



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT GCU.EDU/HONORS

3300 W. Camelback Road, Phoenix, AZ 85017

The information printed in this material is accurate as of October 2016. For the most up-to-date information about admission requirements, tuition, scholarships and more, visit gcu.edu. For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program and other important information, please visit our website at gcu.edu/disclosures.

Please note, not all GCU programs are available in all states and in all learning modalities. Program availability is contingent on student enrollment. Grand Canyon University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. (800-621-7440; <http://hlcommission.org/>)

GCU, while reserving its lawful rights in light of its Christian mission, is committed to maintaining an academic environment that is free from unlawful discrimination. Further detail on GCU's Non-Discrimination policies can be found at gcu.edu/titleIX



GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY™

HONORS COLLEGE

Embrace the Challenge. Enrich your Future.

Grand Canyon University

ABOUT GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1949, Grand Canyon University is a private Christian university with over 200 academic programs and concentrations. Our classes involve engaging interaction with classmates and individual attention from instructors who care about student success. Our rapidly expanding campus features a newly renovated GCU Arena, new residence halls and classroom buildings and amenities like popular eateries and resort-style swimming pools. We offer generous scholarship opportunities to students to help make funding a Christian education affordable.

GCU HONORS COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

The Honors College at Grand Canyon University is designed to produce exemplary graduates who are uniquely equipped to lead and serve in the workplace and local and global communities. Academically advanced students participate in curricular and co-curricular experiences which are rigorous, meaningful, interdisciplinary and unique to the honors community. The focus is on developing a depth and breadth of understanding of content within a challenging curriculum that holistically integrates faith, theory, practice and research. Our goal is to develop servant leaders and change agents who are primed to enter the world with a competitive advantage over their contemporaries in the fields of problem-solving, communication, critical thinking, evidence-based decision making and cultural awareness.





*For more information,
visit gcu.edu/Honors or email gcuhonors@gcu.edu*

#GOLOPES



GCU Honors College

EXPERIENCE

The GCU Honors College promotes challenging and enriched learning experiences for academically advanced students. The college is designed to develop honors students into exemplary graduates and influential agents of change who will lead and serve in both the workplace and local and global communities. The interdisciplinary curriculum unique to the college holistically integrates faith, theory, practice and research. You'll have the opportunity to take your academic experience to new heights, while exceeding your intellectual and creative boundaries.

BENEFITS

The Honors College stands for great opportunities and even greater rewards for well-rounded high achievers, both inside the classroom and beyond. Along with achieving academic excellence, students are encouraged to participate in various social, spiritual life, team-building and exclusive honors events.

LIKEMINDED PEERS

Honors students belong to a special group of likeminded peers who share similar interests, aspirations and aptitudes. As part of this close-knit, supportive community, students will experience individualized learning and personal growth, creating a future of leadership and scholarship excellence.



GOALS

The Honors College supports student achievement in servant leadership and scholarship – the overarching goals of this academically elevated community. We encourage our students to achieve the following goals:

- Transform academically through a broad exposure to diverse disciplines
- Challenge higher levels of thinking within disciplines
- Acquire Habits of Mind and novel ways of thinking to analyze issues and become agents of change who problem solve and innovate
- Represent the university as an ambassador who displays characteristics of outstanding servant leadership and scholarship





Special Benefits

HONORS BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES INCLUDE

- A college and curriculum founded on the five core domains of Ethics, Research, Service, Leadership and Cultural Awareness
- One-on-one mentoring with distinguished, honors-dedicated faculty members
- Priority tickets to exclusive speaker events on campus
- Invitations to interdisciplinary symposium seminars
- Honors mission trip and study abroad opportunities
- Honors diploma and designation on transcripts
- Priority consideration for select student-worker positions on campus
- Opportunities for internships and community service learning projects
- Five honors clubs and organizations, including Colangelo Scholars and Honors STEMists
- Priority course registration with designated honors student services counselors
- Honors housing for freshmen in The Grove, priority housing for continuing honors students and Honors Residence Living Learning Community
- No additional fees (only university honors college in Arizona without additional fee requirements)
- Annual international travel opportunities with honors peers
- Purposeful and intentional assistance with career planning





P.A.C. PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Honors students have the exclusive opportunity to participate in this accelerated six-week program designed to grow students in their professional development, career planning, academic pursuits, networking skills and more. Developed by the Honors College, the Career IMPACT Center and Institutional Effectiveness, this boot camp also connects field experts and mentors with high achievers to create optimal learning experiences.

The P.A.C. Professional and Leadership Development Program program includes:

- Free workshops on topics such as interviewing, job shadowing, networking, personal branding, leadership and workplace professionalism
- Interview with assigned mentor in interested field of study
- Participation in networking events and receive 50 free business cards
- Assistance in creating a professional portfolio
- Advising from a Career IMPACT Center professional and personalized mock interview session
- Certificate of program completion and recognition at annual honors banquet

Top outstanding performers receive additional benefits, including a plaque, features in GCU Today and the Honors College monthly newsletter, and a one-on-one with the vice president of Institutional Effectives for an opportunity to earn an internship or shadowing opportunity within the field of interest.

CAREER IMPACT CENTER

The Career IMPACT Center is dedicated to setting students up for a successful career path, from providing resources and personalized support to helping students refine interviewing and networking skills. Through the Career IMPACT Center, honors students can explore career options and job opportunities, as well as best practices for creating effective resumes and compelling cover letters. Online tools Career Compass and Career Connections can also help honors students build a resume, job search, discover a career path and more.



GCU Honors Housing

HONORS HOUSING

The Honors College offers the unique opportunity for incoming and returning honors students to live in honors-designated housing on campus. Freshman students may live on the honors-exclusive floor in Juniper Hall, a residence hall part of the new freshman campus community The Grove. Our Honors Residence Hall Living Learning Community (LLC) for freshmen and upperclassmen also provides high-achievers with a supportive and close-knit living environment for sharing similar experiences and interests. Honors students will be matched with other honors students to be roommates.

WHY LIVE IN HONORS HOUSING?

GCU Honors College students have the privilege to study among a group of peers who share similar aspirations, aptitudes and interests. These bright and passionate students who possess high ambition and motivation become a close, academically elevated network. We want to offer honors students the opportunity to stay surrounded by their likeminded peers in the classroom and at home. As part of this exemplary community, students can continue to experience individualized learning and personal growth toward leadership and scholarship excellence by turning campus classmates into GCU family.

HONORS HOUSING IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Meet new people who may become lifelong friends and even future colleagues
- Connect academically, personally and spiritually with others
- Inspire and help one another throughout academically advanced pursuits
- Challenge one another to innovative and higher levels of thinking
- Seek outstanding servant leadership and scholarship as a supportive group
- Graduate together and share pride in one another's accomplishments



juniper hall



Expectations

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE CLASSROOM

The Honors College is an opportunity to apply your natural talents and ambitions to make a difference, starting with these classroom advantages:

Smaller Class Sizes – Honors general education courses are capped at a much lower number of students than equivalent standard courses. A more intimate learning environment fosters enhanced engagement and discussion.

Critical Thought – The college curriculum pushes intellectual limits and challenges students to think more critically at a higher level.

Supportive Environment – Honors courses encourage greater interaction among instructors and peers. Students build supportive relationships with one another that will last for a lifetime.

WHAT TO EXPECT OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

The Honors College values hands-on learning and real-world experiences beyond the classroom – and even campus. You can explore the following exciting endeavors:

- Service learning projects
- Mission trips
- Study abroad opportunities
- Internships and professional development
- Five honors clubs and organizations
- Over 20 monthly events and opportunities



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

The five core domains of the Honors College include:

1. Ethics

Students examine ethical issues, learn to justify a position and formulate decisions following a morally defensible paradigm – all while analyzing the pros and cons of ethical challenges and outcomes. This experience charts a course intended to cause the least harm while providing the most good.

2. Research

Students evaluate evidence and consider all sides to an issue before defending a position. Utilizing multiple sources, students learn to distinguish the strengths and weaknesses of different positions to identify solutions.

3. Service

Students apply classroom knowledge to create change in real-life contexts. Students reflect on the impact service has on others and the effects it has on their personal growth as well.

4. Leadership

Students study leadership styles of historical figures and analyze commonalities in their personalities, behaviors and belief systems. Students will learn to adopt a personal leadership style and participate in leadership endeavors within a chosen discipline, such as serving a proven leader as an apprentice in a chosen field.

5. Cultural Awareness

Students exhibit sensitivity and understanding toward different perspectives, evaluate the effects of lacking cultural awareness and demonstrate respect for others while valuing diversity of the human race.





Honors Clubs and Organizations

COLANGELO SCHOLARS

Honors students can enhance their experiences as a member of Colangelo Scholars, a dynamic and business-driven organization welcoming all honors students to join. Members of Colangelo Scholars engage in topics over current events, effective leadership, keys to success and more! Students will feed their intellectual curiosities by networking, interning and meeting with top entrepreneurs and business professionals in the country. Throughout the year, attendees will also have the opportunity to meet sports industry legend Jerry Colangelo and Dr. Randy Gibb, Dean of the Colangelo College of Business.

HONORS STEMISTS

Honors STEMists seek to build community among the honors students studying within the health care, technology, engineering and computer science fields. Students receive resources, unique learning experiences, networking opportunities and more for growing their personal and professional development. Students can also meet experts in their chosen field, take educational field trips, meet for course-specific study groups, prepare for graduate and medical school exams together, attend graduate or medical school prep workshops and more!

HONORS COLLEGE CLUB

The Honors Consortium Club welcomes honors students to connect, get involved and meet other Honors College students. Through friendship in this tight-knit community, students support one another's academic challenges and achievements, while creating lifelong bonds. Students are notified of and enjoy attending honors-exclusive events, social activities, guest speakers and fun gatherings scheduled throughout the year. Students will also receive updates on incredible international travel opportunities.

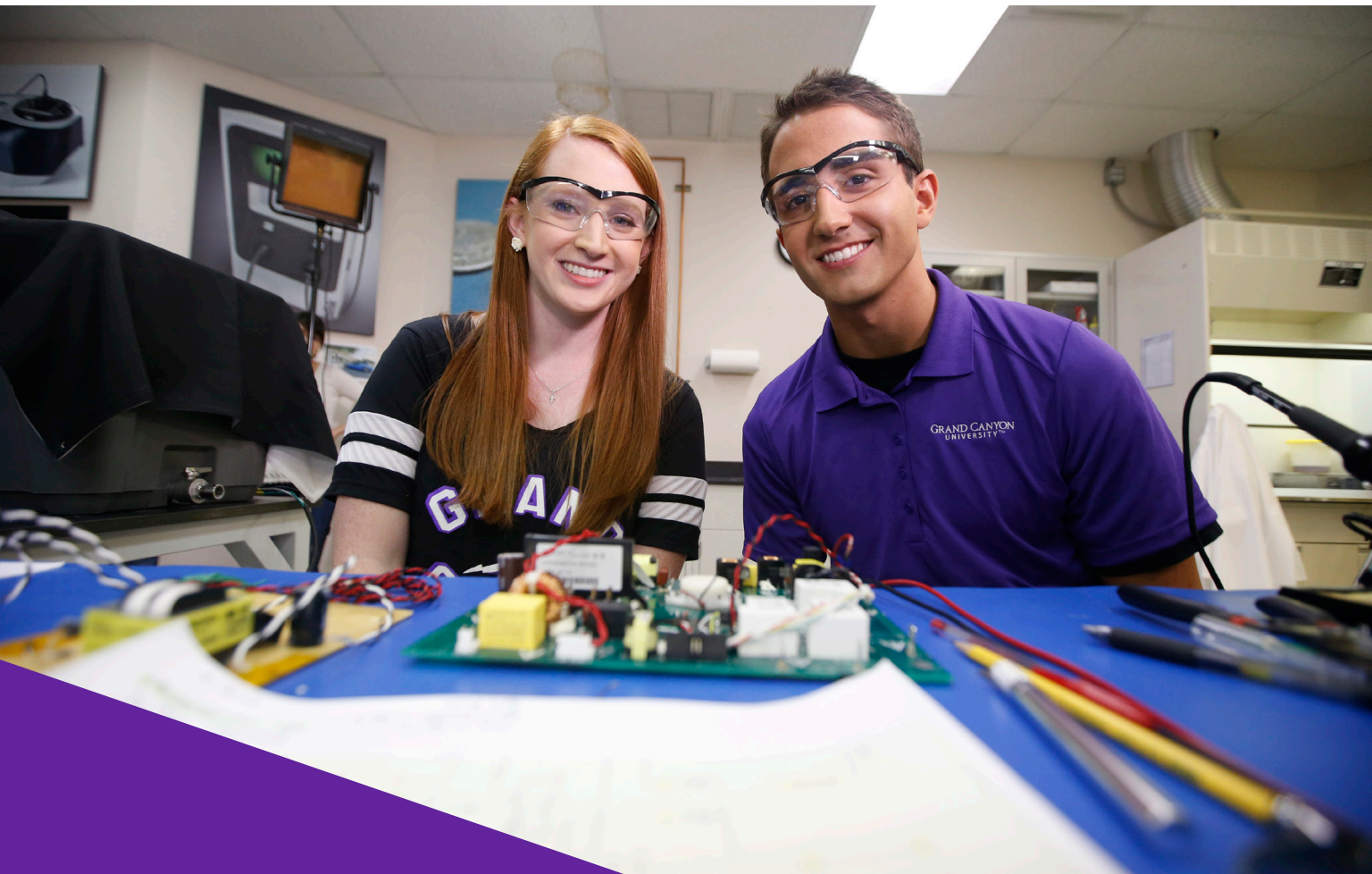


NATIONAL SOCIETY OF COLLEGIATE SCHOLARS

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) serves as an honors organization that recognizes and elevates high achievers. The mission of this organization is to celebrate high achievement, promote high standards throughout the collegiate experience and provide opportunities for personal growth and leadership development among members. NSCS also awards scholarships for members, encourages learning opportunities through community service and fosters an overall appreciation for the value of higher education.

ALPHA CHI NATIONAL COLLEGE HONORS SOCIETY

Alpha Chi serves as a coeducational national college honor society that admits students from all academic disciplines. Since 1922, Alpha Chi strives to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students. Members are honored for achieving this distinction. Students receive invitations for membership by ranking in the top 10 percent in the institution—an accomplishment certainly to be proud of.



Annual Spring Symposium

The Annual Spring Symposium is exclusive to the GCU Honors College and provides students with an opportunity to hear from expert speakers and honors faculty members on various themes. Students interact with these esteemed individuals and fellow honors peers throughout this eight-week experience. Students also engage in hands-on, interactive learning experiences that encourage a deeper level of thinking about the world and life after college. Following the symposium, students can share this new knowledge with honors classmates.

The Annual Spring Symposium is a mandatory, zero-credit experience. It takes what students learn in the classroom and brings it to life in an interactive, open-forum environment. Attending and participating in the symposium is the only mandatory co-curricular requirement for graduating from the GCU Honors College.

Each grade level experiences a different theme:

- **Freshmen** – Ethics: Culture, Perception and Action
- **Sophomores** – Service: Human Connections
- **Juniors** – Leadership: The Last Shall Be First
- **Seniors** – Research: Ways of Knowing and Thinking



Travel Opportunities

STUDY ABROAD

Honors students can learn beyond the GCU campus in a different country by studying abroad. GCU partners with the University Study Abroad Consortium to provide students with exciting study abroad program opportunities that count as earned credit within their program of study. These semester-long experiences are located at approved foreign universities around the world.

HONORS MISSIONS TRIPS

Honors students can also travel overseas to make a difference as part of a team on a mission trip. GCU global outreach trips provide students with the life-changing opportunity to make an impact through service, social work and more, from teaching English through ministry partnerships to building relationships with locals in remote villages.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL EXCURSIONS

The Honors College offers students once-in-a-lifetime international travel opportunities to enhance learning and exploration. Students can embark on adventures around the globe throughout the year to discover new countries, experience different cultures, see incredible sights and learn about famous landmarks.



Admission Criteria

The ideal candidate for the Honors College is a student who yearns for enhanced challenge and enrichment. Honors students possess academic aptitude and a worldly curiosity for finding answers to questions related to ethics, research, service, leadership and cultural awareness. This individual approaches service, leadership and scholarship with self-motivation, passion and critical thinking.

HONORS CRITERIA

The Honors College is exclusively for students who attend on campus. This exclusivity enables on-campus students to fully benefit from and engage in the honors coursework, activities and experiences.

Qualified candidates generally meet the following criteria. However, Honors College applicants are selected on a holistic basis – based on their preparedness for the academic rigor of the honors curriculum. No single factor or combination of factors guarantees or prevents admission. We advise applicants to share their academic achievements, service and leadership background in the application.



INCOMING FRESHMEN

Competency Requirements

- Admission into the university
- Automatic Acceptance, No Secondary Application Required:
 - Cumulative high school GPA of 3.9 or greater
 - **OR** ACT composite score of 31 or greater
 - **OR** SAT score (combined verbal and math) of 1350 or greater
- Eligible to Apply at gcu.edu/Honors:
 - Cumulative high school GPA of 3.7 or greater
 - **OR** ACT composite score of 27 or greater
 - **OR** SAT score (combined verbal and math) of 1200 or greater
 - Demonstrated passion for community service and leadership

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Competency Requirements

- Admission into the university
- Automatic Acceptance, No Secondary Application Required:
 - Cumulative college GPA of 3.5 or greater
 - Actively enrolled in a college honors program or Phi Theta Kappa chapter
- Eligible to Apply at gcu.edu/Honors:
 - Cumulative college GPA of 3.5 or greater
 - Earned at least 24 or more college credits prior to seeking admission into the Honors College
- Demonstrated passion for community service and leadership

**Note: In order to apply for the Honors College, students must first apply to GCU and be admitted. Only students who are already admitted to GCU will have their Honors application reviewed. Some students are eligible to waive the secondary honors application. Please visit gcu.edu/honors for details.*



Application Materials

- Complete the Honors College application* on gcu.edu/Honors
- Complete a type-written, 500-750-word essay (visit gcu.edu/honors for required topics)
- Submit copy of current resume including employment and community service or leadership roles
- Provide two letters of recommendation

HOW TO ACCEPT YOUR SEAT

Contact your GCU admissions representative or email GCUHonors@gcu.edu to confirm and accept your seat. You can also visit your GCU Student Portal and accept through your New Student Checklist feature!

HONORS REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from the Honors College, students must complete the following curricular and co-curricular requirements, in addition to all the specific requirements of their degree program:

Curricular (20 credits)

- 8-12 credits of General Education
- 8-12 credits of honors coursework in student's major
- 16-20 total honors credits required **Co-Curricular**
- Four mandatory non-credit bearing symposia experiences are required annually throughout the program with one occurring each year during the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior spring semesters
- Must maintain a 3.25 GPA at GCU for continued enrollment in the Honors College

*Internal transfers from GCU must have **less than** 36 completed GCU credits and a 3.5+ GCU GPA.

Visit gcu.edu/Honors to apply for the Honors College by July 1

Learn more about the Honors College requirements (and the recommended sequence for most students) by visiting gcu.edu/Honors

Social Media Connections

Honors students can stay up-to-date on the latest events and important details by following the Honors College at Grand Canyon University Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. Through these pages, students can interact with friends, share stories and post comments! Students can also check out the coolest photos and latest happenings on Instagram.

CONNECT WITH US!


 Grand Canyon University Honors College

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 Remind 101: Text @gcuhonors to 81010

 **Featured:**
Check out the new Honors College blog!

 **Questions? Contact Us!**
GCUHonors@gcu.edu

Students who have questions for a current honors student can contact an Honors College Ambassador at HonorsCollegeLiaisons@gcu.edu



Group Check In

