

CMU Honors Program Course Description Guide

Fall 2025

Priority Registration for the 2025-2026 academic year begins on February 17

Honors Program Courses					
Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times	Registration Requirements/ Honors Protocol	Instructor
HON 100 (3 cr)	Introduction to Honors	22461460	M 6:00-7:50 pm 08/25/2025-12/08/2025	First Semester Course for incoming Freshman	Patricia Williamson
HON 201WI (3 cr)	Honors Studies in Human Events & Ideas "Designing Your CMU Experience-Design Thinking Strategies for College, Career and Life.	22474417	Tu Th 5:00-6:15 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Amanda McCarthy
HON 202WI (3 cr) I-B	Honors Studies in the Arts "Gaming Story, Reading Play: Games Across Media"	22464057	Tu Th 9:30-10:45 am 08/26/2025-12/11/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Gretchen Papazian
HON 203WI (3 cr) I-B	Honors Studies in Natural Sciences "Environmental Research around Central Michigan University"	22473957	W 3:30-6:20pm 08/27/2025-12/10/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Mark Francek
HON 205WI (3 cr) III-A	Honors Behavioral Sciences "Schooled: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future of K-12 Education"	22463976	Tu 4:00-6:50 pm 08/26/2025-12/09/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Troy Hicks
HON 207WI (3 cr) IV-B	Honors Studies in Global Cultures "Environment and Livelihoods in the Global South"	22463975	M W 9:00-10:15 am 08/25/2025-12/10/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Isaac Asante-Wusu
HON 208WI (3 cr) IV-C	Honors Studies in Racism & Diversity in the U.S. "Indigenous Native American Wisdom and Scientific Knowledge"	22464058	Th 1:00-3:45 pm 08/28/2025-12/11/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Jim McDonald
HON 209WI (3 cr) IV-A	Honors Studies in Discrimination in the U.S. "Intersectional Shakespeare: Adapting the Bard for the 21 st Century"	22473748	M W 12:30-1:45 pm 08/25/2025-12/10/2025	First year Seminar Open to all Honors students	Kristen McDermott
HON 300 (3 cr)	Introduction to Honors II	22463914	M 6:00-7:50 pm 8/25/2025-12/8/2025	First semester course for Track II students	Patricia Williamson
HON 315 (1-9 cr)	Honors College Teaching Assistant	22464954	M 3:30-4:45 pm 8/25/2025-12/8/2025	By application only email honors@cmich.edu	Tracy Collins

HON 320 (3 cr)	“Who’s Afraid of Books?”	22465377	Tu 6:30-9:20 pm 08/26/2025-12/09/2025		Maureen Eke
HON 321BE (3 cr)	“The Wicked Problem of Loneliness: From Isolation to Community & Hope”	22473761	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Christi Brookes
HON 321BD (3 cr)	“Creativity in the Age of Intelligent Technology”	22473800	Tu 6:00-8:45 pm 08/26/2025-12/09/2025		Mike Deschryver
HON 321BF (3 cr)	“Neandertals! Life in the Stone Age”	22473936	M W 2:00-3:15pm 08/25/2025-12/10/2025		Rachel Caspari-Wolpoff
HON 399 (1-6 cr)	Independent Study	22461461	08/25/2025-12/12/2025	Independent study form	Patricia Williamson
HON 499 (3-6 cr)	Senior Project	22461462	08/25/2025-12/12/2025	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson
HON 499WI (3-6 cr)	Senior Project	22464963	08/25/2025-12/12/2025	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson

Departmental Honors Sections					
Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times		Instructor
ASL 100H (3 cr)	Introduction to Deaft Community and Culture	22465822	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025	Counts as HON Cultural Diversity	Susan Naeve-Velguth
BIO 111H (4 cr)	Foundations of Evolution and Diversity	22464309	M W F 9:00-9:50 am Lab Th 1:00-3:50 pm 08/25/2025-12/12/2025		Nancy Seefelt Gregory Colores
BIO 211H (4 cr)	Foundations of Genetics	22465030	Tu Th 2:00-3:15 pm Lab M 2:00-4:50 pm 08/25/2025-12/11/2025		Steven Gorsich
BIO 213H (3 cr)	Foundations of Ecology	22465733	M W F 11:00-11:50 am Lab W 3:00-5:50 pm		Andrew McNaught
BUS 100H (3 cr)	Introduction to Business	22463314	Tu Th 11:00-12:15 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Staff
BUS 102H (1)	Teamwork in Business	22472325	Th 9:30-10:20 am 08/28/2025-12/11/2025		Staff
BUS 202H (1)	Leading through Change	22472330	W 12:00-12:50 pm 08/27/2025-12/10/2025		Staff
BUS 302H (1)	Career Management	22472333	Tu 12:00-12:50 pm 08/26/2025-12/09/2025		Staff

BUS 331HS (3 cr)	Integrated Business Experience	22464310	Tu Th 9:30-10:45 am 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Staff
CHM 131H (4 cr) II-B	General Chemistry I	22463310	M Tu W Th 10:00-10:50 am Lab F 9:00-9:50 am Lab 10:00-11:50 am 08/25/2025-12/12/2025		Janice Tomasik
COM 101H (3 cr)	Introduction to Communication	22463255	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Staff
HSC 106HQR (3 cr)	Healthy Lifestyles	22464116	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Thomas Kozal
HSC 214H (4 cr)	Human Anatomy	22461497	M Tu W 9:00-10:50 am 08/25/2025-12/10/2025		Staff
HSC 308H (3 cr)	Physiology of Sport and Exercise	22463363	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 08/25/2025-12/10/2025		Paul O'Connor
HSC 411H (3 cr)	Pathophysiology	22463993	Tu Th 2:00-3:15 pm 08/26/2025-12/11/2025		Leslie Wallace
TAI 170H (3 cr) I-B	Oral Interpretation of Literature	22463108	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 08/25/2025-12/10/2025		Stacey Pattison

Honors Program Course Descriptions

HON 201WI: Designing Your CMU Experience-Design Thinking Strategies for College, Career, and Life.

Dr. Amanda McCarthy

Tuesday/Thursday 5:00-6:15 pm Pearce 136

This course helps students navigate college challenges by using Design Thinking to align their goals with opportunities. Through co-created activities, personal reflection, discussions, and presentations, students craft a fulfilling, personalized college journey.

HON 202WI: Gaming Story, Reading Play: Games Across Media

Dr. Gretchen Papazian

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 am Anspach 260

Characters. Avatars. Chapters. Levels. Plot. Boss Battles. Point of View. HUD. Drawing on both narrative and gaming theory, this course will explore dialogues between digital and print, as well as between reader/viewer/player and text, to consider how story games, game stories, and stories about games play and narrative to make meaning. In exploring the structures and mechanics of various kinds of texts (novels, film, board games, and videogames), students will investigate the ways that games, stories, gaming stories, and story games offer insight into personal experiences, social dynamics, and even political ideas. Further, in looking to various ways that contemporary texts play with gaming features to create narrative structures (and vice versa), students will consider and deliberate the relationships between media and expression, between technology and the human/posthuman, and between cognitive processes and creative efforts. In all of this, the course aims to take up broader epistemological questions about how we understand, how we learn, and how we know. In addition to reading books, watching films, and playing games, students will have the opportunity to develop their own games (no prior skills or knowledge needed!) as they develop their skills in doing analytic work.

HON 203: Environmental Research around Central Michigan University

Dr. Mark Francek

Wednesday 3:30-6:20pm Dow 108

The goal of this course is to promote problem-solving and critical thinking through a semester-long research project addressing REAL environmental problems around CMU and Mt. Pleasant. Sustainability, stewardship and social justice will all be addressed. Students will work in partnerships with classmates to collaboratively solve problems.

HON 205WI: Schooled Exploring the Past, Present, and Future of K-12 Education

Dr. Troy Hicks

Tuesday 4:00-6:50pm EHS 115

We will examine the past, present and future of the American education system, including its successes, failures, and complexities. In a three-part movement over the semester, we will engage in inquiry around these three eras. From the ways that education in America has come to be, to the future of education, exploring the ways that current debates related to race and diversity, impacts of socio-emotional learning and mental health, the role of remote learning and how other contemporary topics are playing out in classrooms, schools and communities.

HON 207WI: Environment and Livelihoods in the Global South

Dr. Isaac Asante-Wusu

Monday/Wednesday 9:00-10:15 am Dow 289

Our planet is dying, and the need for action has never been more urgent. This course provides an eye-opening exploration of how centuries of capitalism have fueled environmental devastation and exacerbated global inequality, with the Global South bearing the brunt of these consequences. Through compelling case studies from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, students will uncover the harsh realities of deforestation, water scarcity, and stark disparities in resource distribution.

HON 208WI: Indigenous Native American Wisdom and Scientific Knowledge

Dr. Jim McDonald

Thursday 1:00-3:45 pm EHS 232

This course will look at the cultural, scientific, and historical aspects of Native Americans in the fields of ethnobotany (plants), ethnoastronomy (astronomy), ethnotechnology (development of innovative problem solving to make living easier and adapt to an environment). Students will draw on the resources of the Zibiwing Center permanent exhibit, Diba Jimooyung, which means "Telling Our Story." Students will visit the center as a part of the class. Students will also develop a foundation in all these areas of study and write journals about their developing perspective and impressions of each topic. The journals will be used for discussion, peer interaction, and how their evolving understanding of Native American contributions is different from their initial thoughts.

HON 209WI: Intersectional Shakespeare: Adapting the Bard for the 21st Century

Dr. Kristen McDermott

Monday/Wednesday 12:30-1:45 pm AN 151

Shakespeare challenged the racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, and homophobic norms of his own society with stories that continue to resonate with readers and audiences today. Students in this course will explore Shakespeare's intersectional drama alongside authors and performers who have adapted his stories to make them directly relevant to 21st century American social struggles. Performance history, multi-generic adaptation strategies, critical analysis, and dialogic exploration will be exciting new contexts for reading and understanding the plays and their role in popular culture.

HON 315: Honors College Teaching Assistant

Dr. Tracy Collins

Monday 3:30-4:45 pm Anspach 314; 6:00-7:50pm Biosciences 1010

HON 315 provides supervision, training, and mentorship for Honors Program students selected to serve as teaching assistants for HON 100/300. HON 315 offers a structured opportunity for students to develop pedagogical knowledge, leadership traits, and essential job skills necessary to serve as impactful teaching assistants who support and mentor students of diverse identities as they transition into higher education and/or the Honors Program.

Note: To enroll in this course, students must first successfully complete the application process to be an HON 100/300 teaching assistant.

HON 320: Who's Afraid of Books? Challenged and Banned in America

Dr. Maureen Eke

Tuesday 6:30-9:20pm Anspach 150

This course will provide students an opportunity to examine selected banned/challenged books that address various identities and themes, including but not limited to LGBTQ+, race, racism, and gender. Students will engage in critical conversations that examine the rationale provided for the bans; the implications for and impacts on the students, the affected communities, and society in general; explore restorative ways to address or combat book bans; and develop individual or collective responses to book bans/challenges through guided final projects and research papers.

HON 321BE: The Wicked Problem of Loneliness: From Isolation to Community & Hope

Dr. Christi Brookes

Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45 pm Pearce 304

In the course, we'll look at isolation as a phenomenon in the twenty-first century. We'll begin, as I always have, with indigenous perspectives (given our campus and location) with Tommy Orange's *There There* (2018) which explores isolation in urban indigenous communities. From there, we will read from a selection of books, tentatively the following: Robert Putnam's *Bowling Alone* (2000), Cece Bell's *El Deafo* (2014), Vivek H. Murthy's *Together* (2023), CJ Casciota's *The Forgotten Art of Being Ordinary: A Human Manifesto in the Age of the Metaverse*, and Jeremy Nobel's *Project Unlonely* (2023).

HON 321BD: Creativity in the Age of Intelligent Technology

Dr. Mike Deschryver

Tuesday 6:00-8:45pm Moore 107

This course is designed to foster awareness of the implications for creative thinking in a world of increasingly ubiquitous and intelligent technology. Students will be able to understand various inputs to creativity, how artificial intelligence is changing the nature of creativity, identify and foster aspect of creativity in themselves, evaluate the creative strengths and weaknesses of common AI tools and engage in productive creative partnerships with those tools.

HON 321BF: Neandertals! Life in the Stone Age

Dr. Rachel Caspari-Wolpoff

Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:15 pm Anspach 166

Neandertals were Pleistocene Eurasians who captured our imagination since their initial discovery. This class explores the lives and humanity of these ancient humans in detail, covering their biological adaptations, technology, use of the landscape, their aesthetics and what we can gather about their minds. We will also examine their fate and relationship to us. This is fundamentally a science course, introducing students to paleoanthropology, while focusing on the intersection of society and science. While learning about Neandertal anatomy, genetics and culture, students are also exposed to the social issues (especially the race concept) that influenced (and continue to influence) the interpretation of Neandertal biology and lifeways.