

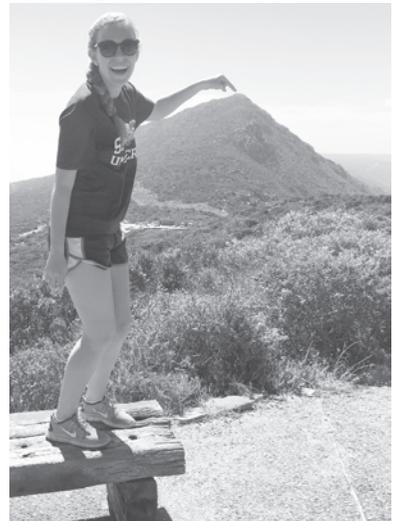
# Honors College

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## COLLEGE INFORMATION

The Honors College offers enriched academic opportunities for motivated students through curricular offerings, extracurricular activities and applied learning experiences. The College fosters close individual contact between students and faculty and brings together engaged undergraduate students with varied interests to explore and enrich their overall academic university experience. In addition, the Honors College seeks to provide an intellectual environment where students pursue inquiry, explore curiosity, exhibit creativity and engage in undergraduate research all while engaging larger communities on the Eastern Shore and beyond. Honors courses and activities are intended to enhance other educational opportunities available to Salisbury University students and meet national expectations for Honors education.

Salisbury University's Honors Program began in 1980 with 20 freshman students who met in the back of the University gymnasium and took a series of history, English and philosophy courses. In 1996, the Honors Program was renamed for University president Thomas E. Bellavance, shortly after moving to its current home in a renovated house on the corner of Camden Avenue and Loblolly Lane. The curriculum at that time centered on a team-taught great books series of courses; it has since changed to include dynamic issues-based courses that fulfill General Education requirements.

The Honors director was, at first, the sole faculty member attached to the Honors Program. Founding director Dr. Tony Whall taught in English and Honors with a two-course download to administer the program. In 1994, the program gained an assistant director whose duties focused on student activities and mentoring; this faculty member received a course download for these services. In 2006, the program gained a 10-hour share of an administrative assistant.

Beginning in the 2000s, the Honors Program began hosting a Living Learning Community with 20 students. By 2010, the program offered two communities that included 36 students in Manokin Hall (the building was shared with other Living Learning Communities).

Beginning in August 2016, the Honors Program transitioned to the current Honors College. The College admits between 110 and 130 new freshmen each year and serves more than 400 students. It houses four freshman Living Learning Communities and a Sophomore Living Learning Community.

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## Add Value to Your College Experience

Whatever your major or area of concentration at SU, the Honors experience can enhance the value of your degree. Graduating with Honors demonstrates to employers and graduate programs that you're the type of person who welcomes challenges and exceeds expectations. Completing the necessary coursework for Honors requires sustained effort across many semesters, and the capstone (or thesis) project shows your ability to work independently at a high level. That kind of

determination and self-motivation are attractive to recruiters in virtually every field, giving you a competitive edge in the professional world or in applying to graduate programs nationwide.

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## The Honors Advantage

- Small classes (no more than 20 students)
- Tailored courses on interesting and unique subjects
- Opportunities to work closely with faculty members on individualized research
- Opportunity to participate in one of four honors Living Learning Communities
- Priority class registration
- Access to Honors advising
- Financial support for conference travel to regional and national conferences
- Scholarships

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## Freshman Admission

The Honors College seeks applications from high school students with good grades, a love of learning and an interest in small, discussion-based classes. Strong academic performance, leadership and extracurricular interests are all considered in Honors admission. To apply to the Honors College, students must submit an application via the Honors website. Students in the Perdue School of Business can opt to enroll in the specialized Honors Business Program.

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## Transfer and Current Student Admission

Transfer students coming to SU may apply for admission to the Honors College when they have a total of 48 credits with a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

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## Scholarships

The Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program provides annual scholarships for incoming freshmen that range from \$500 to \$1,000 (renewable up to four years). Students are selected based on academic accomplishments and a written essay that is part of their application to the Honors College. Beginning in 2013, the recipients of these scholarships were designated the name "Bellavance Scholars" in recognition of Thomas and Elizabeth Bellavance, who were great supporters of the Honors Program and in whose honor the endowment for these scholarships is named. Bellavance Scholars are required to maintain a 3.5 GPA and remain active in the Honors College and Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program, demonstrating successful progress toward graduating with full University honors. They are recognized each year at the Honors Spring Banquet and their names appear on a large plaque that is publicly displayed in the Honors Center.

In addition, the Honors College grants between 12 and 15 Director's Fellowships to incoming freshmen each year. The fellowships were established to recognize exceptional incoming freshman students who demonstrate outstanding

academic achievement and the promise for leadership and success on the Salisbury University campus. Fellowships range from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and are renewable a total of four years. For consideration, applicants need to apply to the Honors College by the priority deadline. Students are selected based on their academic accomplishments, as well as an additional essay. Recipients are decided by the Honors Admissions Committee, comprised of the faculty director of the Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program and the director of admissions. Director's Fellows receive priority placement in one of the Honors Program's freshman Living Learning Communities. Students are required to maintain a 3.25 GPA and remain active in the Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program, demonstrating successful progress toward graduating with full University honors. They are recognized each year at the Honors Spring Banquet and their names appear on a large plaque that is publicly displayed in the Honors Center.

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## HONORS PROGRAMS

Students admitted into the Honors College have the choice between two Honors Programs: the Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program and the Business Honors Program.

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### Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program

The Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program is housed within the University Honors College and is designed to bring together high-achieving students and dedicated faculty in a small University environment. It offers motivated students who are serious about their intellectual growth a variety of special enhanced classes. The program fosters close individual contact between students and faculty and brings together talented students from across campus. Honors courses and extracurricular activities are intended to enrich and complement other educational opportunities and programs available to Salisbury University students.

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### Business Honors Program

The Business Honors Program provides admitted students with greater networking and mentorship opportunities, specialized global programs, enhanced entrepreneurship experiences, enriched courses, and meaningful access to local community leaders to accelerate their personal and professional development.

Students are admitted to the Business Honors Program based on current University Honors criteria. To graduate with a Business Honors designation, students must obtain a degree from the Perdue School of Business.

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## THOMAS E. BELLAVANCE HONORS PROGRAM

Dr. Leanne Wood, Faculty Director  
410-377-3721

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### Curriculum

The program offers a variety of enhanced courses to satisfy the interests of all Honors students. Enhanced courses meet for three hours a week and are available to students admitted to the program as well as any SU student with at least a 3.5 GPA.

The curricular requirements for both Bellavance University and General Honors programs are noted in this chapter and full University checklists for them can be found at [www.salisbury.edu/honors/checklist.html](http://www.salisbury.edu/honors/checklist.html). Full course descriptions for Honors unique topics courses can be found at [www.salisbury.edu/honors/courses.html](http://www.salisbury.edu/honors/courses.html).

Honors Program students must earn a C or better in all courses used to fulfill Honors Program requirements; Honors courses cannot be taken pass/fail.

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### Honors Courses

#### ► HONR 111: Critical Thinking and Writing

Examines processes for developing clear and sound arguments. The course emphasizes critical thinking, debate, information literacy and research skills.

#### ► HONR 112: Issues in Social Sciences

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the social sciences through a study of a particular issue. New topics are offered every semester.

#### ► HONR 211: Issues in Humanities

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the humanities through a study of a particular cultural issue. New topics are offered every semester.

#### ► HONR 212: Issues in Natural Sciences

This topics course introduces students to fundamental aspects of the natural sciences through a study of a particular scientific issue. New topics are offered every semester.

#### ► HONR 311: Honors Interdisciplinary Seminars

These courses often address topics that transcend individual disciplinary boundaries. Courses are taught by carefully selected professors from a wide variety of disciplines. These seminars appeal to Honors students of all majors. New topics are offered every year.

#### ► HONR 312: Honors Research/Creative Project

In this one-credit independent study course, a student develops a research or creative project suitable for presentation at an undergraduate research conference or equivalent public venue. Students work one-on-one with a faculty mentor from a department of their choosing and with Honors faculty to complete and present this independent project. Honors faculty members assist with arrangements and accompany students to presentations at Honors conferences.

► **HONR 490: Honors Thesis Preparation**

Honors thesis preparation is a one-credit course designed to set up the framework and faculty support for the project. This is a required course for those who wish to complete a thesis.

► **HONR 495: Honors Thesis**

The Honors thesis is generally a four-credit course of independent study, which culminates in substantial original research, scholarly or creative work. Students may apply for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study course for HONR 495. The thesis must be completed with a grade of B or better to fulfill the Honors program requirement.

**Study Abroad and Internship Option**

Three or four credits from an approved study abroad course or an internship experience may take the place of one HONR 311 course.

**Curriculum Requirements for Graduating With University Honors from the Bellavance Honors Program**

Students who enter SU as freshman and transfer students who have been active in a post-secondary Honors program are eligible to participate in Bellavance University Honors.

► **Four of the Following Five Courses (16 credits):**

	Credits
HONR 111 Critical Thinking and Writing.....4 (General Education ENGL 103)	4
HONR 211 Issues in Humanities .....4 (General Education Group IIIA or IIIC)	4
HONR 112 Issues in Social Sciences.....4 (General Education Group IIIB or IIIC)	4
HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences ..... 4 (General Education Group IVB)	4
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4	4

► **Additional Courses (additional 4-5 credits):**

Complete two additional courses from Group 1 or Group 2.

**Group 1:**

	Credits
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4	4
and HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project .....1 (Students complete a research or creative project in a 300-400-level course of their choosing [this does not have to be an Honors course] and present their project at one of several symposia.)	1

or

**Group 2:**

	Credits
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation.....1	1
and HONR 495 Honors Thesis ..... 3-4	3-4

**BUSINESS HONORS PROGRAM**

Dr. Ani Mathers, Faculty Director  
410-548-5695

**Curriculum**

The Business Honors Program offers a variety of enhanced courses to satisfy the interests of Honors students in the Perdue School of Business. Enhanced courses are available to students admitted to the program as well as any SU student with at least a 3.5 GPA

**Business Honors Courses**

► **HONR 111: Critical Thinking and Writing**

Examines processes for developing clear and sound arguments. The course emphasizes critical thinking, debate, information literacy and research skills.

► **ECON 211: Micro-Economic Principles (Honors Section)**

Introduction to the ideas and tools economists use to understand human behavior constrained by scarce resources. Analytical tools introduced include supply and demand analysis, elasticities, and models of perfect and imperfect competition. These tools will be used to study topics such as consumer and producer decision-making, taxation, environmental quality and health care.

► **MGMT 320: Management and Organizational Behavior (Honors Section)**

Study of the general nature, behavior and functions of organization and management in business. Emphasis on planning, organizing, leading, motivating and controlling.

► **BUAD 300: Personal and Professional Development for Business (Honors Section)**

Introduces the skills, abilities and knowledge related to functioning in a professional business environment. Focus on developing those skills considered important by employers as well as familiarizing students with the ABLE graduation requirement. Sessions vary in duration, depending on the activities involved, which are subject to change. Writing assignments and mandatory attendance at events.

► **HONR 490: Honors Thesis Preparation**

Honors thesis preparation is a one-credit course designed to set up the framework and faculty support for the project. This is a required course for those who wish to complete a thesis.

► **HONR 495: Honors Thesis**

The Honors thesis is generally a four-credit course of independent study, which culminates in substantial original research, scholarly or creative work. Students may apply for permission to substitute another department's thesis or independent study course for HONR 495. The thesis must be completed with a grade of B or better to fulfill the Honors program requirement.

## Curriculum Requirements for Graduating With University Honors from the Business Honors Program

### ► Required Courses (20 credit hours):

	Credits
HONR 111 Critical Thinking and Writing .....4 (General Education ENGL 103)	4
ECON 211.01H Micro-Economic Principles .....3 (General Education Group IIIB or IIIC)	3
MGMT 320.01H Management and Organizational Behavior .....3	3
BUAD 300.01H Personal and Professional Development ..... 1	1
Honors Electives* Any combination of other Honors courses .....9	9

### ► Additional Courses (4 credit hours):

	Credits
HONR 490 Honors Thesis Preparation .....1 And	1
HONR 495 Honors Thesis ..... 3	3

### ► Honors Electives\*

These credit may be fulfilled with any combination of the following:

HONR 112 Critical Thinking and Writing.....4	4
HONR 211 Issues in Humanities .....4	4
HONR 212 Issues in Natural Sciences.....4	4
HONR 311 Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar .....4	4
HONR 312 Honors Research/Creative Project.....1	1
Honors-designated sections ** .....3-4	3-4
Honors-contracted courses *** .....4 (max)	4 (max)
Honors-designated activities **** .....3-4	3-4

\*\* Honors-designated sections are those courses that are offered exclusively to students in the Honors College. They are indicated by an H following the course number.

\*\*\* Honors-contracted courses are those in which the instructor of a non-Honors section of a course provides the student with graded enrichment assignments that are not included in the regular course. Students may take four credits maximum of Honors-contracted courses (typically, one course).

\*\*\*\* Honors designated activities include, but are not limited to, participation in a business-related Living and Learning Communication in which students do not receive Honors credit, participation in extracurricular case competitions, and/or participation in additional internships above and beyond those required by the School of Business. Honors-designated activities must be approved by the Business Honors Program faculty director and the dean of the Honors College.

In addition, students may substitute a full semester study abroad for up to four credits toward the 24 total required to graduate with University Honors from the Business Honors Program.