The Barrett Honors College

honors.asu.edu

Mark Jacobs, PhD, Dean

MISSION

The Barrett Honors College is home to many of ASU’s nationally ranked scholars. It is a living and learning community of scholars, caring advisors, and enthusiastic faculty. The Barrett Honors College is unique in the nation as an excellent residential liberal arts college with the vast program choices and resources of a vibrant Research Extensive institution. This powerful combination promotes and enables the best education possible for intellectually engaged students from Arizona, from America, and from the world.

The college offers talented, motivated students educational opportunities designed to enrich and further their personal academic and career goals. It is a portal through which academically talented students gain unique access to the university’s human and physical resources. Transdisciplinary in nature, the college develops curricular and other learning opportunities to meet general and disciplinary undergraduate educational objectives. The college supports undergraduate research, encourages study abroad, guides students to relevant internships, and mentors applicants for undergraduate research, encourages study abroad, guides students to relevant internships, and mentors applicants for graduate assistantships.

The Barrett Honors College serves students seeking degrees at the East campus, in southeast Mesa, Tempe campus, and the West campus, in northwest Phoenix. Students across the university take advantage of the university’s full resources with the assurance of consistently distinguished teaching and research and with commensurately rigorous expectations for performance.

Students planning to seek any academic major may apply to the Barrett Honors College. Admission is by separate application directly to the Honors College.

CURRICULUM

Students seeking to graduate from the Barrett Honors College must also graduate from a disciplinary college. The ASU honors curriculum normally allows students to finish all requirements within the 120 semester hours of credit usually required for graduation. Thirty six of those credits are honors courses—18 lower division and 18 upper division.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Lorraine W. Frank Office of National Scholarship Advisement

The Lorraine W. Frank Office of National Scholarship Advisement assists students by identifying nationally competitive programs appropriate to each person’s intellectual and career goals, nurturing these prospective applicants, and advancing their candidacy. This office, administered by the college, serves the entire ASU community. ASU students regularly earn distinction in the most rigorous and prestigious scholarship competitions. Many pursue enhanced degree programs and research projects under the auspices of Goldwater or Truman Scholarships. Other students undertake postgraduate study in the United States and abroad as Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, Udall, National Science Foundation, or Mellon Scholars. Many others have been recognized by a range of postgraduate awards, fellowships, and assistantships. This office does not administer any need- or merit-based student financial assistance. For more information, call 480/965-5894.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Undergraduate research and creative opportunities are available across many disciplinary programs, centers, and institutes at ASU. The Barrett Honors College maintains lists of current opportunities, available by accessing the college’s Web site at honors.asu.edu. In addition, the college actively seeks new opportunities matching student training with emerging research on campus.

Study Abroad

Students in the Barrett Honors College (BHC) have exclusive access to study abroad programs that significantly enhance their educational experience. Directed and taught by BHC faculty, these programs usually occur during the first summer session and last between five and six and a half weeks and allow students to earn honors credit while overseas. The three current programs offer students the privilege
of studying in several of the most significant and dynamic cities in Europe. The London, Dublin, and Edinburgh programs have been offered since 1995, the Paris and Loire Valley program since 1998, and the Athens, Rome, and Dubrovnik program since 2000. The International Programs Office offers semester- and year-long programs abroad for students who desire a fuller experience. Often, students who have participated in one of the BHC summer programs realize the major benefits of studying abroad and choose to continue through extended programs.

Internships/Mentorships/Opportunities

Students in the Barrett Honors College may participate in special internship opportunities—in government, industry, and the private sector—throughout metropolitan Phoenix. The college maintains a database of special opportunities, including community service and international and cultural events. For more information, call 480/727-7659.

Events/Programming

Students enrolled in the Barrett Honors College are given special access when important contributors to contemporary thought visit ASU. Each year the college hosts the university’s premier scholar-in-residence program, the Centennial Lecture. Past guests include novelist Carlos Fuentes, paleoanthropologist Meave Leakey, American Indian author N. Scott Momaday, Pulitzer Prize winning author David Halberstam, prolific and wide-ranging African American author and National Book Award recipient Charles Johnson, and playwright Edward Albee, a prominent innovator in modern American drama.

The college is also home to the John J. Rhodes Chair, designed to bring to the college persons who have significantly contributed to civic life and distinguished themselves as public service leaders. Students have unique opportunities to engage intellectually with these outstanding visiting lecturers. In 1998, the college was honored to have Dr. Henry A. Kissinger serve as the inaugural chair. American Indian scholar Donald Lee Fixico was the 2002 Rhodes Lecturer, followed by Jean Strause, notable biographer of J. P. Morgan in 2003, and world-renowned astronomer David Levy in 2004.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

The Barrett Honors College and all its facilities and services are fully available to every student, regardless of where he or she lives. The Honors Halls of Residence offer students an integrated living-learning environment. The Barrett Honors College has its own faculty and academic advisors to serve all honors students. Classrooms, recreational and study lounges, and a state-of-the-art computing lab make up the principal facilities of the college.

Students enrolled in the Barrett Honors College receive priority at preregistration and have extended checkout privileges in the campus libraries. Honors courses in disciplinary departments are typically limited to 25 students. Honors courses (with the prefix HON) are usually limited to 19.

Students receive transcript recognition for lower-division honors studies. Students who meet all upper-division requirements of both their disciplinary college and the Barrett Honors College receive transcript recognition of that accomplishment, as well as special acknowledgment during graduation ceremonies and collegiate honors convocations.

Participants in the honors college have diverse interests and strong records of success. Many are accepted into the nation’s finest graduate and professional programs, including Chicago, Cornell, Harvard, Michigan, MIT, Northwestern, Stanford, UC-Berkeley, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Yale. Many students have published portions of their honors theses and have presented their work at national and regional meetings of scientific and honors societies.

ADMISSION

Students who have demonstrated high levels of academic achievement in high school or college may apply for admission to the Barrett Honors College. All candidates for admission must file a separate application to the college.

Applicants are evaluated on the basis of their high school GPA (Arizona Board of Regents GPA based on 16 competency courses), high school class rank, and performance on the SAT or ACT; as well as talents that contribute to leadership and community service. Continuing ASU or transfer students are evaluated on their college GPA.

Application forms and additional information about the college and its activities are available by calling 480/965-2359 or by accessing the Web site at honors.asu.edu.

RETENTION

Honors students must maintain high standards of academic performance and show progress toward completion of graduation requirements in their disciplinary majors and in the Barrett Honors College. Eighteen semester hours of honors courses must be completed by the time a student completes 60 hours of course work, for a student to remain in good standing. An additional 18 semester hours of upper-division courses and a thesis or creative project must be completed before graduation. Students transferring into the Barrett Honors College with 60 semester hours must complete 21 honors credits and a thesis or creative project.

The GPA requirement for graduation is 3.40 (4.00=A). Students who fall below this standard but are above 3.00 will receive reminders of this requirement. Students who have fallen below a 3.00 GPA after 45 semester hours are placed on probation and must raise their GPA to at least 3.00 to remain in the college.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Honors College course requirements may be met in a variety of ways. There are two specific required courses for first year students. Only courses in which a student receives a grade of “C” (2.00) or higher may be used to meet the Barrett Honors College requirements.

Those entering the college as lower-division students must take 18 lower-division honors credits, which include HON 171 and 172, The Human Event. This cross-disciplinary seminar acquaints them with ideas that form the foundation of a university education and emphasizes critical thinking, discussion, and writing. Barrett Honors College
students complete HON 171 and 172 during their first two semesters.

Those who enter as upper-division students must take 21 honors credits, including a required 300-level honors course. Junior-level seminar courses introduce them to critical thinking, discussion, and writing in a topical area chosen by the instructor. It is expected that all students complete this course no later than the first or second semester after transferring.

Departmental courses carrying footnote number 19 in the Schedule of Classes are limited to honors students and others who receive special permission from the instructor to enroll. Enrollment in these courses is limited. Compared to their non-honors equivalents, these courses are designed to offer a richer, more complex intellectual experience appropriate to the discipline and the level of the course for all students enrolled. Other disciplinary honors courses group honors students in small cohorts to work on research projects of common interest.

Departmental courses carrying footnote number 18 in the Schedule of Classes allow honors students to contract with the instructor of designated non-honors courses to earn honors credit by pursuing enrichment activities, which may include supplemental sessions with the instructor. Footnote 18 contracts must be filed during the first four weeks of class and completed during the semester in which the course is offered. Each contract form offers guidelines to aid students and faculty in developing appropriate contracts.

Course numbers listed in the Schedule of Classes as 298, 492 Honors Directed Study, 493 Honors Thesis, 497 Honors Colloquium, and all classes with the HON prefix are reserved for students in the Barrett Honors College and always carry footnote 19. Students may receive credit for more than one of each of these courses in a given department.

Departmental courses with the number 493 are reserved for honors students completing their honors theses and creative projects. A student may enroll for these courses only with the approval of the sponsoring academic department and of the faculty member who serves as the student’s thesis director. Course numbers listed in the Schedule of Classes as 493 fulfill the student’s upper-division literacy and critical inquiry (L) General Studies requirement.

There are certain courses that carry automatic honors credit. These include ENG 105 (any section) and CHM 117 and 118, MAT 300, PHY 201, and PHY 333, when taken by students with 45 or fewer semester hours also carry automatic honors credit, as long as the student receives a grade “A” (4.00) or “B” (3.00). Graduate level courses automatically earn honors credit, but credit toward graduation must be approved by the department and dean of the college in which the student majors.

**HONORS TRANSCRIPT RECOGNITION**

All courses used to fulfill lower-division or upper-division/graduation requirements for the Barrett Honors College must carry earned letter grades of at least “C” (2.00). A “Y” grade meets college requirements only for HON 492 Honors Directed Study and HON 493 Honors Thesis.

**Lower Division**

As a lower-division honors student, 18 semester hours of honors course work must be completed within 60 earned semester hours with a cumulative ASU GPA greater than or equal to 3.40 (4.00 = A). These must include HON 171 and 172.

Students may apply upper-division honors course work toward lower-division requirements; however, those classes may not also be used to meet the Barrett Honors College upper-division/graduation requirements.

After 60 semester hours, a review of course work and GPA will be completed to determine whether the student may continue in the Barrett Honors College. Lower-division transcript recognition will be posted for those continuing honors students with a GPA of 3.40 or higher.

**Upper Division**

Upper-division status is attained in one of two ways (1) satisfactory completion of lower-division course and GPA requirements, or (2) transfer into the Barrett Honors College with at least 60 semester hours. Students who enter having completed the lower-division requirements must complete 18 upper-division honors credits. Those who transfer in with 60 or more credits must complete 21 upper-division credits, one of which is an honors seminar (HON 394). All students must complete an honors thesis or creative project. Three to six of the upper-division credits must be honors thesis research (HON 492 optional, HON 493 required). Six of the upper-division honors credits must be outside the major.

**Graduation Requirements**

To graduate through the Barrett Honors College, students must

1. complete all honors course requirements;
2. complete all required semester hours of honors course work with a grade of “C” (2.00) or higher (a “Y” grade is allowed for HON 492 and HON 493) unless otherwise provided for by the Barrett Honors College and the college of the student’s major;
3. complete ASU graduation requirements in an academic major; and
4. earn a cumulative ASU GPA greater than or equal to 3.40 (4.00 = A).

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND LAW**

Students enrolled in Barrett Honors College may pursue the certificate in Philosophy, Politics, and Law (PPL). This interdisciplinary program affords an opportunity to engage in a focused program of study that brings analytical rigor to bear on the philosophical issues involved in law and politics. The concentration comprises six courses (18 semester hours), two of which are offered through Barrett Honors College. One of these courses, normally taken in the student’s second year at ASU, is a seminar on law, justice, and

morality (HON 310); the second is a junior-senior seminar on theories of justice, or a related topic in philosophy, politics, and law, that entails an extended paper (HON 410). The remaining four courses must be approved by the PPL Council and selected from courses regularly offered in philosophy, political science, and other areas.

The PPL Council consists of the PPL director and several members of the ASU faculty whose research and teaching focus on political, legal, and moral philosophy. ASU has exceptional resources in this area, with more than a dozen faculty members—in the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Political Science, Barrett Honors College, the College of Law, and other departments—working in this field. Among them are several professors who have won teaching awards and national or international honors for their scholarship.

The PPL Program aims to sharpen the critical, conceptual, analytical skills that law schools and graduate programs in philosophy, political science, and other fields require. By engaging students in the analysis of classical and contemporary political, legal, and moral concerns, moreover, PPL hopes to prepare them for public service, whether it be as lawyers or scholars, in government or in watchdog groups, or simply as active and responsible citizens.

Certificate Requirements

**Required courses**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HON 310</td>
<td>Justice and Law</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 410</td>
<td>Philosophy, Politics, and Law</td>
<td>3</td>
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Choose four of the following elective courses

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHI 307</td>
<td>Philosophy of Law</td>
<td>H/U</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI 309</td>
<td>Social and Political Philosophy</td>
<td>H/U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI 310</td>
<td>Environmental Ethics</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI 335</td>
<td>History of Ethics</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 340</td>
<td>History of Political Philosophy I</td>
<td>H/U/H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 341</td>
<td>History of Political Philosophy II</td>
<td>H/U/H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 346</td>
<td>Problems of Democracy</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 442</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 445</td>
<td>Asian Political Thought</td>
<td>S/B, G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 471</td>
<td>Constitutional Law I</td>
<td>S/B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 472</td>
<td>Constitutional Law II</td>
<td>S/B</td>
</tr>
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Total: 18

In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of the program, students may count no more than three courses from any one department toward the PPL certificate. The PPL director maintains a list of approved courses, and students may petition the council to add a course to that list. PPL students are encouraged but not required to write their honors thesis in the field and under the supervision of a PPL faculty member.
HON 375 Science and the Modern Self. (3)
fall and spring
Concentrates on texts of the 19th and 20th centuries; explores how scientific discourse determines our notions of self. Lecture, discussion, seminar.
General Studies: L/HU
HON 376 Law, Literature, and Life. (3)
fall and spring
Multidisciplinary approach to the subject of law, examining it through literature, history, and legal philosophy. Seminar.
General Studies: L/HU
HON 377 Nature in Context. (3)
fall
General Studies: L/HU
HON 378 Culture and Society in England, Ireland, and Scotland. (3)
summer
Chronologically explores texts, events, and sites for historical and cultural impact on development of England, Ireland, Scotland, and their countries' relationships with each other. Seminar.
General Studies: HU, G, H
HON 379 Romantics, Victorians, and Moderns. (3)
summer
Examines the development and impact of various literatures, arts, and ideas in England, Ireland, and Scotland from the Romantic through the Modern period. Seminar.
General Studies: HU, G
HON 394 Special Topics. (3)
fall, spring, summer
HON 410 Philosophy, Politics, and Law. (3)
spring
Topics in political and legal philosophy, including political authority, obligation and disobedience, the nature of crime and punishment. Required for Certificate in Philosophy, Politics, and Law. Seminar. Prerequisite: HON 310 or instructor approval.
HON 484 Internship. (1–6)
selected semesters
HON 485 Biosphere 2—Study Opportunity. (1–18)
fall and spring
For students participating in the ASU-sponsored program at Biosphere 2.
HON 492 Honors Directed Study. (1–12)
selected semesters
Research and preparation for HON 493.
HON 493 Honors Thesis. (1–6)
selected semesters
General Studies: L
HON 498 Pro-Seminar. (1–7)
selected semesters
Omnibus Courses. For an explanation of courses offered but not specifically listed in this catalog, see "Omnibus Courses," page 63.