

Honors College FAQ's for Fall, 2025!

Please read carefully prior to the Live Q &A!

1. I'm a bit nervous about being in The Honors College, will it make my first year more difficult?

This is a very common question, and we can wholeheartedly reassure you that it is NOT set up to be more difficult. In fact, you will have much more support by being a member! The classes are not designed to be harder or more fast paced, and we do not add on extra classes to your degree program. You will also have more opportunities to be involved in a wide variety of activities that will benefit you! Honors College courses are fun and engaging!



2. I'm still exploring options for my major, can I still be in The Honors College?

Absolutely! The Honors College experience is actually very helpful in exploring majors, and we have licensed career counselors right here in the HC to assist you with making a choice you're comfortable with. Any major you choose at OU will work alongside The Honors College!

3. What do I need to know to stay in The Honors College?

Students in The Honors College are highly supported to achieve and maintain a 3.5 GPA. We understand that sometimes there are situations where a student might fall a bit below that. Don't worry, we will help connect you with any resources that you may need to get back up to a 3.5. We do not remove any student from the HC after their first year if your GPA dips, we help you and provide support. We do require that all students meet with an Honors College Counselor at least once each academic year, for creating your personalized plan and for making any adjustments along the way.

4. I'm coming in with a lot of credit from AP, IB, dual enrollment, or early college. Can I still be in The Honors College?

Absolutely! We welcome you to join, even if you already have a lot of credits! This is where the personalized plan will help tremendously. We will be highly strategic to ensure you have a meaningful HC experience, but you will not be required to repeat any general education requirements you have already met to be in The Honors College! We recommend meeting with

an HC Counselor in the summer before classes start (if possible) so we can discuss your particular situation.

- 5. Tell me more about the Honors College “Language & Culture” options! What do I need to know?**

As a part of your HC Personalized Plan, we will discuss your different options for “Language & Culture.” All students at OU (whether in the HC or not) have to take at least one semester of a “Language & Culture” general education course requirement. In the HC, we discuss with you ideas for enhancing this, through such options as Study Abroad, cultural experiences, sign language, or modern language courses/minors. This fall we will also offer some additional opportunities related to broader communication skills and specialized workshops! We advise that you complete the online placement test of the language you studied in high school and send us your score to show us what you already know, and that will help us guide you further! Please note that taking the placement test for the language you studied in high school does NOT lock you into taking that same language here at OU! You also may decide to take your language general education course sometime later than your first year. The key thing to remember is you have many OPTIONS!

- 6. What do I need to know about the Modern Language Placement Test? I’m a bit nervous about that!**

Rest assured that the language placement test will NOT lock you into any specific class or particular level you do not want to take or feel comfortable with. It simply gives us more information to work with, and provides more options to present to you! You can take the placement test any time that is convenient for you, and simply send a screenshot of the score directly to us for follow up information! You do not need to print it or send it to the Modern Language department. We work with placement scores differently (and creatively!) for our HC students. Here is the link to the placement test:

<https://www.oakland.edu/languages/student-resources/>

- 7. Do Honors College students have to live on campus?**

Living on campus is totally optional for all students, freshmen through seniors. Approximately 40% of HC freshmen will live on campus, while about 60% commute from home. Commuters will not miss out on any HC events or opportunities!

- 8. What about additional Honors College Scholarships? How does that work?**

As an HC student you are eligible to apply for annual, additional scholarships that would be in addition to any merit scholarships you have been offered through admissions. Each year you may apply through a portal on The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships website. Keep in mind the deadline date for annual scholarships is March 1st. Please meet with an HC

Counselor for personal assistance on this, and we will provide you with great tips and tricks to increase your chances of gaining additional scholarships!

9. What about New Student Orientation? I've already attended OR I will be attending soon!

GREAT! All Honors College students must attend a New Student Orientation program to register for classes! If you have already attended New Student Orientation all you need to do is contact your First Year Adviser directly and let them know you've just joined The Honors College. They will help you with a super simple schedule adjustment to include HC 1000 in your fall semester. And if you are signed up to attend soon, be sure to let your First Year Adviser you have just joined and they will prepare your schedule recommendations accordingly. Of course let us know if you have questions about this process and we will help you out!

Any other questions? We are here to help!

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