



Honors Program

ACADEMIC DIVISION

KEY STRENGTHS

- Significant advantages: challenging classes, Honors-focused faculty, coaching for prestigious graduate scholarships, Honors credits for Study Abroad and internships
- Spiritual emphasis: Honors versions of required Bible courses, Honors Program service-learning, Honors small-group chapel, short courses on religious issues (examples: Logic and Belief, Biblical Opera, Holy War and Freedom of Religion).
- Honors perks: early registration, special Honors advisor
- Free upgrade to your university education: no extra cost, no extra courses; built-in, not add-on; prepares you for medical school, law school, and graduate school and careers.

MAJORS AVAILABLE

- Honors Program participation is available to qualified students in any major. The Honors Program is not a department but a university-wide program of degree enhancement for academically strong students. Students may earn Honors Program distinction (General Honors, University Honors or Departmental Honors) in any degree.

CAREER PREPARATION

- Honors Core courses and colloquia are interdisciplinary, encouraging the breadth and flexibility important in a changing world and unpredictable job market.
- Honors work in majors' courses can be customized to fit career plans.
- The Capstone Project lets students demonstrate their professional motivation, persistence and growing competence in research for their field.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Great classes – honors versions of selected core courses in Bible, communication, chemistry, film, psychology and other fields. Honors classes are limited to 20-25 students. To be sure they get them, Honors students have early registration privileges.
- Interdisciplinary courses – Honors Colloquia are available only to junior and senior honors students. These courses cover exciting ever-changing topics such as: CSI: Abilene, Saving the Cities, Justice and the Powerless, Living with Nature, and Women in Cross-Cultural Perspectives. Honors Humanities, Honors Seminar in Social Sciences and Honor Seminar in the

- Arts, for freshmen and sophomores, fulfill general education requirements.
- Fellowship – events including the fall picnic, Deep-Dish Philosophy, movie nights and Honors small-group Chapel, as well as the bonding in Honors classes.
- Mentoring by professors in connection with Honors course contracts and the Capstone Project.
- Credentials – Every Honors Program course on a transcript appears with the word "HONORS." Students completing University Honors (30 semester hours of Honors Program work with a 3.5 GPA) wear a gold stole at commencement and have the Honors Program designation in the Commencement Program. Departmental Honors graduates (12 hours, 3.5 GPA) wear a gold cord at commencement. Both receive certificates.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Entering freshmen: ACT 27 *or* SAT 1210 (math and critical reading), high school GPA 3.75 *or* class rank in top 10 percent, a satisfactory Honors application essay, and a resume with reflection on your goals. See www.acu.edu/honors.
- Transfers and current ACU students: Admission is based on applicant's record in college courses.

FACILITIES

The Honors Program suite in the Hardin Administration Building includes a comfortable Honors Commons and is the center for advising, record-keeping and publications.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

- Tyson Browning, Ph.D.**, class of 1993; doctorate in technology management and policy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass.; faculty in Enterprise Operations, Neely School of Business, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Brenda Dillard, J.D.**, class of 1991; FBI agent, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Alan Bradshaw, M.D.**, class of 1990; research assistant professor in physics and surgery, Vanderbilt University, and assistant professor of physics, Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tenn.
- Sean Bryan, J.D.**, class of 1987; partner with Kelly, Hart and Hallman, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Morgan Burkett, J.D.**, class of 1989; attorney, New York, N.Y.
- Norman Bobo**, class of 1987; software engineer, Atlanta, Ga.
- Jill Patterson, Ph.D.**, class of 1987; professor of English, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

RECENT GRADUATES

Michael Daugherty, class of 2002; graduate student in high energy physics, The University of Texas at Austin.
Lori Halstead, class of 2001; student, Harvard Law School.
Doga Taslardan, class of 2001; M.B.A. student, Thunderbird Graduate School of Global Management, Austin, Texas.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

- At annual conferences of the **National Collegiate Honors Council**, the ACU director has made presentations on honors education at church-related universities and on educational technology. ACU student delegates have attended NCHC conventions in New Orleans, La., Las Vegas, Nev., Orlando, Fla., San Francisco, Calif., Chicago, Ill., and elsewhere.
- The ACU program also has been a leader in the **Great Plains Honors Council (GPHC)**. The ACU director has served as executive secretary and president for GPHC. ACU student delegates regularly make presentations at GPHC.

FACULTY

Every teacher of an Honors class also teaches non-Honors classes. The following representative list includes teachers who have been selected by students as Honors Professor of the Year or as Honors Mentor of the Year.

Chris Willerton, Ph.D., *professor of English, Honors Program director*; B.A., Texas Christian University; M.A., Ph.D., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Jeff Childers, D.Phil., *assistant professor of church history, Bible, missions and ministry*; B.A., M.A., M.Div., Abilene Christian University; M.S.T., D.Phil., University of Oxford.

Mark Cullum, D.Phil., *assistant professor of history and honors studies*; B.A., Abilene Christian University; M.Litt., University of St. Andrews; M.St., University of Oxford; completing D.Phil., University of Oxford.

Randy Harris, *instructor of Bible, missions and ministry*; B.A., Harding University; M.A., M.Th., Harding University Graduate School of Religion; M.Phil., Syracuse University.

Greg Powell, Ph.D., *professor of chemistry*; B.S., Abilene Christian University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University.

Joseph Stephenson, Ph.D., *assistant professor of English and Honors Studies*; B.A., Yale University; M.S., Central Connecticut State University; M.A., Ph.D., University of Connecticut.

Stephen Weathers, Ph.D., *assistant professor of English*; B.A., M.A., Abilene Christian University; Ph.D., Florida State University.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

About the Program

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About ACU and Admissions

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