences

James M. Schombert, physics

Ellen K. Scott, sociology

Steven Shankman, English

Carol Stabile, journalism and communication

Courtney Thorsson, English

Nathan J. Tublitz, biology

Tuong Vu, political science

Glen R. Waddell, economics

Mark Whalan, English

W. Ed Whitelaw, economics

Lisa Wolverton, history

Mary E. Wood, English

Academic Requirements

Requirements in the honors college satisfy the general-education requirements that other University of Oregon students meet for graduation. Honors college faculty members advise honors college students concerning these requirements and mentor them concerning their academic choices. Students retain full responsibility for understanding and shaping their study programs.

Depending on test scores, students may use advanced placement or international baccalaureate credits toward honors college mathematics and science requirements, second-language requirements, applicable major requirements, multicultural requirements, or university electives. To earn a BS degree, students must complete one year of college-level mathematics, or the equivalent. Advanced placement and transfer credits may help fulfill either such a math requirement or the language requirement.

University and Major Requirements

Honors college requirements, which replace university general-education requirements, represent roughly one-third of a student's total four-year schedule. Before graduating, Clark Honors College students must also meet the requirements, listed elsewhere in this catalog, of their major department or professional school. They must maintain a 3.00 or better cumulative grade point average (GPA).

Honors College Degree Requirements

Honors College Requirement		
HC 199H	Special Studies: [Topic] [1]	1
History and Literature Requirements		
HC 221H	Honors College Literature	4
HC 222H	Honors College Literature	4
HC 231H	Honors College History	4
HC 232H	Honors College History	4
HC 223H	Honors College Literature	4
or HC 233H	Honors College History	
Mathematics and Science Requirements [2]		
HC 207H	Honors College Science [3]	
or HC 209H	Honors College Science	
One course in quantitative reasoning or mathematics [4]		4
Two additional approved mathematics or science courses [4]		8
Second Language Requirements [5]		
Demonstrate second-language proficiency equivalent to completion of second college year in second language		
Satisfy all requirements in university department, program, or school that offers a major leading to a BA or BS		
Multicultural Requirements		
Two courses chosen from two different categories, listed below:		
American cultures		
Identity, pluralism, and tolerance		
International cultures		
Colloquia Requirements [6]		
HC 421H	Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic]	4
HC 431H	Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]	4
HC 441H	Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]	4
Select two of the following:		
HC 421H	Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic]	
HC 424H	Honors College Identities Colloquium: [Topic]	
HC 431H	Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]	
HC 434H	Honors College International Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]	
HC 441H	Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]	
HC 444H	Honors College American Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]	
Thesis Requirements		
HC 408H	Workshop: [Topic] (Thesis Orientation) [7]	1-12
HC 477H	Thesis Prospectus [8]	2
Successful completion and defense of a thesis		

1. Clark Honors Introductory Program (CHIP) is the topic, offered only in the fall and required of incoming freshmen; transfer and visiting students may also choose to take the CHIP course. More information on the program may be found at honors.uoregon.edu.
2. Web-based courses do not fulfill this requirement.
3. Exempt majors and minors listed on honors college website.
4. Approved courses listed on the honors college website.
5. The second-language requirement is waived if a department, program, or school requires 90 or more credits of course work for a major leading to a BS degree (see Majors, Degrees, and Contexts Waiving Second-Language Requirements list). No case exists in which Clark Honors College language requirements replace departmental language requirements.
6. Recent topics include Madness in Society; The Literature of War; Cosmology; Latin American History; Language, Sustainable Communities, and Global Warming; and Physics and Politics of Global Energy Generation.

7 Course taken toward the end of their sophomore year or at the beginning of their junior year for an introduction to the thesis project.

8 Course taken at least two terms before intended graduation to formalize the thesis project.

Majors, Degrees, and Contexts Waiving Second-Language Requirement

- Accounting
- Biology
- Business administration
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Computer and information science
- Environmental science
- Environmental studies
- General science
- Geological sciences
- Human physiology
- Marine biology
- Material and product studies
- Music, only in cases in which the second language is not a requirement for the student's chosen degree
- Physics
- Product design
- Bachelor of architecture
- Bachelor of interior architecture
- Bachelor of landscape architecture
- Students pursuing a bachelor of fine arts degrees who choose to satisfy the BS mathematics or computer and information sciences proficiency requirement

Writing

The honors college is committed to excellence in writing. The core curriculum integrates instruction and practice in fundamental rhetorical skills—writing, reading, speaking, and listening—with the subject matter of the courses. Students who complete the honors college history and literature curricula with grades of mid-B or better in all courses satisfy the university writing requirement.

Courses

HC 199H. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 207H. Honors College Science. 4 Credits.
The scientific process as a mode of inquiry to gain insight into fundamental questions in the natural sciences. Includes discussions, lectures, demonstrations, laboratories, field trips.

HC 209H. Honors College Science. 4 Credits.
How science may be applied and misapplied in answering questions about nature and society. Includes discussions, demonstrations. laboratories, field trips. Primarily for nonscience students.

HC 221H. Honors College Literature. 4 Credits.
Literary history and modes of literary analysis and interpretation: premodern literature.

HC 222H. Honors College Literature. 4 Credits.
Literary history and modes of literary analysis and interpretation: modern literature.

HC 223H. Honors College Literature. 4 Credits.
Research in literature.

HC 231H. Honors College History. 4 Credits.
Introduction to methods of historical inquiry and to major historical trends in a global framework; focuses on premodern history.

HC 232H. Honors College History. 4 Credits.
Introduction to methods of historical inquiry and to major historical trends in a global framework; focuses on modern history.

HC 233H. Honors College History. 4 Credits.
Research in history.

HC 399H. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 401H. Research: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 403H. Thesis. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 404H. Internship: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 405H. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 406H. Special Problems: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 407H. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable. The 2-credit thesis seminar supports early work on the honors thesis.

HC 408H. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-12 Credits.
Topics include Thesis Orientation. Repeatable.

HC 409H. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 410H. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

HC 421H. Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Repeatable. Offered in a range of topics with an emphasis on arts and letters. Repeatable thrice when topic changes for a maximum of 16 credits.

HC 424H. Honors College Identities Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Topics focus on construction of collective identities (classes, genders, religions, sexual orientations), the emergence of representative voices, and the effects of prejudice, intolerance, and discrimination. Repeatable thrice for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes.

HC 431H. Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Offered in a range of topics with an emphasis on social science. Repeatable thrice when topic changes for a maximum of 16 credits.

HC 434H. Honors College International Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Topics focus on race, ethnicity, pluralism-monoculturalism, or prejudice-tolerance of international cultures, or may describe and analyze a worldview substantially different from current U.S. views. Repeatable thrice for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes.

HC 441H. Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Offered in a range of topics with an emphasis on science. Repeatable thrice when topic changes for a maximum of 16 credits.

HC 444H. Honors College American Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Topics focus on multiple American racial and ethnic groups—African American, Chicano or Latino, Native American, Asian American, European American—from historical and comparative perspectives. Repeatable thrice for a maximum of 16 credits when subject changes.

HC 477H. Thesis Prospectus. 2 Credits.
Students create prospectus, exchange critiques and ideas, and present research in mock defenses with thesis advisor present.