



Student Handbook

2016

YEAR-BY-YEAR GUIDE

The following is based on a student earning a bachelor's degree in four years (8 semesters). Students planning a different track (3 years, 4 ½ years, etc.) should consult with the Honors College staff. By the end of each year, students should have completed the following:

First Year:

- Honors 101**
- Honors 102**
- At least 12 of the 29 honors hours by end of year**
- A minimum 3.20 cumulative GPA by end of year**
- Community Action Challenge reported each semester**

Second Year:

- At least 18 of the 29 honors hours by end of year**
- Begin exploring thesis opportunities in your major**
- A minimum 3.40 cumulative GPA by end of year**
- Community Action Challenge reported each semester**
- Submit candidacy form online by April 1st**

Third Year:

- A minimum 3.50 cumulative GPA by end of year**
- Submit Honors Capstone form by November 15th**
- Community Action Challenge reported each semester**
- Additional honors courses as necessary to graduate with at least 29 honors hours**

Fourth Year:

- At least 29 honors hours by end of year**
- 3.50 cumulative GPA**
- Community Action Challenge reported for at least one semester**
- Notify SMBHC of Second Reader by September 15**
- Thesis submitted to readers by April 1st**
- Arrange defense date with thesis committee**
- Defend Thesis by last day of classes**
- Submit one final copy of thesis on 100% cotton bond paper, formatted according to thesis guidelines, and upload electronic copy to Thesis Repository by the end of Finals week**

SMBHC STUDENT HANDBOOK

2016-2017

**THE SALLY MCDONNELL BARKSDALE HONORS COLLEGE
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

Table of Contents

PREFACE...1

SMBHC STAFF: HOW TO REACH US...2

HONORS COLLEGE COURTESIES...3

REQUIREMENTS...4

Honors Hours

Honors 101/102

Scholar Candidacy

GPA

Academic Dismissal/Re-admittance Policy

Community Action Challenge

The Honors Capstone Years: After Candidacy

The Honors Thesis

MAKING THINGS WORK...9

Managing Your Honors Hours/Coursework

Honors Academic Counseling

Communication

Good Standing

POLICIES...11

The Honor Code

The University Creed

Attendance Policy

BENEFITS...12

Honors Housing

SMBHC Convocations

Early Registration

Engaging the Question

Honors-Only Coursework

Honors Fellowships

Research Funds

Conference Funds

Barksdale Award

Website and Newsletter

Office of National Scholarship Advisement

Dedicated Staff
The Honors College Building
Mississippi Water Security Institute
Other Affiliated Programs

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS...17

The Honors Senate
Mock Trial
Populi Magazine
Honors College Student Union

Appendices (page 19)—Accelerated Law Program Guide, Society and Health Minor, Capstone Form, Honors Fellowship Form, Application for Research Funds, Conference Travel Funds Form, Owning Honors Worksheet

PREFACE

The Mission of the SMBHC

The Honors College prepares citizen scholars who are fired by the life of the mind, committed to the public good, and driven to find solutions.

This handbook provides the essential tools to accomplish your Mission. Remember, you own this experience. We share the goal, but you will determine how you get there. Use the resources included in this handbook to cultivate deep conversations with peers and professors.

SMBHC Staff: How to Reach Us

SMBHC
P.O. Box 1848
1 Sorority Row
University, MS 38677-1848
Phone: (662) 915-7294
Fax: (662) 915-7739
E-mail: honors@olemiss.edu

Dr. Douglass Sullivan-González, Dean
Room 128
dsg@olemiss.edu

Dr. John Samonds, Associate Dean
Room 335
jsamonds@olemiss.edu

Dr. Debra Young, Associate Dean
Room 334
dbyoung@olemiss.edu

Ms. Jennifer Parsons, Assistant Dean
Room 333
jparsons@olemiss.edu

Mr. Bruce Levingston,
Chancellor's Honors College
Artist in Residence and
the holder of the Lester Glenn Fant Endowed
Chair
Room 322
bruce@olemiss.edu

Mrs. Penny Leeton
Honors Coordinator
Room 127
pleeton@olemiss.edu

Mr. Fred Caraway, Accountant
Room 203
fycarawa@olemiss.edu

Ms. Mimi Rankin
Coordinator of Recruitment and Admissions
Room 126
mrainkin@olemiss.edu

Mr. Tim Dolan, Director
Office of National Scholarship Advisement
Room 202
tadolan@olemiss.edu

Mr. Scotty Polston
Telecommunications Analyst II
Room 201
spolston@olemiss.edu

Ms. Elizabeth Tolbert, Secretary
Room 123
letolber@olemiss.edu

Ms. Ashleen Williams, Barksdale Fellow
Room 23
amwill17@olemiss.edu

Ms. Rebekah Whitley, Barksdale Fellow
Room 23

Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College Courtesies

The Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College building exists as a home to honors students, faculty and staff. It has been generously designed to accommodate both academic and social activities. Members of the SMBHC community have many privileges here, and members must cooperate to preserve these privileges.

Please respect the following courtesies:

- Respect your neighbor's space.
- Keep the SMBHC building clean.
- The university is a smoke-free campus.
- Respect the SMBHC's recycling efforts; put trash in proper containers.
- If you study in the lounge, be aware that it is a space for all honors students, and distractions, such as televisions and conversations, may exist.
- Keep the kitchen tidy. If you use the kitchen, wash used dishes and throw away trash. Always return borrowed items.
- Keep the computer lab and its equipment clean.
- Keep study rooms tidy. Erase boards when you leave a study room.
- Respect our fish!

REQUIREMENTS

Honors Hours—The curriculum of the Honors College requires a minimum of 29 hours of honors credit. At least 12 hours must be earned by the end of the first year, with Hon 101 and 102 being six of those hours. The other hours will come mainly from honors sections of courses you take to meet core curriculum requirements. In the third and fourth years, most students will earn 1-9 hours of honors credit for their Honors Capstone and Thesis. Other hours come from taking honors experiential learning and special topics courses. Honors course offerings are posted on the website each semester during priority registration.

Honors 101/102—These two courses ordinarily will satisfy the six-hour Freshman Composition requirement. Alternatively, a student may apply all or part of the credits toward humanities or social science hours, especially if the student has AP, IB, or dual-enrollment credit for freshman composition. If used as humanities and social science credit, Honors 101 and 102 function differently in the various colleges and schools:

Business/Accountancy/Pharmacy:	6 hours of humanities
Engineering/Journalism:	3 hours of humanities and 3 hours of electives
Education/Applied Sciences:	3 hours of humanities and 3 hours of electives
Liberal Arts:	B.A.—3 hours of humanities and 3 hours of social sciences; B.S.—6 hours of the required 12 hours of social sciences

If you have any questions about how to use honors courses, contact the Assistant Dean or one of the Associate Deans.

Scholar Candidacy—At the end of the second year, honors students petition to become Candidates for SMBHC Scholars. The Petition can be found in my.olemiss.edu under the Special Academic Opportunities box. For the Petition to be approved, a student must have at least 18 honors hours, be up-to-date on CAC, and have at least a 3.40 cumulative GPA. Exceptions to the 18-hour minimum will be made only when the student includes a feasible plan for how he/she will earn at least 29 honors hours by the time of graduation.

GPA—A student must have a minimum 3.50 grade point average in order to graduate as a Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors Scholar. In the service of accomplishing this goal, Honors students must attain a minimum GPA of 3.20 at the end of the first year, a 3.40 at the end of the second year, and a 3.50 by the end of the third year. During the fourth year, students should have at least a 3.50 cumulative GPA.

Academic Dismissal/Re-admittance Policy—Academic dismissals will be made after the spring semester. Students dismissed from the Honors College because of a low GPA may request re-admission if they bring their GPA up to the minimum for their year. For example, a student at the end of the first year with lower than a 3.20 may pull his/her GPA up through summer school courses and re-enter the Honors College. To re-enter in a later year, a student needs to have the minimum GPA for that year. In other words, a first-year dismissed for not having a 3.20 would need to have at least a 3.40 as a second-year to be readmitted.

Community Action Challenge—The Community Action Challenge (CAC): become an agent of change in your community. Each semester, make a difference. More meaningful than the notion of “service hours,” the Community Action Challenge asks you, as a citizen scholar, to outline the scope of your concerns and dreams, explore what it takes to have a lasting impact, and transform your community and yourself.

Each semester, as you meet the Community Action Challenge, you will use the University’s Service Directory to keep a record of your work. Log into your MyOleMiss account and click on the Student tab. Under Tools and Resources, you’ll find Service Administration. Use that Directory to tell us and the University where and how you have been an agent of change in your community. Although not required to do so, you are very strongly encouraged also to record the impact of your experiences as an agent of change: how did the experience shape your sense of community or of yourself and what you have to offer? Note: Remember that myolemiss.edu works better with some browsers than others; if you don’t get a confirmation, then the hours weren’t recorded, and you should switch browsers.

Many SMBHC students are deeply involved in the philanthropies of campus organizations, or choose to continue a long-standing habit of volunteering with local organizations. Others find their own, often highly individual, avenues for using their gifts to meet community needs. In many cases, experiential or service-learning courses, or even internships, clearly meet the Challenge. Students wishing to volunteer time to a local service organization to fulfill the Community Action component will find numerous opportunities at www.volunteeroxford.org. Opportunities are also announced in the SMBHC weekly newsletter, but it is your responsibility to name your community, identify a need of concern to you, and find a way to bring your particular gifts to meet that need. The SMBHC expects students to complete and record at least 10 hours of Community Action per semester.

Keep CAC at the core of your honors experience. Talk with the honors staff about your hopes and your communities and how you might make a difference now and later. And remember to use the University’s Service Directory to keep a record of your work – what tasks you undertook or where you volunteered, what you accomplished and why it mattered.

The Honors Capstone Years: After Candidacy—During your first two years, you participate in the Honors experience largely through the enriched academic environment of honors coursework for core curriculum requirements and through other shared resources and opportunities. Once you are a candidate for SMBHC Scholar, you seek out the independent experiences that push you beyond the familiar challenges of the classroom. To this end, you frequently work alone rather than share the experience of learning; for a lot of the time, you may struggle without a clear guideline for moving forward, much less succeeding. Believe us, it’s going to be great! During your last two years with the SMBHC, the years after you have applied for Candidacy, your honors experience assumes the shape you give it through your choices for your time, intelligence, and gifts. To put this another way, there is no single profile for an SMBHC Scholar. Your last two years, including your thesis, will be shaped by you.

Once you become a Candidate, the SMBHC supports you as you use our resources and challenges to become the Citizen Scholar you want to be, even if you do not yet know who that person is. Our expectations and support for your efforts will help you figure that out. We hope you will continue to use Honors coursework and occasions to exercise your ability to see and think, and now also to imagine yourself among those carrying on the important conversations of the day. We expect you to plan and

undertake the Honors Capstone—a scholarly, professional, and/or personal experience that will provide an immersive experience in the challenges and rewards of your major field and a final proof of your academic abilities.

The hallmark of these years, the Honors Capstone, is a structured, extended experience in your major field, culminating in an honors thesis. It is a means by which you develop your own scholarly or professional interests at an honors level. Because this advanced, independent work sets you apart from other university students, the Honors Capstone will benefit you as you apply for graduate/professional school or enter your chosen career. The thesis is not just a line on your résumé; it should be a talking point in your first job interview or your interview for med school. The Capstone work that leads up to it may be the avenue by which you pinpoint your dream graduate school, and get them to take your application seriously.

While there is an “end” for your Capstone in writing your honors thesis, there is no set starting point. Your Application for Candidacy is a sign of your intent to continue beyond two years, but no course or hurdle kicks off the Capstone stage of your Honors experience. You might discover to your surprise that the lectures from one of your core curriculum courses provide far more thoughtful pleasure than the prospect unfolding through your chosen major, or you find yourself holding deep conversations with a professor whose work you barely begin to understand. If, during your first two years, something so galvanizes you that you cannot walk away, stop and go deeper. Construct your Capstone around that moment.

If that intensity does not happen during your first two years, don’t be concerned. There is a reason we posit the Honors Capstone as a Candidacy experience. You are just now moving beyond the rich but somewhat safe environment of the classroom. The key now is to recognize that you must take charge of your own development, not wait for honors classes (or any external challenge) to determine your direction or achievement. What you can and must do is this:

- seek a messy and meaningful involvement with the world,
- remain open to the questions you feel compelled to ask based on what you witness, and
- develop a discipline derived from caring so deeply about the answers that you no longer count the hours spent waiting and working toward them.

In other words, in these Capstone years, we expect you to move your challenges beyond the classroom and to keep your eyes open to the complexity and depth you encounter in the world beyond those walls. Here’s how the SMBHC helps:

- Through our **Honors Fellowships**, we will support transformative study abroad experiences. Go to some place you expect will change and challenge you, and be prepared to be a different person when you return. Our fellowships also are available for unpaid internships or extended research experiences. Beyond the classroom, away from campus, out in the world – get out there and look around. We will help pay for it.
- Take an **honors experiential learning course**. It will not give you answers, but it will put you in wonderful company while you learn to ask the questions. And it will take you mentally (sometimes physically) into unstable territory.

- Risk the discomfort of deep conversations – We give you professors and staff who will listen and query and share their own discomfiting insights. The connection to professors from your honors coursework is not the common experience for undergraduates. Make the most of it. Take an **Honors Conversations** course with a faculty member or community leader who will ask you to think about what you previously never considered.
- We call it **Community Action Challenge** for a reason. CAC challenges you to move beyond your own comfort and urges you to respond to a challenge in the community. During your Capstone years, why not give it a shape that looks like you, not like one of 800 other students? For two years, you have been generous in your service. If you also have basically been doing whatever work was put before you by an organization or friend, consider stepping back. What community issue really gets under your skin? What skills or talents do you have that might make a difference in changing that situation? Go after it. The SMBHC continues to welcome the extraordinary efforts of all honors students who serve the community; we eagerly await the outlier, the one who finds his or her own avenue for transforming a community.
- Suppose your Capstone requires an interview with a non-profit in California or Bolivia, or some minor equipment your research supervisor cannot supply. Ask us for **research funds**. We have funds to support you as you pursue your Capstone work. Do you find that you have forged some coherence or maybe even managed a step forward in what we know about a situation? Risk talking about it in public. We have **conference funds** to help pay for you to present your work at conferences in your field.

These SMBHC resources are available to honors students at earlier stages of their studies, but they characterize the individuality and flexibility we believe must mark your post-Candidacy years, and they are meant to support the courage and creativity that Citizen Scholars will call on as they shape themselves, their fields, and their world.

The Honors Thesis—Your Capstone culminates in your Honors thesis. Regardless of the nature of the Capstone core work, the thesis is an academic product, written according to the academic standards of your major. As such, the thesis always involves research. The amount of research, how much is required, and when it is conducted will vary by field and by the individual Capstone efforts. Even when the Capstone core experience has followed a nontraditional path (e.g., an internship, a series of lesson plans, a recital), the thesis requires a lesser but still appropriate degree of traditional academic research. Some of this research may occur while you are wrestling with the work itself, in the effort to perform that work at the highest and most current level. Some of it might occur during the thesis-writing semester(s) as you become an active participant in the professional discourse about your topic. The honors theses housed in the on-line Repository will provide examples of the range of approaches available to you for your thesis. Use the past theses to settle your nerves and whet your appetite.

The Honors thesis is ultimately a demonstration of the “scholar” in “citizen scholar”:

- the thesis (obviously, like the Capstone) must be in your major, unless approved by the Dean of the Honors College;
- if your major requires a thesis (as does International Studies), the SMBHC accepts that thesis as satisfying our honors thesis requirement;

- you should plan on enrolling in an appropriate course for your thesis-writing; you will earn honors credit for this coursework, probably three to six hours depending on the field;
- the length of the thesis will vary from 30 to 100 pages depending on your major. A student in the sciences, having spent much time in the laboratory, will write a thesis of about 30 pages; a student in the humanities will write one of about 60 to 100 pages;
- if the core of your Capstone experience was a creation of some outcome appropriate to your field (e.g., a collection of short stories, a recital, a semester's lesson plans), your thesis provides the academic discourse that grounds that work in your understanding of the challenges and potentials of the field at this time;
- the student must defend the thesis before a committee of three people; the thesis advisor, another faculty member from the student's major department (chosen by the student and the mentor), and another professor designated by the Honor's Dean; a final copy of the thesis should be provided to the committee members at least two weeks prior to the date for which the defense is scheduled and no later than April 1 to provide them time to read and respond to it before the thesis defense;
- the thesis must be defended no later than the last day of classes in the semester the student expects to graduate. It is usually written during the student's last semester on campus, but may be written whenever the Capstone is complete and the student is ready to write the thesis.

MAKING THINGS WORK

Try seeing the SMBHC requirements as the bare bones of your Honors experience. The minimum number of hours required, the Community Action Challenge, the required GPAs – highly significant, but skeletal when it comes to defining “honors” at Ole Miss. The important question: How are **you** going to flesh out that skeleton? You will have plenty of options for making sure the requirements are covered in ways that enrich the experiences common to everyone. Beyond that, we will give you options (and structure) for uncommon experiences that you can tailor to your own hopes and dreams.

Managing Your Honors Hours/Coursework

Use your first two years with us to select honors sections to fulfill core curriculum requirements and/or to fulfill those introductory level requirements specified by your major (like a certain math or business class). The SMBHC offers honors sections of many 100- and 200-level courses that meet general education requirements across many schools and majors. These are different than regular sections in that they are smaller, and they are taught by tenured or tenure-track professors. **We offer few honors classes in anyone’s major at an advanced level.** Take at least 18 hours in honors before you finish your second year; in some disciplines, you would be wise to earn at least 21 if not 24 before that 3rd year begins.

During the last two years, you should plan to use our honors resources to enrich the path you’re designing for yourself. You’ll probably earn 6-9 hours when you undertake your capstone project and write your thesis. For other hours, use an honors class to fulfill any remaining general education requirements, or indulge in up to two of our one-hour Conversations classes with dedicated faculty and engaging peers; see what “special topics” coursework is available to honors students only—like law school classes or learning how to write and analyze surveys or exploring the Mississippi River or Wall Street. Or, you can also take a graduate-level course in your major or minor, and earn honors credit doing so when it is not required for your degree by selecting 500-level coursework to satisfy “general electives” in your major. Choose a calculated risk, take that chance, and earn honors credit for the course.

In the back of this Handbook, you’ll find a form called “Owning Honors.” Use that form to strategize about your honors coursework and to track your choices. Your honors education is your choice and your responsibility. However, you have many resources at your disposal, including members of the SMBHC staff able to guide you through academic counseling.

Honors Academic Counseling

The SMBHC has two Associate Deans and one Assistant Dean who are available to work with you in many ways, including but not limited to:

- Helping you reconcile your field(s) of study and the honors curriculum
- Discussing research ideas and opportunities, whether related or unrelated to your thesis
- Offering guidance on other issues in which you are having difficulty

At the SMBHC, you are more than a number or a name; you are a student with passions and gifts and ideas for using both. We want to know who you are so that when an opportunity arises that is perfect for you, we already have you in mind. *We do not take the place of your academic advisor(s) nor do we lift advising holds.*

You can schedule an appointment with any of the staff through the online appointment calendar on the SMBHC website.

Communication

You can't take charge of your honors experience unless you know the options and opportunities available to you. The saddest words we hear from students: "I wish I had known that earlier" or "I didn't know I could have done that!" Really?? Listen up! Pay attention to the deep well of opportunities and resources surrounding you.

Newsletter—The SMBHC newsletter is published weekly by e-mail and contains important information, including a note from the Dean, CAC opportunities, class meetings, meals with visiting dignitaries, job opportunities, critical deadlines, and news on recent student activities. You are responsible for reading the newsletter each week.

Listserves—The SMBHC also broadcasts much information through listserves. Your UM e-mail address will be the one we use, so be sure to route your UM e-mail address to the account you frequent most.

Social Media—Follow the SMBHC on Instagram and Twitter (@umhoco) and Facebook (Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College). Keep up with DSG on Twitter (@dsgolemiss) as well as the Office of National Scholarship Advisement (@UM_ONSA).

Good Standing

"Good standing" means you are managing those bare bones just fine. It is defined as meeting the minimum GPA requirement for your year, earning sufficient hours of honors credit to ensure timely completion of at least the minimum, and maintaining your record of efforts toward the Community Action Challenge. "Good standing" is expected at those transition points when we hope you will call on the resources of the SMBHC to add to the riches or opportunities of your undergraduate experience, including priority registration, access to the building and to free printing, and applying for honors fellowships or other funding.

POLICIES

The Honor Code—The Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College employs an Honor Code centered on honesty, sincerity, and justice. The purpose of this Honor Code is to strengthen the sense of community in which the Honors College takes great pride. Its strength depends on the personal honor and integrity of each Honors College member. Honors students are required to write the following statement on any assignment submitted for grading in Honors classes, thereby reinforcing the atmosphere of trust within the Honors College community:

“On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given, received, nor witnessed any unauthorized help on this

_____”

Signature: _____

In addition to this pledge, the Honors Council created a five-member Academic Integrity Committee in August 2012 to assess all formal Academic Discipline cases against SMB Honors students. The Honors Council appoints two faculty members who have taught Honors courses, the Honors Senate appoints two Honors students in good standing, and the Dean appoints an Associate Dean to the committee. This Committee, chaired by the SMBHC Associate Dean, will examine the evidence available in the Academic Cases(s) and make recommendation(s) to the Dean for any action(s) concerning the good standing of the Honors student in question. Recommendations can include (1) No Action, if the offense appears to be minor; (2) Probation, possibly for a first offense; or (3) Dismissal from the Honors College, usually for a second offense or for an offense of a serious nature.

The University Creed—All students should uphold the University Creed and the regulations in the University’s *M-Book*.

Attendance Policy—The following attendance policy was approved by the Honors Council in the spring of 1999:

Honors courses are small classes, usually taught in seminar style with no more than fifteen students. They are reading-, writing- and discussion-intensive. Student participation is therefore essential. In addition, the university commits extensive resources, especially in terms of faculty time, to these small classes. For these reasons, the Honors College has an attendance policy for all honors courses, both required and departmental. Students are entitled to two absences in Tuesday/Thursday classes and to three absences in Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes. Consequences of additional absences will be determined by the individual faculty member, but additional absences will lower your grade.

BENEFITS

Membership in the SMBHC brings a wide range of benefits. Some of these benefits support shared academic efforts in an honors environment, e.g., free printing and early registration. In other words, we will make sure you have the amenities to support your intention to succeed academically. Other benefits—such as access to “honors only” coursework or funding—are designed to encourage and support the additional risk-taking and intellectual ambition that prepare citizen scholars for leadership in a complex world. All honors students in good standing have access to all shared benefits and to the opportunity to step forward for additional honors enhancements to their professional and personal growth.

Honors Housing—Pittman Hall is a living-learning community available for most honors freshmen so that you can be part of a social and intellectual community. Through collaboration and conversation, students of the Honors Living-Learning Community will develop lasting relationships and enjoy a wide range of social and community action activities with their Honors peers. Within this environment, students can develop a community of intellectual discussion, especially as they will be studying works in common in the different sections of Hon 101/102. The Residential Colleges are also a popular choice for honors students, and those students who want to continue living on campus after freshman year can apply to live in honors clusters in the South Residential College.

SMBHC Convocations—Outside the classroom, honors students are expected to attend the Fall and Spring SMBHC Honors Convocations. Each year we are called together to spend two evenings with a nationally or internationally-recognized citizen scholar, such as a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize (Elie Wiesel) or a three-time Pulitzer Prize winner (Tom Friedman) or an attorney general (Eric Holder). Whether our speaker is familiar from the news or from a classroom discussion, we invite speakers to take us through perspectives that richly deserve our shared time and attention and always challenge our preconceptions.

Early Registration—Honors students are allowed to register early, because they must fit honors sections of courses into their schedules and are also usually involved in extracurricular activities. While most freshmen and sophomores usually register near the end of the pre-registration period, honors students are allowed to register near the beginning of the period. To take advantage of this opportunity, you should schedule an appointment with your major advisor early (if possible, before the formal advising session begins) in order to have your Advising Hold lifted. Students having difficulty with their schedule should contact the Honors College office as soon as possible. Students who complete 100% of their teaching evaluations before the day final grades are made available will receive a 1-day bump in their next registration window.

Engaging the Question—First year students compete for Freshmen Ventures, a group journey to one of the major cities in the United States, to ask the question of the year. These jaunts nudge our first year students to wrestle with a tough question posed by our Honors faculty and answered through interviews with ordinary people and citizens of the Republic. Third year students have the opportunity to organize a Junior Quest trip. Junior Quest allows students to travel together to another city and research topics of their choice, in order to further either their thesis research or their futures.

Honors-Only Coursework—Stick with the SMBHC beyond freshman year and you will have opportunities to take classes created specifically for the Honors experience at UM:

HON 315, Explorations in Population Health—a course that covers human population health from a multidisciplinary perspective, with particular attention to understanding complex health problems and informing solutions. Studies include insights from sociology, demography, epidemiology, public health, nutrition, nursing, medicine, physiology, and biochemistry, among others.

HON 350 Introduction to American Law and Reasoning: a course intended to provide a broad introduction to American law and legal reasoning and give Honors students a taste of law school before they make that commitment. Offered through the SMBHC/UM School of Law Partnership

HON 360, Honors Internship—available when there is no internship in an honors student’s major, or when the student is pursuing an interdisciplinary experience beyond the parameters of departmental internships.

HON 391, 392 Honors Conversations—1-credit courses in which discussion is fueled by selected texts and conversations with people across the globe, for second-years and higher, who seek challenge in their analysis of current debates and conversations to feed their intellectual curiosity.

HON 399, Special Topics in Honors—seminars whose topics will vary according to each professor’s interests and design.

HON 420, Honors Experiential Learning—a series of Honors classes that tackle a problem with multiple and difficult solutions. Professors journey with our students into issues such as “water security,” “the power of art and the Republic,” or “the ethics of owning the past” and explore the real tensions as we create a sustaining community in a diverse political body. Our students learn to seek solutions through field and theoretical experience with the challenges that make solutions difficult to determine.

HON 550, 551 Honors Advanced Studies in Law—various courses being taught that semester in the UM School of Law, selected by Law School faculty to be offered to undergraduate honors students who have completed HON 350. Offered through the SMBHC/UM School of Law Partnership

Honors Fellowships—Whether through a year spent studying abroad or a semester as a research assistant in a national laboratory, as an undergraduate you have a chance to immerse yourself in life-changing experiences well beyond the boundaries of the University. We encourage you to take advantage of opportunities for study or research off-campus, and, to that end, the SMBHC offers fellowships to help cover the extra costs. To be considered for these stipends, you must submit a complete Honors College Student Fellowship Application, and you must have a current FAFSA on file in Financial Aid (unless you are not a U.S. citizen).

In awarding fellowships, we give priority to students who select programs that will push them intellectually and personally, e.g., studying abroad in a non-English-speaking country for a full year; participating in highly competitive research programs under the mentorship of established scientists; or completing an internship that requires hands-on involvement in the day-to-day effort to make a difference in the world. Students also sometimes propose their own rigorous design for experiential learning. We may award full or partial stipends, depending on the duration and nature of the proposed activity. For full consideration, submit your application by April 1st of the academic year prior to the term in which you

plan to study. You must be in good standing with the Honors College and have at least a 3.50 GPA to receive a fellowship.

Students interested in studying abroad should contact the Study Abroad Office in Martindale or online at studyabroad.olemiss.edu to explore all the study abroad options available to you. (Note: for third-year travel abroad, students should begin the application process in the fall of their second year.)

Research Funds—Students undertaking independent research may request funds to assist in conducting their research. Commonly, students use these funds either to purchase supplies or minor equipment, or for travel to do research. Students most often need this support when they are completing their Capstone and Thesis requirements, so you should be wary of requesting research funds earlier. **Please note:** funds may be used to purchase minor equipment, but University and federal regulations require that all equipment be purchased for and retained by the University, not the student.

Conference Funds—Many honors students have their thesis work selected to present at conferences. The Honors College is eager to support students who are presenting on a regional, national, or international stage. When you know that you need to travel to a conference, submit the SMBHC conference travel form to apply for assistance. **Note:** The SMBHC can only support conference travel when you are presenting at, not only attending, a conference.

Barksdale Award—If you had \$5,000 to put toward a dream, what would you do? Where would you go? How would you expect to be different when you came back? Each year the SMBHC hopes to make two \$5,000 awards to support creative, courageous projects proposed by highly talented students who are willing to take some risks with their time and efforts and who propose ambitious, independent programs of study, research, or humanitarian effort.

Website and Newsletter—As previously mentioned in the Making Things Work section of this handbook, there are weekly newsletters and an extensive website available to you. Take advantage of your resources. The weekly newsletter will provide you with CAC ideas, student activities, important deadlines and announcements about opportunities. The website offers detailed information about items listed in this handbook and is also your gateway to scheduling an appointment with the SMBHC staff. Read your e-mails and newsletters and utilize the SMBHC website.

Office of National Scholarship Advisement (ONSA)— The Office of National Scholarship Advisement advises students interested in being challenged and in making a difference in the world. Of his Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe after World War II, General George C. Marshall said, *Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos.* Students who learn actively are often good candidates for national scholarships like the Rhodes, Marshall, Gates Cambridge, Truman, Goldwater and Fulbright Scholarships. Tim Dolan, director of ONSA, encourages students to meet with him early on for advice about courses, internships, study abroad, and service activities that will help them be competitive for life changing opportunities like national scholarships and fellowships. Learn more by following the ONSA link from the SMBHC homepage. For updates and information on other unique opportunities, follow the ONSA on Twitter @UM-_ONSA and Facebook www.facebook.com/ONSA.UM

Dedicated Staff—Assistance from the Honors College staff adds to the personal side of a public education. Whether it's dealing with a course scheduling problem or consulting with one of the deans about a career option, the Honors College staff is here to help students succeed. The Honors College also has an information technology manager who is ready to help students with their computer problems.

The Honors College Building—SMBHC students have the privilege of using the Honors College building. The Honors College provides students with a lounge, computer lab, living room/kitchen, study rooms, and classrooms. With twenty-four hour access to the building, many students see the Honors College as a place to socialize and as their “home away from home.”

While honors students are welcome in the building at any time (except home football Saturdays), their behavior should conform to the “Honors College Courtesies” established by the Honors Senate and printed in this handbook. For example, if you use the kitchen, you should clean up after yourself. All we ask is that students be considerate of their fellow students and of the faculty and staff who work in the building. *Remember: your use of the building is a privilege; abuse of that privilege can result in your access being restricted or in the loss of that privilege for all students.*

- **The Computer Lab**—The SMBHC Computer Lab and the third floor study room (Rooms 28, 100 and 315) provide Honors College students access to computer stations and printers. Currently, students enjoy free printing in the lab and study room. Printing should be limited to academic work (papers and research). Massive amounts of printing, or printing not related to academics could lead to restrictions on your access to the lab. The lab and study room are open 24 hours a day, although the lab may be closed occasionally for upgrades. When using the SMBHC computers for the first time, all students are issued a username (the student’s WebID) and a temporary password. The system will require the student to change this password when they first log in.
- **The Kitchen**—Honors students are welcome to use the kitchen, whether to warm up a lunch or to cook dinner, or for any other culinary pursuit. *You are responsible for cleaning up after yourselves and returning any item you might borrow.* Put those items that fit into the dishwasher. Wash the other items by hand and place them in the drainer. When dishes are dry, put them where they belong.

Mississippi Water Security Institute—The SMBHC offers an annual MS Water Security Institute designed to immerse honors students in the challenges of managing the State’s water riches as well as adapting to our water challenges. Honors students at the University of Mississippi and in every honors college/program of Mississippi universities are eligible to apply for this Institute, funded by a generous grant from the Robert M. Hearin Foundation.

Other Affiliated Programs—Honors students often participate in campus-wide programs of study that the SMBHC helped create or is pleased to support. Although these are not “honors” programs per se, the SMBHC is pleased to affiliate with these interdisciplinary efforts, and SMBHC staff are available to help you participate fully, including assisting you and your program mentors in understanding how the program offerings can be incorporated into SMBHC requirements. Because these are campus-wide opportunities, affiliation is no guarantee that coursework will be available via honors sections or courses; however, affiliated programs usually provide some options for completing the Capstone/thesis requirement. Your SMBHC advisors will be happy to help you figure out how to overlap the

requirements of an affiliated program and of the SMBHC. More information is available in the *Appendices*.

- **Accelerated Law Program**—Entering students studying for the B.A. or B.S. within the College of Liberal Arts, the B.G.S. in General Studies, or B.E. in Engineering degrees have the opportunity to participate in an Accelerated Law Program offered by the UM School of Law. Students participating in the ALP (sometimes known as a 3+3 program) will earn their bachelor's degree *and* their JD in six years rather than the usual seven.
- **Society and Health Minor**—The minor in society and health focuses on the socioeconomic, cultural, and psychological factors associated with human health at multiple levels of society, coupled with their implications for ethical health care practice and policy. Students will develop an interdisciplinary social science and humanities-based approach to understanding health and an appreciation for the value of inter-professional, team-based problem-solving to improve health care and health outcomes.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Honors Senate – The Honors Senate serves as a representative body of honors students. It acts as an intermediary between students and the administration, and advises the Honors Council, representative faculty who determine Honors College policies and procedures. The Senate also organizes educational, social, and fundraising activities.

The Senate consists of sixteen senators, four from each class, a Student Director, and an Assistant Student Director (the Assistant Student Director may also be a senator). First year students elect senators in September; the other classes elect senators in April for the upcoming year.

Student Director

Will Nowell	Philosophy	wjnowell@go.olemiss.edu
-------------	------------	--

Assistant Student Director

Courtney Simmons	Psychology	cdsimmon@go.olemiss.edu
------------------	------------	--

Fourth Year Senators

Blake Sowers	Biochemistry	basowers@go.olemiss.edu
Michael Holman	English	mgholman@go.olemiss.edu
James Roland Markos	Biology	jrmarkos@go.olemiss.edu
Dany Keiser	History	dekeiser@go.olemiss.edu

Third Year Senators

Dalton Huerkamp	Public Policy	dohuerka@go.olemiss.edu
Hunter Myers	Classics	hmyers@go.olemiss.edu
Kate Childers	Biology	kechilde@go.olemiss.edu
Mary Kathryn Barry	English Education	mkbarry@go.olemiss.edu

Second Year Senators

Jessica Tran	Chemistry	jntran2@go.olemiss.edu
Jacob Ferguson	English	jdfergus@go.olemiss.edu
Katherine Levingston	Undeclared	kgleving@go.olemiss.edu
Tommy Steis	Engineering	tasteis@go.olemiss.edu

Mock Trial – The UM Undergraduate Mock Trial Team is another organization started and run primarily by Honors College students. Mock Trial meetings and practices are often held in the Honors College. Students interested in joining this organization should contact Dr. John Bruce (jbruce@olemiss.edu).

Populi Magazine – *Populi Magazine* is both an SMBHC online student publication and a series of monthly meetings designed to give students an opportunity to facilitate interdisciplinary discussion interactions outside the classroom. Each publication issue comprises four-to-five essays addressing a certain question or topic, and students meet in various places around Oxford to discuss the question or topic in person. Students interested in participating in *Populi* can visit their website at www.populimagazine.honors.olemiss.edu or follow them on Twitter (@PopuliMagazine).

Honors College Student Union - The Honors College Student Union is an organization dedicated to helping citizen scholars connect in order to discuss, create, and collaborate. Our team coordinates events and programs that encourage dialogue between students in the Honors College and within the campus community. The HCSU also serves as a support center for other student organizations, helping foster a culture of collaboration at the University. We are always seeking new staff members to help us plan our next event, if you are interested in joining HCSU please email Maggie Smith at mcsmith4@go.olemiss.edu. Like our Facebook page to stay up-to-date on HCSU events and learn more about the SMBHC community!

APPENDICES

Accelerated Law Program

Entering students studying for the B.A. or B.S. within the College of Liberal Arts, the B.G.S. in General Studies, or B.E. in Engineering degrees have the opportunity to participate in an Accelerated Law Program offered by the UM School of Law. Students participating in the ALP (sometimes known as a 3+3 program) will earn their bachelor's degree *and* their JD in six years rather than the usual seven.

Participating students will

- take the LSAT no later than December of the third year.
- apply to the UM School of Law by February 1 of that year.
- earn at least a 156 on the LSAT and demonstrate the qualities of character required for admission to the School of Law.

To be eligible, students must

- be in the process of earning a bachelor's degree.
- have at least a 3.5 GPA. (The School of Law may institute a higher GPA for admission; applicants should check a year in advance.)
- by the end of spring of their junior year, either (B.A., B.S., B.G.S.) have completed all course requirements for their major, (and minor if one is required) and the core curriculum. The first-year law school courses satisfy the remaining "general electives" toward the completion of undergraduate hours, **OR** (B.E.) have completed all B.E. required courses, excluding the 33 hours required for an "emphasis," which will be completed through the first-year law school courses.
- **for SMBHC students, a minimum 26 of the hours in undergraduate courses must be honors hours.**

For students who meet these requirements and are accepted into the School of Law,

- The bachelor's degree will be awarded at the end of the first year of law school.
- The **honors research/thesis** requirement will be satisfied through the Law School's required writing course. Honors/law students will present their final work from that course as a thesis.
- **Commissioning as an Honors Scholar** will coincide with the awarding of the J.D.

Caveats: Note that this arrangement is only with the *UM* School of Law. Obviously, if you decide against Law School or are not admitted, you will have to complete your undergraduate (and honors) work in order to receive your bachelor's. In addition, students on this accelerated track will probably not be able to take the courses that comprise the School of Law/SMBHC Partnership (the HON 350 gateway course, followed by the opportunity to take law school courses as undergraduate electives).

If you are interested in the ALP,

- Follow your requirements for the major and core curriculum precisely. You cannot select courses that would only fulfill general electives!
- Don't sign up for any course for which you think you will have AP credit. If you'll have AP credit for one or two semesters of Freshman English, figure out how you will apply HON 101 (and HON 102) to core curriculum requirements.
- Select honors classes or sections to fulfill many requirements, especially core curriculum requirements, so that you'll have at least 26 by end of your third year.

Society and Health Minor

The minor in society and health focuses on the socioeconomic, cultural, and psychological factors associated with human health at multiple levels of society, coupled with their implications for ethical health care practice and policy. Students will develop an interdisciplinary social science and humanities-based approach to understanding health and an appreciation for the value of interprofessional, team-based problem-solving to improve health care and health outcomes.

The minor in society and health is interdisciplinary and consists of 18 credit hours, including Math 115 or Psy 202; one of the two following courses – Soc 370/Hon 315 or SOHE 329; and 12 credit hours from a list of advanced social science and humanities courses that can be found at <http://sohe.olemiss.edu/courses/>. Elementary Statistics (MATH 115 or PSY 202) should be completed during the first year due to the shift in competencies for medical school admission, the importance of statistics for health literacy, and the need for those skills in the advanced social science courses. It is also recommended that students take General Psychology (PSY 201) and Introductory Sociology (SOC 101) to complete the general education social science requirements. The two advanced, foundational experiences are Society and Population Health (SOC 370/HON 315) and Medical Humanities (SOHE 329). Students must take at least one of these two courses. In Society and Population Health students learn about health disparities in Mississippi and the value of interdisciplinary and interprofessional teams in tackling these issues, and they make field visits to visit medical/nursing schools and public health programs. Medical Humanities is a combined readings and field experience course in a hospital setting to study the ethical, social, and cultural issues in medicine.

In choosing the 12 hours of advanced social science and humanities courses, students must take courses from at least two different departments. The same course may not satisfy requirements for both a major and this minor. Students who complete relevant internships, special topics, study abroad, or directed study courses must consult with the director prior to enrollment in the course for approval. Students must receive a grade of C or higher on all courses to be applied to the minor.

Application to the Society and Health Minor

Admission to the Minor in Society and Health is based on submission and approval of an application. Students must officially apply to the minor after having completed either Society and Population Health (SOC 370/HON 315) or Medical Humanities (SOHE 329) with a grade of C or higher. The application process will consider a student's performance in the initial required course, overall GPA, and essay on academic and professional goals related to society and health. Including a resume is optional but recommended.

For more information about the Minor in Society and Health, contact Lynn Woo, research associate for the Center for Population Studies, by e-mail at lcwoo@olemiss.edu or telephone at 662-915-7288.

CAPSTONE FORM

Use this form to figure out and communicate the timeline and curricular infrastructure for your Honors Capstone. When you've got this form completed, you will know what you're doing each semester, and so will your director, and so will the Honors College. **Submit this form to the SMBHC no later than November 15 of your third year (or, at least 3.5 semesters before you plan to graduate).** The SMBHC will award a **maximum of 9 honors hours** to coursework in the Capstone. How many honors hours you earn is determined by your strategy. Some students will earn only 6 hours or even only 3; others will earn 6 for the Capstone work and 3 for writing the thesis (or vice versa). **THIS WILL VARY.** That's why you tell us your strategy, reflecting your major, timeline, and goals. Talk with your Director.

COMPLETING THE FORM / YOUR CAPSTONE CURRICULAR INFRASTRUCTURE:

- You are not required to earn academic credit for the work you undertake that will culminate in your thesis (e.g., lab research, senior art show, directed readings in literature), but most students choose to do so, and it is the way you can earn honors credit for your Capstone work before the thesis. This form tells the SMBHC to award those honors hours for coursework you plan to take for that Capstone project.
- You are expected to be enrolled in a thesis-writing course for the semester in which you plan to defend the thesis. On the form, note the course(s) and timeline for the thesis writing.
- For your Capstone coursework, most students will use the independent study/special topics/directed readings courses in their major field. Please consult the Honors website to see "Commonly Used Courses" in your major. You have to have a course to earn credit; these are the usual options.
- Some majors will expect at least six hours (two semesters) on the Capstone work leading to the thesis; others will expect only one semester's work. Ditto for the thesis: some majors routinely use two semesters for this work (and only one for the work leading up to it). In other words, credit hours will vary. This is fine. Honors credit will be awarded to a maximum of 9 credit hrs.
- Be aware that some pathways, such as the Accountancy alternate route, will bring you only six honors hours in total. Be sure you accommodate that number when you make your plans for reaching the 29 hour minimum to graduate from the SMBHC.
- If your department does not have an independent study/special topics type course, consider using HON 301 (and HON 302 if necessary) for the work leading up to the thesis and HON 401 (and 402) for the thesis writing. We prefer that you use departmental courses or course numbers if those are available.
- If your Capstone is the production of an event or artifact (e.g., a voice recital, a portfolio, a business plan, a series of lesson plans, a policy), your thesis will still be an academic work. It will focus on the research and choices leading up to the event/artifact. The thesis, in other words, will demonstrate the scholar's ability to put that work into its significant academic context.
- If your major has a required Capstone, those are the numbers you will use. Check with your director to be sure that coursework includes the writing of a thesis. If it does not, you must plan to include a thesis-writing semester in your Honors Capstone.
- When you are enrolled in coursework for the Capstone, you are earning a grade. Talk about grading expectations with your director. If you do not complete the work for the semester, expect a low grade. If you cannot complete the work for a semester, talk with your Director about options.

In all cases, work with your Capstone mentor(s) to design your Capstone and its curricular structure. Those mentors are essential to your success with the Capstone and vital to your growth as a professional. Work with them closely. Stay in frequent contact with your director especially. This form records their commitment to your Capstone and your timeline.

HONORS CAPSTONE: Please give a brief description of the work you plan to undertake for your honors Capstone, understanding that the Capstone is an extended experience in your field, culminating in your Honors thesis. (E.g., I will conduct research in Dr. X’s chemistry lab, I plan to develop a portfolio of news stories about Delta restaurants, I will explore “manners” in the works of Dickens, I will create a series of lesson plans to teach fractions, I will do the ISS Capstone, I will follow the Accountancy alternate route).

Will you earn academic credit for your Capstone work leading up to the thesis? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please list below the coursework and timeline you will follow for your work on the Capstone prior to the thesis. List one or two courses, depending on what you and your supervisor determine is appropriate to your field and project. **Use a departmental number if available. If not, use HON 301 (and 302).**

_____	_____	_____
Course	Credit hours	Semester
_____	_____	_____
Course	Credit hours	Semester

Will your Capstone Project require research using human subjects? Yes _____ No _____
 (If it does, work closely with your faculty supervisor to ensure all regulations are followed.)

HONORS THESIS: Below, give us your timetable and coursework for the thesis. List either one or two courses, depending on what you and your supervisor determine is appropriate to your field. Use a departmental number if available. If not, use HON 401 (and 402).

_____	_____	_____
Course	Credit hours	Semester
_____	_____	_____
Course	Credit hours	Semester

Return this form to your Honors Advisor (one of the Associate Deans; last name A-L, submit it to Dr. Samonds; last name M-Z, submit it to Dr. Young). Completed forms include your signature and those of your Capstone Director and your Department Chair. We urge you to be sure your Chair notes whether your Capstone work will count toward your major.

Student Date

Director Date

Director's printed signature Date

Department Chair Date

Courses approved for credit toward major? Yes _____ No _____

SMBHC Approval of Capstone Plan:

Dean of SMBHC Date

NOTE: Your Plan might change as you work on it. Please let the SMBHC know!

**SALLY MCDONNELL BARKSDALE HONORS COLLEGE
HONORS FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION BUDGET FORM**

PLEASE ITEMIZE COSTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDING FROM ALL SOURCES.

Budget for Activity (total expected costs*) _____

University Financial Aid (if any) _____

Parents' Contribution _____

Personal Contribution _____

*Please show a break-down of the total expected costs. Sample categories are listed; add any other that might apply.

Transportation to/from location of activity	
Tuition and fees	
Books and supplies	
Living expenses (lodging, food, daily transportation)	
Other (specify)	

BUDGET FOR ACTIVITY (total of the expected costs) _____

Priority Consideration Deadline: April 1

Submit completed application to SMBHC Room 123.

**SALLY MCDONNELL BARKSDALE HONORS COLLEGE
APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH FUNDS
FOR CAPSTONE EXPERIENCES AND THESES**

Name _____ Student ID Number _____

Local Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Local Phone _____ E-mail _____

Description of Project:

Explanation of Needed Funds (please attach a budget sheet of total funds):

Total Amount asked from Honors College _____

Supervisor's Signature

Date

Honors Dean's Signature

Date

Submit completed form and budget sheet to SMBHC Room 123.

**SALLY MCDONNELL BARKSDALE HONORS COLLEGE
APPLICATION FOR CONFERENCE TRAVEL FUNDS**

Name _____ Student ID _____

Local Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Local Phone _____ E-mail _____

Conference Name/Location _____

Dates of Conference _____

I will be presenting _____ paper _____ poster

Title of Presentation _____

UM Faculty or Students with whom you will present (if any)

Please list other sources of funds (department, Student Life, Office of Research, Provost's Office, Vice Chancellor for University Relations, etc.)

Total Amount requested from Honors College _____

Supervisor's Signature _____ Date _____

Honors Dean's Signature _____ Date _____

Complete Budget Sheet on opposite page.
Submit completed application to SMBHC Room 123.

**SALLY MCDONNELL BARKSDALE HONORS COLLEGE
APPLICATION FOR CONFERENCE TRAVEL FUNDS BUDGET SHEET**

Please show a break-down of the total expected costs. Sample categories are listed; add any others that might apply.

Conference Registration Fee	
Air fare (if applicable)	
Lodging	
Meals	
Other*	
Other	
Other	

*please specify

BUDGET FOR ACTIVITY _____

(Total of expected costs)

OWNING HONORS
Strategies for Honors Coursework

EXPECTATIONS

End of first year → minimum 12 honors hours (including Hon 101/102)

End of second year → minimum 18 honors hours

Graduation → minimum 29 honors hours

ADVICE

Honors courses enhance your undergraduate experience. Enjoy honors discussion-based courses in areas that interest you, or master critical thinking in introductory courses of areas you plan on pursuing.

Focus on hammering out your 100- and 200-level requirements (major, minor or gen ed) in honors sections.

Consider honors courses at the 300-level and above, even if they do not apply to your major requirements. Dive into interesting honors courses. Who knows where they might lead!

Students usually earn six to nine hours for their Capstone/Thesis work. The number of semesters and credit hours for your Capstone experience and Thesis will vary. It's your responsibility to reach (or exceed) the required 29 honors hours.

PLAN AHEAD

Honors courses/areas of interest:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

DID YOU KNOW?

Honors seniors graduate with an average of 35 honors hours. They represent all majors on campus. You can achieve the minimum of 29 honors hours, or you can enjoy more! Take ownership of your college career.

CONTACT

The deans welcome your questions and the chance to talk with you about your choices and options. Call on us and faculty mentors as you weigh your options for your honors career.

