



The College of New Jersey Winter, Spring, and Summer 2023 Honors Course Listing

The TCNJ Honors Program is pleased to provide the following courses offerings for the Spring 2023 semester. 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 are 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. Transfer students who have completed at least 4 units of Honors at a previous institution who enter the Program beginning in Spring 2023 are required to complete only 3 Honors courses at TCNJ
- ✓ One Honors course must be in philosophy
- ✓ One Honors course must have an Honors Global perspective
- ✓ Up to 2 Honors-by-contract courses may be taken (an Honors Global or Philosophy component may be developed) pending Program approval
- ✓ One unit of departmental honors research/thesis options may be used to satisfy one Honors course

REMEMBER: You MUST register for a course under the HON prefix in order to receive Honors credit. The Honors Program cannot adjust your course enrollment once the Add/Drop period has ended.

Winter 2023 Honors Courses

HON 270-01: American Literature to 1800

(LVPA)

Prof. Michele Tarter

TTH 10:00 AM-1:00PM

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to acquire a broad-based, foundational knowledge and understanding of early American literature. Emphasis will be placed on formulating a coherent understanding of the texts, contexts, concerns, and problematics which influenced American literature before 1865 and which continue to structure interpretations of the period. For English majors, this class meets LH and American.

HON 270-901: British Theatre

(LVPA) (Global) (VPA/ Education) *Study Abroad*

Prof. Felicia Steele & Prof. Diane Steinberg

The course meets in the United Kingdom during the January term. Students will examine six to eight British plays both in performance and as texts and will tour sites and institutions important to British literary history. For English majors, this class meets LH and British.

HON 351-901: An Odyssey in Greece: An Exploration of Ancient Greek Culture & Places

(LVPA) (Honors-Global) *Study Abroad*

Prof. Lee Ann Riccardi

This 3-week experience includes visits to the major classical sites of Athens, Olympia, Delphi, and Epidauros, as well as Knossos and other Bronze Age sites in Crete. The course examines various artistic media and intellectual traditions, especially literature, philosophy, architecture, and decorative sculptural programs, in their concrete physical context, with attention to their religious and cultural functions as well as their social, political, historical, and/or artistic value. The study of ancient texts, ideas, and material culture takes place on site and in the context of the atmosphere of Greece: the food, the climate, the contours of the landscape, the people, the language, the light, and the rhythm of life.

Spring 2023 Honors Courses

ASL 101-H1 American Sign Language I

Prof. Steven Singer

MR 11:00-12:20 PM

Through readings, field visits, class activities, and independent research, this course will build upon the core signed vocabulary that was introduced during the ASL I course. In-depth analysis of techniques, forms, and appropriate use of fingerspelling in signed conversations will be provided. Expansion of the student's vocabulary base and knowledge of the principles of ASL will lead to increasingly longer periods of language immersion experiences during class time. Students will explore a variety of organizations devoted to serving deaf citizens.

ASL103-H1 American Sign Language

Prof. Allison Bienas

T 5:30 – 8:20 PM

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.

IDS 252-H1 Society Ethics and Technology

(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

Prof. Mark Edwards

MR 2:00-3:20 PM

Provides students with a framework for understanding ways human societies transform themselves through technological innovation. New technologies enlarge society's options, thereby forcing us to consider ethical questions concerning the social effects of technological change. Students explore past and present developments in various fields of technology and discuss the ethical and social issues they raise.

HON 203-01 Issues in Philosophy

(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

Prof. Rick Kamber

MR 12:30-1:50 PM

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 Issues in Philosophy

(WVWK) (Honors – Philosophy)

Prof. Rick Kamber

MR 2:00-3:20 PM

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.

HON270-01: Honors Topics: Literature by Latinas & Latin-American Women

(LVPA, Gender, Race & Ethnicity)

Prof. Lisa Ortiz-Vilarelle

MR 9:30-10:50 AM

A comparative study of Latina and Latin-American women's literature in English. Open to a wide range of literary traditions, nations, time periods, and genres, including those specific to non-Western and post-Colonial cultures. The focus varies by semester.

HON 270-02: Honors Topics: American English

(CEL, R&E)

Prof. Felicia Steele

MR 2:00-3:20PM

An examination of linguistic variation (dialects) across the United States. Special attention will be paid to the significance of social, gender, and ethnic factors in dialect differences in American English. We will also consider American dialectology as a crucible for the development of ethical and engaged linguistic theory.

HON270-03: Honors Topics: Feminists Talk Whiteness

(SCHP, Gender, Race & Ethnicity)

Prof. Janet Gray

TF 12:30-1:50PM

This course traces a history of critiques of “white feminism” and of the impacts of dialogue among feminists of color and white feminists on social justice theory and practice. The readings include contributions that feminist thinkers have made to Critical Whiteness Studies, an interdisciplinary field that aims to reveal how social, political, and cultural structures produce and reproduce racism and privilege, and to encourage the development of a critical awareness about how the conceptual frames that inform our ways of knowing may make us complicit with white supremacy. We will explore, critique, and practice contemporary anti-racist strategies, preparing ourselves with tools to act as intersectional agents of social justice. The course takes a multidisciplinary approach, immersing us in critical theory, scholarly research, poetry, personal storytelling, practical tips and guidelines, and immediate experiential learning. Your story will be part of the course, and you will be a co-creator of the group's learning experience throughout the semester.

HON270-04: Honors Topics: Social Change in Latin America

(BSCP, Global, Race & Ethnicity) (Honors - Global)

Prof. Diane Bates

MR 3:30-4:50 PM

Latin America has been the subject for much debate about development in social theory. This course examines the theoretical debates about development and provides empirical case studies to highlight how social change occurs in Latin America. These themes include: economic globalization, gender, migration, resistance to social change, urbanization, environmental degradation, corruption, social movements, structural adjustment, and race relations.

HON270-05: Honors Topics: Environmental Anthropology

(BSCP)

Prof. George Leader

TF 9:30-10:50 AM

This course reviews classic perspectives in cultural ecology, but focuses on the more recent scholarship, especially scholarship that addresses human ecology, political ecology and urban ethnography to give the student perspective on how the environment is experienced in multiple cultural contexts, and how the environment affects different cultures in various ways.

HON 270-06: Honors Topics: Judgment & Decision Making

(BSCP); Prof. John Ruscio

TF 2-3:20 PM

Economic models typically assume that human decision making is entirely rational, but psychological research demonstrates that our judgments and decisions can be influenced by cognitive limitations and biases as well as social and motivational factors. This course will begin with a brief overview of basic economic principles of decision making and then examine what have come to be called behavioral economic principles that more accurately describe how judgments are reached and decisions are made. We will also explore the consequences of shortcomings of reasoning in important contexts and consider ways to debias judgments and make better decisions.

HON 270-07: Honors Topics: Ecofeminism

(Gender); Prof. Janet Gray

TF 2:00-3:20 PM

As a way of knowing, ecofeminism puts ecoscience and environmentalism in dialogue with feminist theory and practice, drawing implications for how we manage our relationships with technology and the natural world. Our purpose in this course will be to enter that dialogue by applying core concepts of ecofeminism to the study of pressing contemporary issues, with a special focus on global climate change. Building on the core precept that the domination of women and the domination of nature are connected, ecofeminism offers a distinctive, interdisciplinary lens on the world, drawing on historical analysis, philosophy of science, cultural study, the arts, community development, social justice, and religious studies in its commitment to challenging oppression in all its forms. We will explore ways in which systemic social inequalities shape human relationships to the natural environment; challenge common abuses of the environment and offer alternatives; and study current movements globally.

HON 270-08: Honors Topics: Gender, Sexuality, and Pop Music

(Gender); Prof. Wayne Heisler

TF 2:00-3:20 PM

The focus of this course is on the ways in which select music artists who were in the popular spotlight in the 1980s constructed, conformed to, problematized, critiqued, and/or subverted traditional categories of gender and sexuality. Major themes include the presentation (and representation) of masculinities, misogyny, compulsory heterosexuality, articulations of feminism(s), queer(ing) strategies, and the intersection of race, gender, and sexuality. Our primary texts will be album releases, music videos, and live performance footage from the 1980s, drawn from an array of artists: Pat Benatar, Bon Jovi, the Eurythmics (featuring Annie Lennox), the Go-Go's, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, Cyndi Lauper, L.L. Cool J, Madonna, the Pet Shop Boys, Poison, Prince, Queen Latifah, Salt 'N Pepa, Bruce Springsteen, and Tina Turner. These sources will be supported by academic, critical, and popular writings that enrich understanding of the musical, historical, socio-cultural, and political contexts of 80s popular music.

HON 270-09: Honors Topics: Nutrition Across the Life Span

Prof. Judy Harkins

W 4 – 6:50 PM

Open to non-majors with permission of the chairperson. Provides the student a comprehensive overview of basic nutrition principles. Primary focus is directed toward the nutrient groups and their function in human physiology. Present knowledge about each nutrient is related to current issues in nutrition research and practice. Nutrition controversies faced by consumers are covered. This basic knowledge is applied by examining the relationship between nutrition and health (wellness-illness) across the life span. Examines the impact of cultural, psychosocial, historical, political, and economic influences on the lived experience of nutrition during developmental stages of the life cycle. Students are also be prepared to continue the study of nutrition at a more advanced level in both its normal and therapeutic applications.

HON 270-10: Honors Topics: Latin American Cultural Perspectives

(Honors Global) (satisfies Criminology Diversity requirement)

Prof. Ann Warner Ault

TF 9:30-10:50 AM

This course examines the circumstances of Latin American peoples in Latin America and the U.S., looking at achievements and vexing social problems. It satisfies the CRI dept. diversity requirement, Global liberal learning requirement, and is part of the three-course certificate in "Spanish for Law and Justice Practitioners."

Over the last few decades many Latin American countries have enjoyed sustained economic growth, changing gender roles, and increased participation and representation in politics and business. However, many challenges remain, including: high rates of impunity, corruption, violence, social inequality, anti-democratic movements, public mistrust of the police, as well as the complex effects of the U.S. immigration system. The class explores alternate points of view to develop empathy for the hardships others face.

HON270-11 Monuments, Heritage & Belonging

(LVPA) (Gender) (Global) (Honors – Global)

Prof. Deborah Hutton

W 8:00-10:50AM

What roles do monuments play in our communities? How do they shape collective memory and ideas about the past, present, and future? Whose heritage tends to get commemorated, and, conversely, whose stories aren't told? Can memorials help heal pain? Can monuments be used to foster a sense of belonging? In this course, these questions and others are explored through a variety of intersectional and interdisciplinary approaches. We will visit monuments and memorials in our local communities, talk to artists and activists, read articles from a range of academic disciplines, and study recent controversies surrounding monuments.

HON 370-02: Student-Faculty Advanced Research Topic: Reel Films on Asian/Pacific American Experiences: Defying Injustice, Invisibility, and Misrepresentation

Prof. Yifeng Hu

T 9:30 – 12:20 PM

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) history is U.S. history. Yet popular media have not only largely ignored but also consistently misrepresented and stereotyped this fastest growing racial group in the U.S. Through appreciating and analyzing hand-picked films that portrait authentic AAPI experiences, this course aims to make visible this marginalized group, raise awareness about the racial injustice and discrimination that this group faces throughout the U.S. history, and increase AAPI's sense of belonging in all spheres of society. Through an intercultural/racial communication lens, students will delve into researching about and critiquing films that represent a wide variety of AAPI experiences: early and contemporary immigrant life, culture, identity, stereotypes, racial injustice, intergroup relations, intersectionality, political involvement and advocacy, and AAPIs abroad. Selected materials include documentaries and feature films, independent movies and those made from major studios, and videos created by AAPI social media influencers. Diverse ethnic groups within the AAPI communities are represented too. Students will also put the history and theories they have learned into practice through the conception, planning, and execution of their own AAPI film series or festival and moderating post screening panel discussions with invited film directors/producers.

If you have an open and curious mind and a compassionate heart for racial justice, this course is for you!

Summer 2023 Study Abroad Honors Courses

HON270-901: The Witch in Literature

(LVPA) (Gender)

Prof. Michele Tarter

Exploration of the socio-historical constructions of the witch through a wide spectrum of literary texts: from medieval religious expositions to Puritan legal treatises, from German fairy tales to modern day films, from children's literature to critical theory, from 17th-century courtroom narratives to 21st century propaganda.

HON270-902: Transnational Feminisms & Visual Culture: Sweden

(BSCP) (Gender) (Global) (Honors-Global) *Study Abroad*

Prof. Deborah Hutton & Prof. Marla Jaksch

“Transnational feminisms” refers to the growing transnational network of movements and organizations working on behalf of women at many levels of civil and state society, from grassroots organizing to global governance, together with a growing body of writing and research on women's status, gender oppression, and priorities for change around the world. This course's purpose is to prepare students, as world citizens, to participate in this network by exposing them not only to issues and movements but also to the conceptual, methodological, and affective challenges of building solidarity across a vast range of differences-differences in identity, locale, worldview, focus, strategy, and standpoint in relation to global systems of power. This course may be repeated for credit, as topic changes.

Other Honors Course Opportunities

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 Director with your International Exchange Academic Evaluation 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.

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/> or on the Honors Canvas course site.

The deadline for proposal submissions is the 4th Friday of the semester, which for Spring 2023 will be February 17th. 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 should be submitted at least 3 weeks before the course begins. Applications received after these deadlines cannot be considered.

Honors Project

The Honors & Scholars Program now provides opportunities for students to engage in faculty-mentored research and creative projects through the Honors Project. As with the HBC course enhancement, the student and professor together agree to a set of activities and outcomes that ensure that the project is at the Honors level. Honors Projects should be higher level of work, rigor, and depth than a non-honors departmental research, thesis, or seminar course. All students enrolled in an Honors Project must have at least one affiliated full-time faculty mentor. Students must be enrolled in 1 unit of independent study with the faculty mentor while they are conducting their Honors Project. Students must present the outcome of his/her work through a presentation, exhibit, or performance. Full instructions for submitting an Honor Project proposal can be found at <https://honors.tcnj.edu/honors-project/> or on the Honors Canvas course site.

The deadline for proposal submissions is the 2nd Friday of the semester, which for Spring 2023 will be February 3rd. For Summer Session courses, the proposal must be submitted one week before the first day of the course. Applications received after the deadline cannot be considered.

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 the Honors & Scholars Program (honors@tcnj.edu) so that we can update your PAWS records. We have to enter these manually into your Honors course history.