



The College of New Jersey Winter and Spring 2020 Honors Course Listing

The TCNJ Honors Program is pleased to provide the following courses offerings for the Winter, Spring and Summer 2020 semesters. Courses fulfill either language or Liberal Learning Breadth requirements. The latter provides knowledge in three broad sectors: Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning. Each of these sectors further divided into two domains and for some courses, four areas of civic responsibility, as follows:

Arts and Humanities

- Literary, Visual and Performing Arts (LVPA) – Domain
- World Views and Ways of Knowing (WVWK) – Domain

Social Sciences and History

- Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives (BSCP) – Domain
- Social Change in Historical Perspective (SCHP) – Domain

Natural Science and Quantitative Reasoning

- Natural Science (NS) – Domain
- Quantitative Reasoning (QR) – Domain

Civic Responsibilities

- Race and Ethnicity (RE)
- Gender
- Community Engagement (CE)
- Global Awareness

To help with your courses choices, domain abbreviations have been provided for each Honors course, where applicable. Also indicated is whether a course satisfies the Religion, Philosophy, or Global Honors requirement.

TCNJ Honors Requirements– At-A-Glance

Enroll in at least 5 Honors courses:

- ✓ One Honors course should be an Honors FSP (unless you have transferred into the program)
- ✓ One Honors course must be in philosophy or religion
- ✓ One Honors course must have an Honors global perspective
- ✓ Up to 2 Honors-by-contract courses may be taken (an Honors Global component may be developed) pending Program approval
- ✓ Certain departmental honors research/thesis options may be used to satisfy one Honors course.

Winter 2020 Honors Courses

HON 270-01 (20067) India: Gender Equity in Education

(January 7 - 19, 2020)

Profs Deborah Hutton and Marla Jaksch
(BSCP, Gender) (Global – Honors)

During the past several decades, India has achieved success in moving toward universal school enrollment and in enacting policies to address educational inequalities such as those based on gender. However, education gaps persist. During the last half of the twentieth century, India made great strides in improving its education infrastructure—an achievement representative of a post-war education expansion by newly independent states.

This class will briefly cover the colonial histories of India and the origins of its education system; then it will focus mostly on current attempts to achieve SDG goal #4 to address inequality, especially gender oppression, through and in education, and what this looks like in different community settings. Students will explore this through various readings and an ambitious community engaged learning project on solar power, which will allow them to learn about concepts of sustainable development, energy poverty, and technological justice as they intersect with gender inequality, education, social justice, and leadership.

HON 270-02 (20082) South Africa: History and Literature of Apartheid

(January 2 - 20, 2020)

Profs Matthew Bender and Mindi McMann
(SCHP, RE) (Global – Honors)

The course will focus on the phenomenon of apartheid in South Africa. We will briefly cover the pre-colonial and colonial histories of South Africa and the origins of the apartheid system, then focus mostly on the rise and effects of apartheid, and end the course with an examination of what post-apartheid South Africa looks like. This course is interdisciplinary, and over these three weeks, you will read both historical accounts and arguments regarding apartheid in South Africa as well as short stories and novels written during this period. Some questions we will consider are: What is the relationship between historical accounts and literature? Who has the authority to narrate history, and what differences do we see in literary and historical accounts? What narratives do the museums and memorials in South Africa privilege? Which ones do they silence?

Spring 2020 Honors Courses

ASL 101-H1 (41117) American Sign Language I

Prof. Steven Singer
MR 11 – 12:20PM

Through readings, field visits, class activities, and independent research, this course will provide students with a core signed vocabulary that identifies and produces in a meaningful context. Various functions of language will be the basis for establishing and maintaining content-specific conversations. Students will become familiar with the origins and principles of ASL and be able to compare and contrast those features to the English language. Students will explore the impact various scientific, political, and educational leaders have had on the Deaf community. In addition, students will come to appreciate the shifting perceptions of the Deaf community that have occurred in the past few decades.

ASL 103-H1 (41121) American Sign Language III

Prof. Steven Singer
MR 5:30 – 8:20PM

With a strong foundation in conversational ASL, students in this course will continue to build their vocabulary, grammar, and cultural understanding of the Deaf people and their language. The significant shift at this level is that students move away from scripted conversational interaction to improvisation and focused translation and performance. The vehicle for learning in this course is the use of a fictitious ASL theatre company as a way for students to explore ASL literature, ASL representations of English literature, characterization, spatial interaction, and complex interactions between people, actions, and objects. Students will serve in various roles of leadership including producing, directing, editing, and reviewing. As the course progresses, students will turn their attention to learning how to discuss and explain content connected to their academic disciplines. The instructor encourages the students to showcase their work in video or live form at one of several social and academic venues.

ECO 102-H1 (40055) Honors Principles of Macroeconomics

Prof. Michele Naples
TF 9:30 – 10:50AM
(BSCP)

An introduction to the measurement and analysis of the aggregate level of economic activity including unemployment, interest rates, inflation, exchange rates and economic growth. Government fiscal and monetary policies examined along with international economic interactions. Prerequisites include MAT 095 or MAT 096, or an SAT math score of 550 or better, or an ACT score of 24 or better.

HON 202-A (42039, 42040/42041) General Chemistry II Honors

Prof. Mirela Krichten
Lecture TF 8-9:20AM
A01-Lab T 9:30-12:20PM or A02-Lab F 9:30-12:20PM
(NS with lab)

A presentation of the laws and principles describing states of matter and the energy relationships among them. Practical applications of chemistry in such areas as organic, nuclear, biochemical, and environmental are included as are the historical and philosophical relationships between Chemistry and other disciplines. Laboratory experiments are coordinated with the lectures. Students need not have completed HON 201 to take this course. Students taking HON 202 may not also take CHE 202.

HON 203-01 (42513) Issues in Philosophy

Prof. Richard Kamber
MR 12:30 – 1:50PM
(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

Study of several major philosophical issues such as: the nature of reality, the existence of God, free will, knowledge, and morality. Explores ways of rationally evaluating classical and contemporary arguments supporting different positions on those issues. Students learn to develop and defend their own views on the issues. Students taking this course may not also take PHL 100.

HON 203-02 (42514) Issues in Philosophy

Prof. Richard Kamber

MR 2 – 3:20PM

(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

Study of several major philosophical issues such as: the nature of reality, the existence of God, free will, knowledge, and morality. Explores ways of rationally evaluating classical and contemporary arguments supporting different positions on those issues. Students learn to develop and defend their own views on the issues. Students taking this course may not also take PHL 100.

HON 230-01 (42536) Islam in Comparative Perspective

Prof. Mohamoud Ismail

MR 12:30 – 1:50PM

(WVWK, RE) (Honors – Religion) (Honors – Global)

Background and formation of doctrine, law, beliefs, and practices; the life of the Prophet Muhammad; the nature and function of the Qur'an; Islamic mysticism; major movements and trends in renewal and reform. The dialogue between Islam and other traditions.

HON 265-01 (42515) Environmental Ethics

Prof. Nathaniel Sharadin

TF 8 – 9:20AM

(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

A course providing a comprehensive overview of the key issues and arguments within the field of environmental ethics. The course includes an examination of some basic issues in metaethics and normative ethical theory, and several kinds of ethical arguments for animal rights and environmental protection. We will also study major environmental movements, such as deep ecology, social ecology, ecofeminism and the environmental justice movement, and will consider selected public policy issues such as habitat preservation, land-use management, or pollution abatement.

HON 270-01 (41664) Honors Topics: Children's Literature

Prof. Anne Peel

MR 11AM – 12:20PM

(LVPA)

This course will introduce students to a wide variety of genres and formats in children's literature. We will use several different theoretical approaches to better understand the role of stories in transmitting national, political, and cultural values. Participants will be asked to adopt a critical literacy lens to investigate how children's literature may reinforce, challenge, or even subvert social norms. We will also consider changing historical and psychological conceptions of childhood in order to contextualize the impact of books and stories on young readers' identity formation. Students will develop an understanding of literary theory and analysis as well as the complex relationship among literature, pedagogy and child development. Ultimately, this liberal learning honors course is intended to challenge all course participants to consider their responsibility for crafting, selecting, and interrogating the stories that will be used to apprentice future generations of children as readers and citizens.

HON 270-02 (42742) Honors Topics: American English

Prof. Felicia Steele

MR 2 – 3:20PM

(CE, RE, Writing Intensive)

American English examines the range of dialects spoken in the United States, the history of those dialects, and the history of the disciplines of dialectology and sociolinguistics. Special attention will be paid to the dialects of New Jersey and New Jersey settlement and migration history. In addition, the course will address the social construction of the categories “Race” and “Ethnicity” as they are relevant to discussions of language, linguistic privilege, and linguistic discrimination, and will include a community-engaged learning project with the Trenton Public Library. The course fulfills the Race and Ethnicity Liberal Learning Requirement and Community Engaged Learning Requirement.

HON 270-03 (42757) Honors Topics: Introduction to Romance Linguistics

Prof. David Stillman

MR 3:30 – 5:20PM

(SHP) (Honors – Global)

Students will examine the evolution of the Romance Languages in their development from Latin. The course will include comparison of the Romance languages at different stages in their evolution, the use of written records, the influence of other languages on the Romance languages, and the cultural and linguistic impact of Hellenism, Christianity, and Islam on the evolution of Latin to Romance. Special attention will be given to linguistic geography. The class will visit the Special Collections room at the Alexander Library at Rutgers to learn how to use linguistic atlases, to examine the spatial distribution of linguistic forms, and to glean historical information from linguistic maps. This course is conducted in English.

HON 270-04 (42775) Honors Topics: Racism, Crime and Prisons

Prof. Leigh-Anne Francis

MR 11AM – 12:20PM

(SHP, RE)

HON 270-05 (42776) Honors Topics: Racism, Crime and Prisons

Prof. Leigh-Anne Francis

MR 12:30 – 1:50PM

(SHP, RE)

HON 270-06 (42777) Honors Topics: Art of France

Profs. Lois Fichner-Rathus and Lee Ann Ricardi

T 2 – 4:50PM

(LVPA)

The course will focus on significant monuments, works of art, and cultural sites in France, a place with ancient Roman beginnings that would, centuries later, emerge as the wellspring of modernism. Our approach will be that of Cultural Studies, applying methods drawn from disciplines such as literary criticism, sociology, philosophy, anthropology, and history, to the study of beliefs, practices, and cultural productions of social groups in order to articulate their relation to power. We will consider what is meant by “core values” for the French—*Liberté, égalité, fraternité*—and explore the ways in which they are reflected in the country's history, institutions, politics, and cultural productions. A primary goal of this course will be to enhance the student's ability to think critically about culture and understand how cultural production forms, reflects, or questions national, ethnic, gender, and religious identities. At the end of the course, you will be able to identify, describe, and analyze relationships between French values, institutions, and cultural production.

HON 270-07 (42795) Honors Topics: Social Justice, Music, and Education

Prof. Colleen Sears
MR 2 – 3:20PM
(LVPA, RE)

This course will explore how music of various genres (including hip-hop, pop, folk, rock, classical, jazz, and others) can be used to address issues of social justice in contemporary global society. Students will consider how music reflects and inspires racial/ethnic expression and conveys meaning and story about experiences with race and racism. Students will also explore rationales for teaching social justice through music, develop and apply skills needed to lead discussions about social justice issues, and will design projects that use music as the impetus for dialogue about social justice topics.

HON 362-01 (42533) Goodwives and Witches: Women in Colonial America

Prof. Michele Tarter
TF 11 – 12:20PM
(LVPA, Gender)

An interdisciplinary course exploring women's roles, experiences, and challenges in early America, ranging from the years 1630 to 1800. Particular attention is paid to women who dissented from society's gender norms and expectations.

HON 370-01 (42734) Honors Topics: Gender and Visual Culture in South Asia

Professors Deborah Hutton and Marla Jaksch
W 8 – 10:50AM
(LVPA, Gender) (Honors – Global)

This course will explore art and culture from the Indian subcontinent through the lens of gender and sexuality. We will look at, among other topics: expressions of gender and sexuality in Hindu art; how constructions of gender and race were used by British powers to justify colonial rule; the relationship between gender and nationalism during the push for independence as well as in the aftermath of the partition of the subcontinent into the nations of India and Pakistan; and the ways in which contemporary art, film, and dress alternatively enforce and push back against gender norms and expectations. Readings will come from a wide variety of sources, and students will undertake a semester-long research project of their choosing.

HON 370-02 (42799) Roof of the World: History and Culture of the Pamir Region

Professor Jo-Ann Gross
W 5:30– 8:20PM
(WVWK, SCHP) (Honors – Religion) (Honors – Global)

This course offers a unique opportunity to study a little known region of the Islamic world – that of the mountainous region of the Pamir, sometimes referred to as the “Roof of the World”. Prof. Gross is a specialist in Islamic Central History who conducts research in the Pamir. The region includes present-day Gorno-Badakhshan province in Tajikistan, Badakhshan province in Afghanistan, the Wakhan corridor in Afghanistan, and Gilgit-Baltistan in Pakistan. Using historical sources, ethnography, music, poetry, film, religious texts, and oral narratives, students will explore developments in the Pamir from the early modern period to the present. Among the themes to be covered are historiography, religious leadership and identity (most Pamiris are members of the minority Muslim faith, Ismailism), the relationship between Pamiri music, poetry and religious belief, the sacred landscape of shrines, transcultural movements, and political and cultural transformation, particularly in the Russian, Soviet and post-Soviet periods in Tajik Badakhshan and among the Kirghiz and Wakhi in Afghanistan. Students will also have the opportunity to attend a special international symposium on Genealogical History in the Persianate World to be held at TCNJ May 1-2, 2010.

Other Honors Course Opportunities

Honors By Contract (HBC)

Students have the option of converting a non-honors course into an Honors course through completing an HBC (up to 2 of the 5 required Honors courses can be an HBC). The course must be 200-level or above and taught by a full-time faculty. Any course (in your major or not) can be taken as HBC, so long as the professor agrees and your project proposal is approved by the Honors Coordinator. Full instructions for submitting an HBC proposal can be found at <http://honors.tcnj.edu/honors-by-contract/>.

The deadline for proposal submissions is the 4th Friday of the semester, which for Spring 2020 will be **February 21st**. You may also complete an HBC for a J-term, Maymester or summer course (including faculty-led study abroad courses). In these cases, your application must be submitted at least 3 weeks before the course begins. Applications received after that cannot be considered.

Study Abroad

If you plan to study abroad for an entire semester, one of your courses taken abroad can be used to fulfill an Honors course requirement. You must provide the Honors Coordinator with a course equivalency form and specific information (syllabus or detailed outline) for the courses you plan to take. Proposed courses will be reviewed and based on this, one or more courses will be identified for Honors course equivalency. Approval and signatures are required *prior* to studying-abroad.

Other Opportunities

There are several other ways to fulfill your Honors requirements, depending on your major, which you may want to keep in mind. For example, Biology has an Honors research course, and several other majors have the 2-semester Honors thesis option (History and Psychology, for example); if you choose that option, one of the thesis courses can count towards your Honors Program requirements. If you do pursue any of these options, please make sure you email Tiffany Youngblood (youngblt@tcnj.edu) so that she can update your PAWS records. Each of these needs to be manually entered into your Honors course history.