

Robert Donald Clark Honors College

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The Robert Donald Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon is a competitively enrolled college of approximately 1,400 students. Its classes—limited to 19 students—and four-year curriculum features close interaction between students and faculty members. The Clark Honors College offers a liberal arts curriculum with all the advantages of a large research institution.

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

The Clark Honors College is the university's honor college: honors college students enroll in every school and department at the university, from architecture and music to biology and business. Each honors college student selects a major from the academic departments or professional schools of the university. Twenty-one percent of honors students have more than one major.

An honors college undergraduate education culminates in a thesis project completed in students' major field. The thesis project prepares students for success in multiple career paths, from industry and government to graduate and professional school. The thesis project is the culmination of a Clark Honors College education, emphasizing curiosity, independent research, the capacity to design and execute a complex project, and the ability to analyze and present the results of their research both in writing and in an oral presentation in a clear and compelling manner.

Students pay honors college tuition, known as differential tuition, established yearly by the University of Oregon Board of Trustees. 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). Scholarships covering the cost of differential tuition are offered through the Office of Admissions and the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships based on demonstrated financial need as determined by the FAFSA.

Facilities

The Clark Honors College is located in historic Chapman Hall on the west side of the University of Oregon campus, close to Knight Library. Renovated in 2018, the building provides classrooms, student common areas, and a library.

The honors college academic residential community (ARC) is located on the east side of campus in the Global Scholars Hall and the adjacent

Justice Bean Hall. The ARC offers academic and social programming and access to campus resources that support undergraduate research.

Programs

Calderwood Seminars in Public Writing (CSPW)

CSPWs are small (12 student) writing-intensive seminars targeted at juniors and seniors that teach students how to translate complex arguments and professional jargon to a broad audience. In these courses, students engage in forms of writing very different from the academic writing done in most courses. The seminars allow students to work collaboratively in the writing and peer-editing process. The fast-paced exchanges of drafts between writers and editors and the deadline-driven structure of the course simulate the work environment of professional journalists. Intensive discussion, feedback, and shared commitment to the clear expression of ideas create camaraderie and cooperation among student writers.

3 + 3 Program

The 3 + 3 Program enables highly talented and motivated honors college students interested in a legal career to complete both a bachelor's degree and a doctor of jurisprudence at the University of Oregon in six years rather than the usual seven. All honors college students who meet the minimum requirements are guaranteed admission to the UO School of Law. Advantages of the program include

- Saving a year's tuition and living expenses associated with undergraduate education
- Getting an early start on establishing a professional career
- Avoiding the time, effort, and expense of applying to multiple law schools

Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

Each term, Clark Honors College offers one or two course sections of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, which brings together honors students and incarcerated men and women to study as peers in a seminar behind prison walls. The course meets once a week in Salem, Oregon (the state capitol), at a major correctional institution. Each class includes as many as 12 "outside" (Clark Honors College) students and the same number of "inside" (incarcerated) students.

CHC/UO's Knight Campus Undergraduate Scholars Program

In partnership with UO's Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact, the Clark Honors College sponsors two mentored research opportunities for second- and third-year CHC students majoring in the natural sciences in a Knight Campus-affiliated lab. Each selected CHC Scholar receives \$8,000 in support.

Oregon Health and Science University Internships

Each year Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), a leading, nationally ranked medical teaching school, hosts an internship program in its Department of Cell, Developmental, and Cancer Biology. A partnership between the Clark Honors College and OHSU reserves two intern spots exclusively for CHC students. This partnership provides an invaluable firsthand learning experience for undergraduate students considering a medical career.

Oregon Forensics

Oregon Forensics provides students with unique opportunities to develop advocacy, critical thinking, and collaboration skills, with instructional and competitive opportunities in debate and mock trial. All students are welcome, regardless of experience or background. Students learn to translate and communicate what they learn in the classroom for different contexts and audiences. Students acquire and refine the ability to carefully evaluate complex and often controversial issues from varied points of view, guided by the latest in scholarly research. The program emphasizes education, community, and competition. Oregon Forensics enjoys considerable competitive success, including a 5th National Championship in debate in 2022.

Entering the Clark Honors College

Clark Honors College seeks high-achieving, academically motivated students who will make diverse and unique contributions to its community. The admissions committee looks for evidence of academic scholarship, motivation, and creative and independent critical thinking.

Application Procedure

General university application procedures, prerequisites, and requirements apply. First-year applicants to Clark Honors College may complete the UO's online application, the Common Application, or the Coalition Application to apply to both the honors college and the University of Oregon at the same time. Transfer students with an excellent academic record who have attended another higher-education institution should complete the University of Oregon's online transfer application. International students who wish to apply must complete an International Undergraduate Application for Admission.

Current UO students may apply for admission as lateral transfers by completing the Clark Honors College application on Duck Web. Applications are accepted for winter, spring, and fall terms, subject to the specific application windows and corresponding deadlines for lateral transfers.

Application Deadlines

Freshman applications:

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

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

Lateral Transfer Applications for Current UO Students:

Winter term admission deadline: October 15
Spring term admission deadline: January 15
Fall term admission deadline: March 15

Faculty

Dare Baldwin, Professor, Psychology

Corinne Bayerl, Senior Instructor I, Comparative Literature, German/Scandinavian

Anita Chari, Associate Professor, Political Science

Nicole Dudukovic, Senior Instructor I, Neurosciences Major Director, Psychology

Daphne Gallagher, Senior Instructor I, Clark Honors College

Alison Gash, Associate Professor, Political Science

Lindsay Hinkle, Instructor, Clark Honors College

Trond Jacobsen, Instructor, Director of Forensics, Clark Honors College

Ian McNeely, Professor, History, European Studies, German & Scandinavian

Brian McWhorter, Professor, School of Music and Dance

Michael Moffitt, Professor, School of Law

Kate Mondloch, Professor, History of Art & Architecture

Barbara Mossberg, Professor of Practice in Literature, Clark Honors College

Lisa Munger, Instructor, Clark Honors College

Carol Paty, Professor, Earth Sciences, Physics

Elizabeth Raisanen, Officer of Admin, Clark Honors College

Angela Rovak, Office of Admin, Clark Honors College

Casey Shoop, Senior Instructor I, Clark Honors College

Carol Stabile, Professor, Women & Gender Studies

Lisa Wolverton, Professor, History

Emeritus Faculty

Henry M. Alley, Professor emeritus.

Louise M. Bishop, Associate Professor emerita.

Joseph G. Fracchia, Professor emeritus.

David Frank, Professor emeritus.

Roxann Prazniak, Professor emerita.

Academic Requirements

Requirements in the honors college satisfy the core-education requirements that other University of Oregon students meet for graduation. Honors college faculty and professional advisors 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 as well as transfer credits from other higher education institutions toward honors college outside course requirements, second-language requirements, applicable major requirements, cultural literacy requirements, or university electives. To earn a BS degree, students must complete one year of college-level mathematics or the equivalent. Advanced placement, international baccalaureate, 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 core-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).

Clark Honors College students who have completed the CHC#core#education requirements (HC 101H, 221H, 231H, 241H, and 301H; Area of Inquiry approved courses outside the CHC in Arts and Letters, Social Science, and Science (one course in each area); an approved quantitative reasoning course; and 20 credits in upper division CHC Colloquia) have fulfilled the university's Area of Inquiry requirements. Should a student leave the CHC after successful completion of all of these requirements, the student will retain their clearance of the university's Area of Inquiry requirements.

Honors College Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Foundations in Liberal Arts Inquiry		
HC 101H	Liberal Arts: [Topic]	4
200-level Disciplinary Requirements		
HC 221H	Arts and Letters Inquiry: [Topic]	4
HC 231H	Social Science Inquiry: [Topic]	4
HC 241H	Scientific Inquiry: [Topic]	4
Research and Writing Requirement		
HC 301H	Research and Writing: [Topic]	4
Outside Course Requirements		
	One course in quantitative reasoning or mathematics from the UO approved Bachelor of Science list	4
	One additional Science course from the UO approved Areas of Inquiry list	4
	One additional Social Science course from the UO approved Areas of Inquiry list	4
	One additional Arts and Letters course from the UO approved Areas of Inquiry list	4
Second-Language Requirements ¹		
	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	
Cultural Literacy Requirements		8
	University cultural literacy requirement ²	
Colloquia Requirements ⁷		
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
	Any two additional colloquia ⁴	8
Thesis Requirements		
HC 277H	Thesis Orientation	2

HC 477H	Thesis Prospectus ³	2
Successful completion and defense of a thesis		

- 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.
- Designated honors college colloquia carry a supplemental course number if they satisfy one of the below categories—, Honors College International Cultures Colloquium: [Topic] (HC 434H), Honors College American Cultures Colloquium: [Topic] (HC 444H)—or any approved (<http://catalog.uoregon.edu/genedcourses/>) UO courses may be used to satisfy the multicultural/cultural literacy requirement.
- Course taken at least one term before intended graduation to formalize the thesis project.
- Students may substitute four credits of independent thesis research (403), taken within or outside the honors college, in place of an elective colloquium. Independent research credits may be taken P/ NP

Majors, Degrees, and Contexts Waiving Second-Language Requirement

- Accounting
- Biology
- Business administration
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Computer science
- Data science
- Earth sciences
- Environmental science
- Environmental studies
- General science
- Human physiology
- Math and computer science
- Marine biology
- Music, only in cases in which the second language is not a requirement for the student's chosen degree (Note: The second language requirement is not waived for General Music and Popular Music concentrations)
- Bachelor of Music in Music Education
- Music Composition
- Music Performance
- Music Technology
- Neuroscience
- Jazz Studies
- Physics
- Product design
- Bachelor of architecture
- Bachelor of interior architecture
- Bachelor of landscape architecture
- Students pursuing a bachelor of fine arts degrees (students must still fulfill the BFA Language or Math/Science 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 lower-division courses (HC 101H, HC 221H, HC 231H, and HC 241H) as well as HC 301H with a grade point average of 3.00 or better in all five courses satisfy the university's writing requirement if they withdraw from the honors college.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only an example of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways to navigate the CHC curriculum. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them. The Robert D. Clark Honors College is not a major. Students who follow the honors college curriculum fulfill all of the University of Oregon's core education requirements. Honors college requirements must be taken for a letter grade, unless pass/no pass is the only option. In addition, only courses passed with grades of C– or better will fulfill honors college requirements.

Bachelor of Arts

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
HC 101H	Liberal Arts: [Topic]	4	
First term of first-year second-language sequence			5
Quantitative Reasoning Course		4	Non-HC course with >4 or >5 core education designation
Elective or Major Course			4
Credits			17
Winter			
HC 231H	Social Science Inquiry: [Topic]	4	
Second term of first-year second-language sequence			5
Arts & Letters Course		4	Non-HC course with >1 core ed designator
Elective or Major Course			4
Credits			17
Spring			
HC 221H	Arts and Letters Inquiry: [Topic]	4	
Third term of first-year second-language sequence			5
Social Science Course		4	Non-HC Course with >2 core ed designation

Elective or Major Course		4
Credits		17
Total Credits		51

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
HC 241H	Scientific Inquiry: [Topic] (HC Disciplinary Courses Complete)	4	
First term of second-year second-language sequence			4
Science Course		4	Non - HC course with >3 or >4 core ed
Elective or Major Course			4
Credits			16
Winter			
HC 301H	Research and Writing: [Topic]	4	HC Research & Writing Complete
Second term of second-year second-language sequence			4
Elective and Major Courses			8
Credits			16
Spring			
Third term of second-year second-language sequence			4
HC 277H	Thesis Orientation	2	Completion of HC second-language requiremer
Elective and Major Courses			8
Credits			14
Total Credits			46
Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
HC 421H	Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic]	4	
Elective and Major Courses			12
Credits			16
Winter			
HC 431H	Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]	4	
Elective and Major Courses			12
Credits			16
Spring			
HC 477H	Thesis Prospectus	2	
Elective and Major Courses			12
Credits			14
Total Credits			46

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
HC 441H	Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]	4	
Elective and Major Courses		12	
Credits		16	
Winter			
HC 421H	Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic]	4	
or			
HC 431H	or Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 434H	or Honors College International Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 441H	or Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 444H	or Honors College American Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]		
Elective and Major Courses		12	
Credits		16	
Spring			
HC 421H	Honors College Arts and Letters Colloquium: [Topic] (Completion of HC colloquium requirements)	4	
or			
HC 431H	or Honors College Social Science Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 434H	or Honors College International Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 441H	or Honors College Science Colloquium: [Topic]		
or			
HC 444H	or Honors College American Cultures Colloquium: [Topic]		
Thesis defense	Thesis defended		
Elective and Major Courses		12	
Credits		16	
Total Credits		48	

Courses

HC 101H. Liberal Arts: [Topic]. 4 Credits.

This course will introduce students to the intellectual culture of liberal arts scholarship and provide a foundation in academic reading, analysis, and writing.

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. Arts and Letters Inquiry: [Topic]. 4 Credits.

Introduction to critical inquiry in Arts and Letters fields such as literature, philosophy, language, religion, and the visual and performing arts. In this writing-intensive course students will use disciplinary methodologies to develop skills in evidence-based argument.

HC 222H. Honors College Arts and Letters. 4 Credits.

Literary history and modes of literary analysis and interpretation: modern literature.

HC 223H. Honors College Arts and Letters. 4 Credits.

Research in literature.

HC 231H. Social Science Inquiry: [Topic]. 4 Credits.

Introduction to critical inquiry in Social Science fields such as history, economics, anthropology, sociology, political science, law, business, geography, communication, and education. In this writing-intensive course students will use disciplinary methodologies to develop skills in evidence-based argument.

HC 232H. Honors College Social Science. 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 Social Science. 4 Credits.

Research in history.

HC 241H. Scientific Inquiry: [Topic]. 4 Credits.

Introduction to critical inquiry in science fields such as chemistry, earth science, biology, mathematics, physics, engineering, neuroscience, biological anthropology, data science, and human physiology. In this writing-intensive course students will use disciplinary methodologies to develop skills in evidence-based argument.

HC 277H. Thesis Orientation. 2 Credits.

Introduction to the Clark Honors College thesis process; provides an overview of early steps and preparatory activities for the thesis.

HC 301H. Research and Writing: [Topic]. 4 Credits.

An introduction to research including development of research questions, methodology, analysis, and presentation of results.

Prereq: HC 221H, HC 231H, HC 241H.

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 twice for a maximum of 16 credits.

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 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.