Fall 2022 Course Descriptions

Please refer to NOVASIS for the most up-to-date courses being offered in Honors for Fall 2022. Courses with the HON prefix, H sections (i.e.-H01), courses with Honors attributes on NOVASIS, and graduate courses count for Honors credit. Schedulr is not always correct, so you should always consult with NOVASIS for final course choices.

Honors One-Credit Colloquia & Enrichment Workshop

**HON 5303-001  Shaping A Work Life**

Kimberly Hidore

*Attributes: Honors Seminar*

At the heart of the Honors Program is a commitment to holistic formation so that our students are prepared for a life of leadership and service to their various communities: family, civic society, nations, and humankind. Students from all disciplines have expressed a desire for additional instruction in professional development and preparation for life after college. Shaping a Work Life aims to meet these needs by giving Honors students the tools to successfully navigate their future career paths, as well as providing space for students to ask bigger questions about meaningful work and their contribution to society. This seminar offers a one-credit, co-curricular experience focused on themes such as: Strengths and Motivators, Professional Identity and Exploration, Major Selection, Meaningful Work, Resume and Cover Letter Writing, Interviewing Skills, Experiential Learning, and Service and Community. Additionally, the course will connect students to campus resources to help them engage further with these topics. The seminar will last for one semester, meeting for an hour and fifteen minutes weekly. The class will be primarily seminar style and discussion based, with guest speakers, alumni involvement, professional event attendance, and project completion.

**HON 5305-001  Colloquium: Stand Up Comedy**

Dr. John-Paul Spiro

*Attributes: Honors Seminar*

Stand-up is a distinctly (though not exclusively) American art form. It has not received much academic study and it is not usually taught in universities, either as a subject or as a practice.

In this course, we will study stand-up comedy historically, theoretically, and practically. We will learn the history of the form, from its beginnings in vaudeville through its development in nightclub acts and then in radio, television, cable, and streaming technologies. We will explore questions about comedy, laughter, and the social function of the comedian. We will also learn how to write jokes and develop a short routine.
This class will feature visits from professional comedians, writers, and comedy critics. We will also watch comedians and discuss their work. A creative writing class. The practical side of this course will primarily be creative writing, because writing is most of stand-up, and you can only learn stand-up by doing it in clubs in front of strangers. We will practice anyway, in front of each other, and at the end of the semester we will put on a show for a Villanova audience.

**HON 5305-002  Colloquium: Care of the Soul**

Fr. David Cregan, OSA, Ph.D.

*Attributes: Honors Seminar*

This course will explore practices of discernment for real-life through a spiritual perspective. These explorations seek to integrate learning with experience. Together we will take ideas and practices and test them through our own experience in order to discover the type of spiritual path uniquely designed for us. In so doing, we will establish pathways for discernment in order to help us guide our life choices towards the fulfillment of our destiny: what we have been created for. By learning and experiencing together we will establish an Augustinian community of like-minded individuals as companions on the journey.

**Goals**

To increase awareness of the spiritual qualities of the human condition through a variety of practices including prayer, meditation, spiritual direction and others.

To engage collectively things that inspire and support the spiritual journey.

To explore discernment as a life skill.

To explore the ways in which the spiritual journey has the potential for personal and collective transformation.

To understand how the journey of the soul is a movement towards service.

**HON 5410-001  Intro to Guitar I**

Rebeka Karrant

*Attributes: Honors Seminar*

“Music washes from the soul the dust of everyday life.” – W.F. Corgill

In this workshop students will learn chords, chord progressions, several different strums, and learn some basic theory as it applies directly to the guitar. Students will learn to play popular folk, pop, rock and country songs. This workshop is for beginning students or a refresher for the rusty. Students must bring an acoustic or electric guitar.

**HON 5410-002  Intro to Guitar II**

Rebeka Karrant

*Attributes: Honors Seminar*

“Music is the weapon in the war against unhappiness.” – Jason Mraz
Bring more happiness and joy into your life by making some beautiful music. This workshop picks up where the “Intro to Guitar I” course left off. Students will improve their skills, increase their repertoire, build more confidence, explore more advanced concepts that will allow them to play anywhere on the guitar neck. Come ready to learn more chords, more strums, and more skills that will allow you to play folk, pop, rock and blues tunes more competently and with greater freedom.

Prerequisite: Intro to Guitar I or Professor’s permission.

**HON 5440-100 Poets in the Gallery at PMoA**

Professor Cathy Staples

**Attributes: Honors Seminar**

The Philadelphia Museum of Art will be the centerpiece for this one-weekend, one-credit, poetry writing workshop—October 21-23. We’ll browse the American galleries contemplating boxers resting on the ropes in between rounds, a young girl singing opera, rowers on the river or fisherman gathering their nets in at dusk. With persona poems, we will slip into silent figures or landscapes and grant them voices. In the hold of the small Gothic chapel, we’ll look at stained glass, reliquaries, and a recumbent knight, then we’ll write Anglo-Saxon riddles. From Peale’s lifelike trompe l’oeil of his sons on the staircase to Cezanne’s mysterious half-finished figures—we’ll let the details of paintings “tease us out of thought.” The workshop begins on Friday late afternoon in the Honors seminar room with exercises in memory and observation. On Saturday morning, we’ll take the train into Philadelphia and spend the day at PMA on the parkway. We will write our way through the galleries, using the paintings as well as sculpture and installation as entry points for new poems. On Sunday morning, we’ll gather to share new work over coffee, tea, French toast, and banana bread.

This is a one-credit, pass/fail, one weekend intensive. Non-Honors students please email HonorsProgram@villanova.edu for course approval. This course counts toward the minor in Creative Writing.

**HON 5460-100 Landscape Painting As Meditation**

Ms. Christine Clay

**Attributes: Honors Seminar**

Students draw on the complexity and order of nature to create color studies in watercolor. Using music, slides, and meditation techniques, they interpret photographs through individual color choices to develop color studies into an acrylic painting on canvas.

**HON 5460-101 Mosaics**

Christine Clay Gorka

**Attributes: Honors Seminar**

Students visit the sites of ancient and modern mosaics in Philadelphia before designing and creating a collaborative mosaic collage to be exhibited on campus.
HON 5490-001  Culture Leadership Workshop

Professor Lance Kenney

Attributes: Honors Seminar

CULTURE LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

(INTRODUCTION TO BRITISH LIFE AND CULTURE)

(Limited to the Honors Global Scholars cohort)

This course, customized for participants in the Honors Global Fellows Program, is intended to prepare students to living and studying in the UK. A variety of issues will be covered, ranging from history, politics, and religion to sport, media, and travel. In addition, a variety of tools will be examined that will help students better immerse themselves into their host culture. The point is not to ameliorate the effects of culture shock, but to work through it to learn as much from this experience as possible.