

Honors General Education Courses

The Wood Honors College curriculum is designed to create an active, engaged community of life-long learners. Honors general education courses are distinguished by their elevated levels of energy, participation, motivation, and expectations on the part of Honors students and faculty. Honors classes are limited to 25 students to offer greater opportunities for Honors students to interact with faculty and their peers. Smaller class sizes also allow Honors faculty and students to focus on innovative active-learning strategies—such as debates, discussions, simulations, and explorations—that provide appropriate academic challenges for motivated, high-ability students.

Honors general education courses support the Wood Honors College's commitment to promoting scholarship, leadership, and civic engagement and provide a foundation for the successful completion of the upper-division Honors curriculum, which focuses on interdisciplinary inquiry and independent and collaborative research and service-learning. Honors general education courses are distinguished by their emphasis on one or more of the following:

- **Interdisciplinary learning:** Honors general education courses help students develop an understanding of the connections among disciplines and the multiple perspectives from which subjects can be examined.
- **Research methods:** Honors general education courses provide opportunities for students to discover how knowledge in a discipline is created through an exploration of research strategies, original or primary sources, and debates in the discipline.
- **Leadership skills:** Honors general education courses help students develop their leadership skills through group projects, service-learning activities, and professional development activities.
- **Civic engagement:** Honors general education courses include experiences that strengthen students' civic engagement by increasing their understanding of and interest in current affairs and/or by promoting action outside the classroom. Whenever possible, Honors general education courses include experiences that extend teaching and learning beyond the Shippensburg University campus.
- **Technology-enhanced learning:** Honors general education courses introduce students to state-of-the-art hardware and software technologies. They also facilitate students' understanding of how to integrate new media with more traditional resources into innovative research projects and effective presentations.