

HONORS COLLEGE



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HONORS COLLEGE AT SRU

The Honors College at Slippery Rock University is an interdisciplinary community of highly motivated, talented and engaged students. It promotes academic excellence, personal growth and engaged learning in a community that is supportive, challenging, and enjoyable. The Honors College curriculum and co-curriculum supports and enhances academic majors.

Honors classes and co-curricular experiences provide students with unique learning opportunities. Honors students are not required to take more credits than they would normally. Instead Honors courses are selected to fulfill general education requirements, but do so in small class settings customized for more engaging, interactive and appropriately challenging learning experiences. Honors co-curricular requirements engage you in out-of-class experiences, both on campus and in the larger community, providing you with real-world opportunities to make change happen. Co-curricular experiences include research projects, contract courses, study abroad opportunities, Honors special projects, conference presentations, and leadership on the Honors executive board and subcommittees, among others. Our goal is to harness the motivation and curiosity of honors students by providing unique opportunities in and out of the classroom to build personal and professional skills, make an impact in the world and develop as a whole person.

WHY JOIN THE HONORS COLLEGE AT SRU?

- **Mentored research:** Honors students are strongly encouraged to complete at least one independent research or arts project working with a professor in their discipline.
- **Conferences:** Honors students are encouraged to present their work at national and regional conferences. Students participate annually in the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference and present each year at Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education Honors Conference. Students also present research at national and regional conferences in their disciplines every year.
- **Global Learning:** The Honors College coordinates an annual faculty-led study abroad experience for honors students. During the spring semester, students enroll in the Honors Seminar in Global Learning and then travel together in May, after the semester ends. In recent years, students have traveled to Barcelona, Spain to study the historical and current contexts that promote creativity and innovation in a world with complex problems to solve.
- **Leadership opportunities:** Honors students are involved and active in many campus organizations and activities. Leadership opportunities in the Honors College include membership on the Honors Executive Board, event planning committees, community service planning committees and peer mentorship.
- **The Honors Living and Learning Community in Watson Hall:** Honors students are strongly encouraged to live in a community with fellow honors students in a prime location on campus. This supportive environment is often cited as one of the benefits of belonging to the Honors College.

APPLYING TO THE HONORS COLLEGE

SRU's Honors College practices a holistic application process in order to determine admission into the program.

To be eligible for the Honors College, applicants must meet two of the following six requirements:

- High school GPA of 3.8 or higher.
- College GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- 1220 SAT or 25 ACT
- Be an active or a veteran member of the military.
- Provide a letter of recommendation specific to the Honors College from a teacher, school administrator, professor or supervisor that addresses your high level of motivation, engagement, commitment and leadership.
- Be recommended by the Office for Community Engaged Learning, Office for Global Engagement, Office for Inclusive Excellence, or the Office for Student Engagement and Leadership.

Application to the Honors College also requires the submission of:

- Resume of extracurricular activities, community service and leadership experiences.
- One to two-page response to an essay prompt provided by the Honors College.

HONORS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Honors College Scholarship is currently set at \$1,500 per year and is renewable for up to four years. Scholarships are awarded to many qualified incoming, full-time SRU students who have been accepted in the Honors College. Eligibility is based on a holistic review of your submitted application, resume and essay. Scholarship applications are due January 15. Students are notified about awards after applications are reviewed.

HONORS SPOTLIGHT

Nichole Miller, '20, Biology Pre-Physician Assistant

"Being an Honors College student provided me with a lot of opportunities to travel and experience different things. I was able to participate in a Philosophy of Art International Seminar in Europe and a PA State System Honors Seminar in Vienna and Sarajevo. It changes your outlook on life being able to travel and see how other people live."



HONORS OUTCOMES

Honors students are asked to work toward completion of six outcomes during their Honors experience. These include:

- **Leadership:** Identify key leadership skills, apply these leadership skills in novel settings, and grow from reflection upon your own leadership as well as the leadership of others.
- **Inquiry, Analysis, and Research:** Demonstrate intellectual agency, identify scholarly questions and rigorous pathways to answer those questions, and apply techniques that will allow you to push the intellectual boundaries of your chosen discipline.
- **Civic Engagement and Responsibility:** Recognize one's place in a pluralistic society, identify opportunities for and engage in community partnerships, and demonstrate awareness of how to serve others as well as the capacity to do so.
- **Wellbeing:** Develop a holistic view of wellness and an evidence-based approach toward wellbeing, and cultivate a growth mindset, intrinsic motivation, and personal grit.
- **Innovation:** Enhance your ability to identify meaningful problems, apply your knowledge, skills, and dispositions to real-world issues, engage in risk analysis, and take action for positive change.
- **Multiculturalism:** Develop empathic perspectives, engage in multiple ways of knowing, develop cultural sensitivity, and know your own positioning in a globally connected and diverse society.