

Honors Program FAQs

What is the honors program?

- The honors program is comprised of seven courses (18 credits) within the general education curriculum. Students are required to take six (15-16 credits) of these seven courses to complete the honors program. Students who wish to take all seven courses may do so.

Who can be part of the honors program?

- We are looking for students who desire to ask and consider answers to big questions and students with a record of high academic achievement who are enrolling in a four-year degree program. (Note: "High academic achievement" is determined by evaluating many factors, including high school or college GPA, standardized test scores, AP credit, etc.)
- Students not formally admitted into the program may take courses for elective credit if (1) seats are available and (2) the student has permission from the professor.

How do I apply to be part of the honors program?

- Applying to the honors program requires completion of three steps. (1) Email Dr. Joshua Boyd (boydj@faith.edu), director of the honors program, to indicate your interest in the program, and he will respond with a few brief questions for you to answer. (2) Respond to the questions that the director sent you. (3) Attend an interview with the director and other honors program faculty. After all three steps are completed, the director will inform you of whether you are admitted into the program.

What kinds of courses are offered in the honors program?

- This program emphasizes the Great Books of the Western tradition and Socratic conversation. Thus, students do not read about influential works but, instead, actually read those works and then engage in an informed and vigorous discussion of those works' significant ideas.
- This program specifically focuses on the liberal arts that comprise the *trivium* (or "three paths") of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Students encounter the fundamental ideas that have shaped Western thought (grammar), learn how to analyze and evaluate those ideas and contemporary issues (logic), and learn how to participate in the great conversation with winsome, cogent, and persuasive speech and writing (rhetoric).
- The specific courses in the program are the following:
 - **Required Courses**
 - Introduction to the Liberal Arts (3 credits)
 - The Art of Persuasion (3 credits)
 - Senior Thesis (1 credit)
 - **Elective Courses (take any three of the four courses below)**
 - Great Books in History (3 credits)
 - Great Books in Philosophy (2 credits)
 - Great Books in Literature (3 credits)
 - Great Books in Theology (3 credits)

Does the honors program require ancient languages?

- No, you are not required to learn Greek, Hebrew, or Latin, but we strongly encourage you to consider learning one of these languages, especially if you would like to work in a classical school someday.
- We offer Greek and Hebrew on campus. Students wishing to learn Latin for college credit may do so through Acadeum (contact Dr. Lynn McCool for more information).

If I enroll in the honors track, do I have to take additional courses?

- Students in the honors track take one additional course, a capstone project (senior thesis) during the fall semester of their senior year.
- The other five courses fulfill general education course requirements that are part of all students' four-year degree programs.

What specific courses in the general education curriculum may be replaced by an honors program course?

Honors Course	Can Replace One of These Courses
H-GB 101 Introduction to the Liberal Arts	G-CO 101 English Composition I G-CO 102 English Composition II G-CO 205 Introduction to Communication G-HU 101 Music Appreciation G-HU 105 Digital Humanities
H-GB 102 The Art of Persuasion	G-CO 101 English Composition I G-CO 102 English Composition II G-CO 205 Introduction to Communication G-HU 101 Music Appreciation G-HU 105 Digital Humanities
H-GB 202 Great Books in Literature	G-HU 202 Introduction to Literature G-HU 207 World Literature
H-GB 203 Great Books in History	G-HI 201 Western Civilization I G-HI 202 Western Civilization II G-HI 301 History of the US & Economics
H-GB 301 Great Books in Philosophy (2 cr)	G-HU 201 Introduction to Philosophy (2 cr)

What is the senior thesis?

- The senior thesis is the program capstone that includes a written component and a public presentation of the project.
- The written component is a paper of more than 25 pages that is written under the supervision of a faculty advisor. This paper is a revision and significant development of an assignment previously submitted in an honors program class. The student is encouraged to begin working on this project early in the program. The parameters of the assignment will be introduced in H-GB 102 The Art of Persuasion.
- The public presentation allows the student to present a summary of his or her project before faculty, friends, and family members. The student will conclude the presentation by fielding questions from the audience.

How will the honors program enhance my experience at Faith Baptist Bible College?

- We believe that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. We believe we are to love God with all our soul, mind, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. We believe that we are to take every thought captive to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This program will provide you with opportunities to grow in wisdom, to love the best things to the appropriate degree, to free yourself from the pernicious persuasion of the world, and to serve others by being thoughtful, compassionate, and humble servants of Christ.
- In addition to the above invaluable benefits, you will . . .
 - enhance your writing, thinking, and speaking abilities
 - experience discipleship through small class sizes and direct interaction with faculty mentors/advisors
 - equip yourself for graduate education in theology, the humanities, education, and many other disciplines
 - engage with the great ideas foundational to Western civilization
 - enjoy special recognition of your accomplishment at commencement and on your diploma

Have more questions? Email Dr. Joshua Boyd (boydj@faith.edu) today.