

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

HONORS COLLEGE

HONORS PROGRAMS

FIND YOUR PURPOSE

Private. Christian. Affordable.



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GCU HONORS COLLEGE

GCU Honors College

MISSION STATEMENT

GCU's Honors College is designed to produce exemplary graduates who are uniquely equipped to lead and serve in the workplace as well as within their local and global communities. Our mission is to develop servant leaders and change agents who are primed to enter the world with a competitive advantage over their contemporaries in the fields of problem solving, communication, critical thinking, evidence-based decision-making and cultural awareness.



Message From

THE DEAN

Our mission is to ensure that students in our Honors College develop into exemplary graduates and influential agents of change who will lead and serve in the workplace, within their local communities and beyond.

Honors students have invigorating opportunities that extend beyond an enhanced classroom experience and academic rigor. These exclusive prospects include mentorship, interdisciplinary collaboration with honors faculty and peers, priority invitations to featured speaker events, access to honors clubs and organizations, intentional community service projects, networking events and other engaging activities.

Special honors opportunities for traditional study abroad, mission trips and short-term domestic or international excursions can also create deep, meaningful experiences. We believe that you possess the vast potential to greatly impact both the local and global community. We also believe that social, spiritual, community and team-oriented ventures both inside and outside of GCU can help our students position themselves to create both a career and a life filled with purpose.

We look forward to engaging you in academic and experiential opportunities. We welcome you to an exciting new year defined by personal growth, scholarship, achievement and leadership. Your future awaits at the GCU Honors College!

Breanna Naegeli, PhD, Dean of the Honors College

5 WAYS GCU CAN HELP YOU

1. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & MENTORSHIP

The Honors College offers a broad range of no-cost professional and leadership development programs and mentorship communities hosted by college administration and industry leaders from around the Valley. They also provide supplemental resources to help students jumpstart their undergraduate career.

2. EMBRACE ADVENTURE, EXPLORE THE WORLD

The GCU Honors College hosts multiple short-term global studies programs each year. GCU offers traditional study abroad, mission and vision trips, as well as international internship opportunities for students who have a desire to explore the world while earning honors course credit. Email StudyAbroad@gcu.edu to learn about the global partnerships that connect us to international cities across the globe.

3. INTERNSHIPS AND INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

Explore internship opportunities locally, throughout the United States or even internationally in a variety of industries to gain practical experience. Partake in hands-on, project-based experience through our yearlong RISE Fellowship, Leadership in Action programs or engage with our Dean's Honors College Advisory Board for industry-based projects and research.



4. ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

To change the world, you must engage the world. The Honors College hosts an annual Canvas the Community: Service Week Campaign along with numerous local and global service-focused activities. Participate in a global medical mission trip, a vision trip to explore human trafficking or engage in various local ministries and projects that give back to our surrounding community.

5. HONORS COURSES

The Honors College offers an extensive list of honors general education, core and elective courses for students to pursue. The "HON" honors electives give honors students exclusive access to content to help prepare for their future. Whether seeking support for the LSAT exam, guidance on professional development, support for the medical school application process or academic journal writing and beyond, these honors electives serve as an invaluable resource for honors students, all while earning credit toward their degree.



CAMDEN MARASCO

Class of 2023

Hometown:

Murfreesboro, TN

Degree Program:

Bachelor of Science in Business
Management | Communications Minor

Why Join the GCU Honors College?

The Honors College provided me with unbelievable opportunities during my freshman year. I networked with professionals, developed my personal brand and have confidence as I navigate professional life outside of college.



HONORS OUR WAY



HONORS BENEFITS

The Honors College stands for great opportunities and even greater rewards for well-rounded high achievers, both inside the classroom and beyond. Along with achieving academic excellence, students are encouraged to participate in various social, spiritual life, team-building and exclusive honors events.

- Access to the Honors College Lounge and additional study and collaboration rooms
- Free honors-exclusive commencement regalia for honors graduates
- Free printing within the Honors College lounge
- Honors diploma and designation on transcripts
- Honors housing for freshmen in Juniper Hall
- Mentoring with honors-dedicated faculty members and administration
- Priority housing selection for eligible continuing honors students

To learn more about graduation requirements for the Honors College, please visit gcu.edu/honors

Check out our video showcase featuring

LOPES LIVE LABS!

These educational spaces provide hands-on, practical learning scenarios that help prepare students for life after college.



DID YOU KNOW?

AVERAGE
GRADUATION TIME OF
HONORS COLLEGE
2021 GRADUATES:
3.5 YEARS

GCU HONORS COLLEGE STUDENTS
HAD AN AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL
UNOFFICIAL INCOMING GPA OF
4.09
FALL 2022

GCU'S HONORS COLLEGE
**HAD NEARLY 3,000 ENROLLED
STUDENTS IN FALL 2022**



**CHECK OUT THESE
VIDEOS HIGHLIGHTING
OUR STUDENTS'
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IN HONORS
ENGINEERING AND
*PRE-HEALTH!***



Engineering



Pre-Health

Exclusive to the Honors College

HONORS CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

ways
to get
involved!

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Student-led communities that support outbound initiatives within the local and global community and with established industry partners.

- ✓ Corporate Connect
- ✓ Global Health Initiative
- ✓ Honors V.O.I.C.E.S.
- ✓ Transformational Leadership
- ✓ Canyon Civic Institute

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

Mentorship and community are prominent within the Honors College and supported through these mentorship programs.

- ✓ FLIGHT Peer Mentorship Program
- ✓ Future Theologians Faculty-Student Mentorship Program
- ✓ Pre-Health Medical & Graduate School Preparation Program
- ✓ Young Athena Valley of the Sun Program
- ✓ Inside Entertainment

NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETIES

Engage locally within our GCU chapter and connect with scholars worldwide!

- ✓ Alpha Chi National College Honors Society
- ✓ National Society of Collegiate Scholars

RISE FELLOWSHIP

Inclusive of honors student leaders, RISE is a yearlong student-led and administration-supported program that supports community-building, social engagement, leadership and professional development programming, hosting annual celebrations of our honors students and beyond.

For a full listing of clubs and organizations, please visit gcu.edu/clubs

GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

SHORT-TERM FACULTY-LED EXCURSIONS

The Honors College offers students domestic and international travel opportunities to enhance learning and global exploration. Students can embark on worldwide adventures to discover new countries, experience different cultures, see incredible sights and learn about prominent historical landmarks. Short-term programs are generally two to four weeks in length and include a small group of peers led by Honors College faculty or staff.

STUDY ABROAD

GCU students expand their learning beyond the GCU campus by studying abroad for a summer term, full semester or academic year. GCU partners with various reputable study abroad providers to offer students exciting opportunities to experience global learning and earn academic credit while abroad.

LIVING AND LEARNING INTERNATIONALLY

Looking to study abroad with a group of honors peers? The Honors College supports cohorts of students in semester-long programs in Quito, Ecuador; Rome, Italy and a study-away program in Baltimore, Maryland.



EMBRACE ADVENTURE. EXPLORE THE WORLD.

Our domestic and international opportunities are growing every year.

VOCATIONAL MISSION TRIPS

GCU's global outreach programs provide students with the opportunity to make an impact and serve in global communities. Students can partner alongside local professionals and mission organizations to serve through social work, faith-based ministry, teaching English, aiding medical professionals treating patients in clinics, working within the digital marketing industry and more.

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

GCU partners with The Intern Group to offer international internship opportunities around the globe ranging from four to 12 weeks in length. Students work alongside international industry experts while also engaging in professional development, leadership training and cultural immersion experiences. Internships are available in most industries, including STEM, health care, education, nonprofit, marketing, hospitality and more. Best of all, you may be able to earn college credit for your internship experience.



SCHOLARSHIP, RESEARCH AND READINESS



HONORS COURSEWORK

Honors curriculum is meticulously crafted to cultivate intellectual depth while fostering enriching learning experiences that aim to both captivate and challenge learners. Through thought-provoking content and dynamic discussions, it can ignite a passion for intellectual curiosity and critical analysis. By blending rigorous academics with practical application, it can equip learners with the skills needed in an ever-evolving world.

Honors coursework can be categorized into the following:

- Honors Only Courses
- Honors Electives
- Honors Addendum Courses
- Honors Enrichment Contracts



Checkout our full course catalog



LENA-MAY HAUGHT Class of 2023

Hometown: Skull Valley, AZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Sociology with an Emphasis in Social Work

Why Join the GCU Honors College? The GCU Honors College is truly special because they come into every situation with the presupposition that every single student has something incredible to offer, rather than just looking for ways to eliminate people. It is revolutionary to be a part of the honors community because everyone is actively seeking for ways to believe in you, not ways to criticize you.



ATTEND AN HONORS ORIENTATION TO LEARN MORE





RESEARCH DESIGN PROGRAM

with the College of Engineering and Technology and the College of Natural Sciences

The GCU Research and Design Program (RDP) offers hands-on, mentored training and learning experiences for students studying in the science, engineering or technology field. Although it is not required to major in one of these fields, honors students are strongly encouraged to apply for these research opportunities as early as freshman year. In this program, students are expected to contribute directly to current research and design projects led by faculty while learning various research techniques and methodologies. Students have the opportunity to present both locally and on larger platforms across the country.

Space is limited and an application is required for participation.

CANYON JOURNAL OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The Canyon Journal of Undergraduate Research (CJUR) is dedicated to the publication of exemplary faculty-mentored and peer-reviewed research produced by undergraduate students at GCU. The CJUR is multidisciplinary with original, contemporary research in alignment with the Boyer Model of Scholarship.

Honors College students have access to HON-355: Academic Journal Writing, an interactive, workshop-style course supported by a faculty mentor to coach students on preparing for the publication process.



ADVICE FOR NEW STUDENTS

KENDALL SMITH

Class of 2022 | Scottsdale, AZ

Take advantage of as many opportunities as you can as long as you are not spreading yourself too thin. Your mental health is just as important, if not more important, than your accomplishments.



Listen to what our Honors College alumni have to say about their experience with GCU!

CHLOE CAMPBELL

Class of 2022 | Keizer, OR

Your freshman year is the perfect opportunity to try new things in order to see what you are passionate about and what you feel called to do. With that being said, hit the ground running and show up! Your honors staff and peers will meet you where you are, so apply yourself and don't be afraid to be vulnerable and try activities that may scare and challenge you.



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA AND APPLICATION PROCESS

To learn more about how to be admitted to the Honors College, please visit gcu.edu/honors



NEXT STEPS

1



Apply at
gcu.edu/ApplyNow
and upload your transcripts.
No application fee!

2



Make an appointment
with your counselor to
review scholarships
and programs.

3



Upon acceptance,
visit campus
(all-expenses-paid¹
programs available)

4



Register early to
secure courses and
on-campus housing.

5



Pack your sunglasses
and move to
Lope Country!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

undergraduate programs offered on campus, available scholarships and more, contact an admissions counselor.

855-428-7884 | gcu.edu/CampusAdmissions

¹ Travel reimbursement is only available to students who demonstrate their ability to meet admissibility for the traditional campus, plus one legal guardian, from a student's home city/state to Phoenix, AZ. School/district/organizations staff, faculty and/or personnel are also eligible. To participate, the program requires a signed MOU by both the student and parent/guardian or personnel, approval of travel dates by GCU and receipts submitted per GCU requirements. Travel reimbursement thresholds vary based on location and education sector. Only one form of travel will be reimbursed, air OR ground. GCU does not reimburse hotel expenses, baggage costs, early check-in or travel insurance fees. Travel reimbursement usually occurs within 45 days.

Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Please note, not all GCU programs are available in all states and in all learning modalities. Program availability is contingent on student enrollment. Pre-licensure nursing students who begin or resume attendance in Fall 2020 and beyond will be ineligible to utilize most GCU institutional aid/scholarships for tuition and fees once accepted into the clinical portion of the program. Important policy information is available in the University Policy Handbook at gcu.edu/academics/academic-policies.php The information printed in this material is accurate as of NOVEMBER 2023. For the most up-to-date information about admission requirements, tuition, scholarships and more, visit gcu.edu. Approved by the Dean of the Honors College on Oct. 23, 2023. ©2023 Grand Canyon University 22GTR0729