

Honors Classes Fall, 2005

All students who wish to graduate as Honors Program Scholars must take at least 18 hours of Honors courses, including at least one semester of a Core Seminar. Honors Option courses listed here may be used in completing the 18 hours necessary to graduate as an Honors Program Scholar.

Core Seminar

EGL 102 OH1 Composition II

7 Credit Hours

MAT 131 OH1 Elementary Statistics

MW 9:00am – 12:15 pm

Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus

Marian Staats and Jennifer Strehler

What is a tandem English and Statistics course? Writing about colored balls in an urn? Yes...and no. In this ground-breaking core seminar, students will develop reasoning and communication skills, as well as advance their problem-solving abilities, by studying relevant and meaningful topics integrating the disciplines of gender studies and statistics. Some of the topics we will explore include: What are the effects of sex and gender on learning and language? How does gender affect career choice and salary? How does sexuality impact gender performance? How do we, as a society, deal with gendered forms of violence?

Students begin by investigating a variety of gender concerns through the perspectives of both a statistician and a researcher/writer. As the semester progresses, students will learn to think critically about sources and datasets as they investigate issues surrounding the construction of gender and sexuality in American culture. Assignments will include interdisciplinary readings and media dealing with gender, sexuality and embodiment, as well as short essays and projects integrating writing and statistical analysis. To conclude the course, students, using narrative, research and their knowledge of statistics, will apply their critical understanding of a self-selected gender-related issue to design, execute and present a group research project.

These courses satisfy IAI requirements in English and Mathematics.

Marian Staats has a Ph. D. from Loyola University

Jennifer Strehler has an M.S. from University of Tennessee

Core Seminar Option

This unique and exciting learning community is open to Honors students as well as those not in the Honors Program. It can be used by students to fulfill the core seminar requirement for certification as an Honors Scholar. Enrollment is restricted, however, to women (sorry fellas).

EGL 225: Women and Literature **6 Credit Hours**
PSY107: Psychology of Personal Growth for Women
TR 6:00 – 8:50 pm
Cheryl McKinley and Maureen Douglas

In this learning community, women of all ages will learn how to be more authentic, feel more confident, raise their self-esteem, learn how to communicate more effectively and become more aware of their own values, needs, and aspirations. The published writings will serve as catalysts for analysis, discussion and further exploration of a shared feminine experience. As a community of women, we will encourage each other to engage in reflection and self-discovery.

Students will engage in weekly activities and assignments, all related to both the literary and psychology materials. Course practices will include reading, journaling, literary analysis, and open discussion. The literature readings will represent various genres, and are authored by women of diverse cultures, ethnicities and ages. Experiential and skill building activities will include training in communication skills, meditation, relaxation and yogic techniques.

Egl 225 is an IAI course which meets the general education requirement of Humanities. Prereq: Placement into Egl 101, or currently or previously enrolled in Egl 101

Psy 107 meets an elective requirement

Cheryl McKinley has a Ph.D. from Loyola University.
Maureen Douglas has an MA from Northwestern University.

Honors Courses

EGL 101 OH1 **3 Credit Hours**
Composition I
TR 9:30 – 10:45
Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus
Instructor: TBA

In this class you work to capture the rhythm of your every day thinking in the developed structures of college writing. The course challenges you to find words for the experiences and ideas that occur to you as you confront the world, and it challenges you to develop those ideas into ever more sophisticated insights. You, yourself, are our chief topic. We will have a series of readings – drawn from both professional and collegiate writers – but most of the writing you do will grow out of your own experiences. You will write five full-length essays and a number of shorter sketches as well as maintain an irregular writing journal.

This course satisfies an IAI requirement in composition.

HIS 121 0H1

3 Credit Hours

History of the Vietnam War

F 9:00 – 11:50

Room 2812 Des Plaines Campus

Richard Stacewicz

This course is designed to help students understand the History of America's war in Vietnam and its place in the context of US foreign policy in the second half of the 20th century. Students will examine the history of Vietnam with particular emphasis on its status as a French colony prior to World War II. We will study the development of a nationalist independence movement in that nation and its leaders' goals. Furthermore, students will explore the roots of American involvement in Southeast Asia and well as the contours of the war and its impact on Vietnam, American society, and the globe. Students will be required to read various primary and secondary sources by Vietnamese and American scholars/authors. Finally, we will examine the historiography (the various interpretations of its meaning in American history) of the war.

This course transfers as an elective and satisfies general education requirements.

Richard Stacewicz has a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

HIS 211 0H1

3 Credit Hours

History of Modern Africa

F 9:30 – 12:15

Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus

Erick Mann

This course is designed for the interested general student or historian. Prior study in African History is not required. The course investigates broad historical themes, structures, and developments in sub-Saharan Africa from pre-colonial times to the present, focusing on the period from the mid-nineteenth century to today. Major historical trends, the rise and fall of colonial regimes, the vicissitudes of democratization, authoritarianism, and militarization will frame discussion of specific events or eras,

including the impact of world wars on nationalist movements, Cold War politics, economic development, and the social effects of AIDS, genocide, and populist politics.

This course satisfies IAI and general education requirements.

Erick Mann has a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison

HUM 127 0H1

3 Credit Hours

Introduction to Philosophy

TR 11:00 – 12:15

Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus

Holly Graff

This course will offer an introduction to philosophy by reading some of the philosophical works that beginning philosophy students usually find most exciting and most controversial. The works of philosophy covered will include Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, Sartre's *Existentialism and Human Emotions*, Marx's *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844*, Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontents*, Freire's *Pedagogy of Freedom*, and one other to be determined. We will examine different answers to fundamental questions about existence, the meaning of life, and the nature of value. This class will provide an excellent basis for understanding contemporary philosophical debates. Instead of writing a research paper, students will keep a journal of their own philosophical development. The class will be taught as a seminar and will be characterized by very lively debate.

Students who have already taken HUM 127 may sign up for this class as PHL 290-0H1.

This course satisfies IAI and general education requirements.

Holly Graff has a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

HUM 220 0H1

3 Credit Hours

Non-Western Humanities

MW 12:30 – 1:45

Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus

Douglas Berger

This course will survey modern and contemporary developments in the societies, literature, art and film of India, China and Japan. The trajectories of these three great civilization-states has redirected dramatically through disastrous regional conflicts and partitions, colonial and globalizing confrontation and accommodation with the West, the ruptures between traditional and modernist spheres of influence of women, and enormous political experimentation. The class will follow and reflect

on these civilizational transformations through history, socio-economic change and the literary and visual arts.

This course satisfies IAI and general education requirements in the humanities. It also satisfies the Global Studies requirement.

Douglas Berger has a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Temple University.

SOC103 0H1

3 Credit Hours

Social Problems

TR 12:30 – 1:45

Room 2735 Des Plaines Campus

Gwen Nyden

The Social Problems course will focus primarily on problems that are produced by social inequalities. Among the issues that students will study is how economic structures like capitalism and globalization contribute to social problems like poverty, the crisis in health care, environmental problems, and global conflicts. Additionally, the class will examine how inequalities based on race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality arise and contribute to social problems in the workplace, the family, educational institutions, and the criminal justice system.

This course satisfies an IAI requirement in the social sciences.

Gwen Nyden has a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

Honors Contract Classes

Instructors who teach the following courses have traditionally permitted students to receive honors credit for these courses through the honors contract option. Students can also ask instructors in other courses to work out an honors option for them. If you do approach your instructor, please do so within the first two weeks of the semester. If they have any questions about the process, please have them contact Richard Stacewicz.

Because the Accounting and Economics programs are undergoing changes in staffing, we have not yet created honors options sections for any of these courses. Feel free, however, to ask your instructors if they would work with you on a contract.

ACC 153 0H1

MW 12:00 – 1:40

Principles of Financial Accounting

George Heyman

Accounting 153 covers financial accounting theory as it relates to sole proprietorships, partnerships and corporations, as well as equity rights and cash flows. Honors contract students will be consultants in case studies that emphasize problem solving, interviewing and letter writing skills. This course satisfies a major requirement for business majors.

George Heyman has an M.B.A. from DePaul University

ACC 154
Principles of Managerial Accounting

This course covers managerial accounting concepts, job order and process cost systems and tools used for managerial decision making. It also involves a study of budgeting and standard cost systems.

BIO 121 0H1
General College Biology I
TR 8:00 -9:15 am
Terry Trobec

BIO 121 0H2
General Biology 1
MWF 9:00 – 9:50 am
Carol Ward

Topics covered in BIO 121 are cell structure and function, photosynthesis, cell respiration, biological molecules, DNA and molecular genetics, and recombinant DNA. Honors Contract students will spend one hour/week for 10 weeks (in addition to the six scheduled class hours) reading and discussing science articles related to these topics. There will also be a 10-page research paper. This course satisfies an IAI requirement in life science at Oakton and at transfer universities. Registration by instructor's consent only.

Terry Trobec has a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University.

Carol Ward has a Ph.D. from the University of Florida

ECO 201/211
Principles of Economics 1

The U.S. economy briefly suffered from a recession in 2001. What caused this recession and what brought the economy out of the recession? The national debt has reached \$6 trillion in 2001. Is that too large a debt? How did this debt develop and why does it continue growing? Will the Federal Reserve System raise interest rates in the near future? What effect will this action have on the economy? Should we be concerned about a 5.7% unemployment rate? How does this inflation affect your income and your savings? These and other aggregate economic issues are

discussed in this course. Honors contract students will prepare the same analysis papers as the other students, but in greater depth. Additionally, they will be responsible for leading one of the weekly discussions which will require researching, and analyzing a current macroeconomic issue.

ECO 202/ ECO 212
Principles of Economics II

What impact will the use of the Euro by 12 European countries have on U.S. businesses? How do trade agreements such as NAFTA and the WTO impact U.S. companies and developing countries? Why does the U.S. government subsidize tobacco farmers and, simultaneously, tell U.S. citizens the consumption of tobacco products is hazardous to their health and place a "sin tax" on tobacco products? Does Commonwealth Edison's monopoly position allow it to take unjust advantage of the consumer? Will eliminating Commonwealth Edison's monopoly lower electricity rates? What has happened to labor unions in the last two decades? These and other microeconomic issues are examined in this course. Honors students will prepare the same three analysis papers as other students but in greater depth. Additionally, they will be responsible for leading one of the weekly discussions which will require researching, and analyzing a current microeconomic issue.

MAT 149 OH1
Precalculus
MWF 9:25-10:55
Tingxiu Wang

Besides completing the regular course work, honors students will have five projects or assignments. These projects or assignments will consist of AMATYC math competition problems and articles from math journals. Honors students are encouraged to write math essays under the direction of the instructor. Honors students are also required to participate in math competitions.

Tingxiu Wang has a Ph.D from Southern Illinois University.

MAT 262 OH1
Ordinary Differential Equations
MW 8-9:15 A
Tingxiu Wang

Besides completing the regular course work, honors students will have five projects and assignments. The assignments will consist of ISMAA and AMATYC math competition problems. Students will do a research project under direction of the instructor.

Students will read a research paper, then give examples to illustrate the paper and extend or generate the results of the paper. The research can also be about use of technology. Honors students are also required to participate in math competitions.

Tingxiu Wang has a Ph.D from Southern Illinois University.

Breakouts

All students who wish to graduate as Honors Program Scholars must take 18 hours of Honors courses, including at least one Core Seminar. Honors Option classes listed here may be used to complete the 18 hours necessary to graduate as an Honors Program Scholar.

Eligibility:

To be admitted to Honors at Oakton, you must meet two of the following criteria:

ACT score of 25 or SAT of 1200

Graduation in the top 20 percent of your high school class

GED of 300+

GPA of 3.5 at Oakton or another college

Faculty recommendation

A bachelor's degree (this alone is adequate for admission)

Applications:

To get more information about Honors at Oakton and an application form, call or write the Admissions Office (847) 635-1700 in Des Plaines and (847) 635-1400 at the Ray Hartstein Campus in Skokie, or Honors Program Coordinator Richard Stacewicz at (847) 635-1915.

Oakton Community College
Honors
1600 East Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016-1268