

UNIVERSITY HONORS ORIENTATION 2020

For Incoming First Year Honors Students

Incoming first year honors students enrolling for fall semester should expect to register for a required honors first year seminar* and, if possible, for Honors Primetime, the pre-semester honors class. Beyond these unique first year opportunities, we recommend that you select as many honors classes and sections available to you, given your major or general education requirements. A typical first semester schedule will include anywhere from one to four honors classes.

** Students who are required to take a specific first year seminar for their major, such as College of Engineering students and Tippie Direct Admits, may substitute a different honors class for this requirement. For these students, an honors first year seminar is recommended but not required.*

Introduction to Honors Curriculum

The University Honors curriculum is made up of **12 semester hours of honors coursework** and **12 honors credits (or units) of experiential learning**. For first year honors students, the first semester schedule typically includes an honors first year seminar, Honors Primetime, and possibly one or two other honors general education courses.

Honors Coursework

Honors coursework will be completed over a student's first four semesters. The 12 semester hour (s.h.) requirement usually works out to be three or four classes. Students may continue to take honors classes after this, but the curricular requirement is fulfilled at 12 s.h.

These credits may be from honors versions of general education courses, honors versions of required departmental courses, or Honors Primetime and first year seminars. Your academic advisor can help you locate honors classes on MyUI.

Most honors students are required to enroll in an honors first year seminar for their first semester. If your major requires a specific first year seminar, you are not required to enroll in an honors section; however, you may still choose to do so!

Experiential Learning

There are many ways to earn experiential learning credit, including but not limited to internships, study abroad, research, and honors in the major. The focus at orientation, however, is on honors coursework. Honors students meet with an honors peer mentor or a member of the honors advising staff during their first year on campus to explore which experiential option or combination of options will be the best fit for them, and to make an initial plan for when to complete them.

Honors Primetime

Primetime is a three-and-a-half day optional class for incoming first year honors students. Students engage in an active learning atmosphere with exceptional UI faculty and staff. Primetime allows students the opportunity to build connections with faculty, staff, and fellow students while they transition to the University of Iowa. Students who successfully complete Primetime earn one semester hour of honors credit. You will receive an email in July with information about how to register for Honors Primetime.

QUESTIONS?

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