

Sandra and Jack Pine  
**Honors College**

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™



# STUDENT HANDBOOK

2021 - 2022



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## MISSION & INTRODUCTION

The Honors College encourages: Excellence; Service & Community; Leadership & Intellectual Growth. We help strong students excel by providing: exceptional Honors classes, service and extracurricular opportunities, and support for student research and study abroad. We strive to unite a diverse community of scholars as they make the most of their four years at EIU and prepare themselves to take up their place in the world.

**WE OFFER:**

- Small, Honors-only, engaging classes that challenge your mind and help you grow while meeting general education requirements.
- Service and extracurricular opportunities, on and off campus.
- Support for undergraduate research and study abroad.
- Honors Housing, priority registration, and scholarships.
- A great community of strong students with diverse interests.
- **FUN!**

# A WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the Jack & Sandra Pine Honors College. Honors students enjoy small classes, engaging faculty, and a challenging, stimulating curriculum. You'll also benefit from Honors housing, advising, scholarships, priority registration, a committed staff, and a great community of peers. Honors can help you learn, grow, and excel; it can connect you with challenges and experiences that will build both your confidence and your résumé. In addition to excellent, purpose-built classes, we offer a rich extra-curricular program, ranging from hikes in nearby parks, to conversations over tea and games, to research conferences.



Learn about scholarships, special opportunities, policies, and Honors groups. Enjoy the handbook. Questions? Check our website - [eiu.edu/honors](https://eiu.edu/honors) - for more info and feel free to come by and talk to the Honors staff in person! Come have tea with the dean!

## Richard England

Dean, Sandra & Jack Pine Honors College

[rengland@eiu.edu](mailto:rengland@eiu.edu)

## HISTORY



*Sandra and Jack Pine*

Dr. Herb Lasky founded the Honors programs in 1982 to meet the needs of academically talented students. By 2004, Honors had grown to become an Honors College, which was named for Sandra and Jack Pine in 2014, in recognition of their outstanding support of their alma mater. For more than 30 years, Honors at EIU has encouraged intellectual and social growth. We have grown to now include 400 students representing all colleges.



## STAFF

**Dr. Richard England, Dean**

[rengland@eiu.edu](mailto:rengland@eiu.edu), 217-581-2017

**Dr. Catherine Polydore, Assistant Dean**

[cpolydore@eiu.edu](mailto:cpolydore@eiu.edu), 217-581-2017

**Ms. Sara Schmidt, Coordinator of Honors Student Development**

[smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu), 217-581-2017

**Mrs. Suzann Bennett, Administrative Assistant**

[sbennett@eiu.edu](mailto:sbennett@eiu.edu), 217-581-2017

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## ADMISSION

### NEW FRESHMAN STUDENTS

Admission is offered automatically to students with a high school GPA of 3.75 effective Spring 2021. We also welcome students who show other evidence of excellence as Dean's Choice admits. Admitted students with a GPA below 3.75 should apply at [www.eiu.edu/honors/application.php](http://www.eiu.edu/honors/application.php).

### TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students with a GPA of 3.5 in their prior undergraduate coursework are eligible to join the Honors College—apply at [www.eiu.edu/honors/application.php](http://www.eiu.edu/honors/application.php). Contact Ms. Schmidt for advising ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)).

### CURRENT EIU STUDENTS

**3.5er Program:** Students who achieve a 3.5 GPA in their first semester at EIU will be invited to join the Honors College.

**Departmental Honors:** Current students with a good GPA who are near junior standing should talk with their Departmental Honors coordinator to apply (see pp. 7-8). Departmental honors students are full members of the Honors College.

# UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The University Honors Program offers students unique interdisciplinary Honors seminars; enriched and rigorous versions of General Education courses, while encouraging students to also participate in departmental honors. A limited number of courses outside general education are also provided. Honors course sections are typically smaller and taught in a colloquium format. Honors prepares students to compete at the highest levels for career opportunities and graduate school placements. Students can complete two distinct levels of University Honors:

- A. University Honors Laureates complete** 26 credits of honors courses by graduation: these classes may include departmental honors offerings (see below). Required courses include an Honors freshman seminar and an Honors Senior Seminar both of which count for general education credit. A grade of C or better is required in all Honors coursework.
- B. Honors Scholars** complete any 15 credits worth of honors courses by graduation: these classes may include departmental honors offerings (see below). A grade of C or better is required in all Honors coursework.

## A. UNIVERSITY HONORS LAUREATE: REQUIRED COURSES (26 CREDITS)

- 1. In freshman year, HON 1190 (Honors Forum) (1 cr) or HON 1290 (Honors Exploration Seminar) (1 cr) or HON1191 (for presidential scholars, 3 cr)
- 2. Honors Senior Seminar (4 cr) after you have earned 75 credits. This is the seminar taken for general education credit, and must be in an area outside your major.
- 3. Additional Honors courses (including departmental honors courses) to make up 26 credits in total.
- 4. Substitutes for Honors Courses (max. of 12 credits): Students can satisfy up to 6 hours of Honors course requirements by taking graduate level classes. In addition up to 6 hours may be waived for students who complete reflective projects related to study abroad, internships etc. See [go.eiu.edu/reflective](http://go.eiu.edu/reflective) for more details. Students may also count up to 12 credits of honors classes from another post-secondary institution toward their University Honors Laureate program. In total, 12 credits at most from all other sources can substitute from EIU Honors classes.

## B. HONORS SCHOLARS: 15 CREDITS

An Honors Scholar designation recognizes students who complete any 15 credits worth of Honors classes, including any combination of general education based or departmental honors courses. Up to 6 credits of Honors classes from other post-secondary institutions can count towards the Honors Scholar designation.



## CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

Students in University Honors must be continuously enrolled until they are one course away from completing their desired honors level of achievement (22 credits for University Honors Laureate, 11-12 credits for Honors Scholar). Breaks in enrollment may be granted on application to Ms. Schmidt ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)).

## GPA REQUIREMENT

Students receiving an Honors College scholarship must maintain a GPA of at least 3.4 to keep the award. All other Honors students require cumulative GPAs as listed below:

- Freshmen (0-29 credits): 3.0 GPA
- Sophomores (30-59 credits): 3.2 GPA
- Juniors & Seniors (60-105 credits): 3.4 GPA
- To be certified with Honors at graduation: 3.5 GPA

## DISMISSAL FROM UNIVERSITY HONORS

Students who do not meet continuous enrollment or GPA requirements will be granted a one semester grace period. If at the end of that time they have not met all requirements, they will be dismissed from University Honors. Seniors with 101 or more credits who have a GPA less than 3.41 will be dismissed without a probationary semester.

## EXTENDED GRACE PERIOD

Students in University Honors who face major life events that lead to a grace period may request an extension of this period by meeting with Ms. Schmidt ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)). If a compelling case exists and if more time would allow the student to meet Honors GPA and continuous enrollment requirements, then an extension of the grace period may be granted with the approval of the Dean.

## REVERSAL OF DISMISSAL

Students previously dismissed from University Honors for low cumulative GPA, may request a reversal of dismissal. Any student whose cumulative GPA has improved to meet the requirement tied to his or her current class standing may be readmitted to the Honors program after meeting with Ms. Schmidt.

Students in Departmental Honors should note that there is no probationary policy for their programs. Students in Departmental Honors who fail to maintain a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA are immediately administratively dismissed from their Departmental Honors program. That said, students who have been administratively dismissed from Departmental Honors may request a reversal of dismissal as soon as their cumulative GPA is at or above a 3.5.

# DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

## FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Departmental Honors consists of 12 hours of classes. These are primarily individualized courses that focus on research or creative activity supervised by faculty. Students pursue areas of personal interest by undertaking independent investigation of their chosen topics at a deep level. Each Departmental Honors program has its own unique requirements, though all culminate in a thesis or equivalent creative capstone project.

### ADMISSION TO DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

To be admitted to Departmental Honors students must:

1. have a 3.5 or higher GPA for 12+ hours of EIU coursework. Transfer students who have not completed 12 hours at EIU but who have a 3.5 GPA or higher from their prior post-secondary institution may be recommended by their DH Coordinator.
2. meet all specific DH program requirements
3. be approved by both the DH Coordinator and the Honors Dean

**Continuous Enrollment:** Students must continue to complete DH courses as outlined in your application. Changes in course sequence must be reported to Ms. Schmidt.

**GPA Requirement:** Students must keep a GPA of at least 3.5 to remain in the program.

Departmental Honors programs and their faculty coordinators are listed below. Ms. Schmidt ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)) is the Honors College liaison for Departmental Honors.

### DEPARTMENTAL HONORS COORDINATORS

FACULTY NAME	DEPARTMENT	E-MAIL
Barbara Carlsward	Biological Sciences	<a href="mailto:bscarlsward@eiu.edu">bscarlsward@eiu.edu</a>
Tina Wang	Business	<a href="mailto:nwang@eiu.edu">nwang@eiu.edu</a>
Ed Treadwell	Chemistry	<a href="mailto:emtreadwell@eiu.edu">emtreadwell@eiu.edu</a>
Angela Anthony	Comm. Disorders & Sci.	<a href="mailto:abanthony@eiu.edu">abanthony@eiu.edu</a>
Angie Jacobs	Communication Studies	<a href="mailto:asjacobs@eiu.edu">asjacobs@eiu.edu</a>
Linda Ghent	Economics	<a href="mailto:lsghent@eiu.edu">lsghent@eiu.edu</a>
Tim Engles	English	<a href="mailto:tdengles@eiu.edu">tdengles@eiu.edu</a>
Christiane Eydtt-Beebe	Foreign Languages	<a href="mailto:ckeydt@eiu.edu">ckeydt@eiu.edu</a>
Jim Davis	Geography	<a href="mailto:jadavis2@eiu.edu">jadavis2@eiu.edu</a>
Katie Lewandowski	Geology	<a href="mailto:kjlewandowski@eiu.edu">kjlewandowski@eiu.edu</a>
Lauri DeRuiter-Willems	Health Promotion	<a href="mailto:ljderuiterwillems@eiu.edu">ljderuiterwillems@eiu.edu</a>

Ed Wehrle	History	<a href="mailto:efwehrle@eiu.edu">efwehrle@eiu.edu</a>
Eunseong Kim	Journalism	<a href="mailto:ekim2@eiu.edu">ekim2@eiu.edu</a>
James Barkley	KSS, & Rec. Admin.	<a href="mailto:jrbarkley@eiu.edu">jrbarkley@eiu.edu</a>
Andrew Parrish	Math & Computer Sci.	<a href="mailto:ajparrish@eiu.edu">ajparrish@eiu.edu</a>
Rebecca Johnson	Music	<a href="mailto:rrjohnson2@eiu.edu">rrjohnson2@eiu.edu</a>
Jonelle DePetro	Philosophy	<a href="mailto:jmdepetro@eiu.edu">jmdepetro@eiu.edu</a>
Donald Pakey	Physics	<a href="mailto:ddpakey@eiu.edu">ddpakey@eiu.edu</a>
Kevin Anderson	Political Science	<a href="mailto:kranderson@eiu.edu">kranderson@eiu.edu</a>
Steve Scher	Psychology	<a href="mailto:sjscher@eiu.edu">sjscher@eiu.edu</a>
Mari Kita	Socio./Anthro./Crimin.	<a href="mailto:mkita@eiu.edu">mkita@eiu.edu</a>
Isaac Slaven	Technology	<a href="mailto:islaven@eiu.edu">islaven@eiu.edu</a>
Anne Thibault-Green	Theatre Arts	<a href="mailto:athibault@eiu.edu">athibault@eiu.edu</a>

# BENEFITS OF HONORS

## ADVISING

All honors students receive extra advising from Honors College staff. Our resident expert is Ms. Schmidt: she advises sophomores, juniors, and seniors, as well as Presidential Scholars at all levels. Freshmen who are not Presidential Scholars are advised by the Dean or Assistant Dean. All of us help students make sure they are still on track with Honors requirements. In addition, Ms. Schmidt works with students who apply for National Scholarships, graduate school, or medical/veterinary school. Contact her at [smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu) or by phone at 217-581-2017.

## PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Honors students register during the first week of undergraduate registration, which is a particular advantage to early career students. This should happen automatically. If you have questions or concerns about priority registration, please ask Ms. Schmidt ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)).

## HONORS HOUSING

Honors students have the option to live with other Honors students on dedicated floors in Thomas Hall. This can ease your transition to college as you will meet other Honors students with whom to study and socialize. Your resident assistants will also be Honors students, and residential programming on the Honors floors frequently has an Honors-related theme.



## HONORS COMMUNITY

The Honors College is a community. We have regular social gatherings (Ice Cream Social, Pizza Crawl, Tea with the Dean) and special excursions to nearby attractions, as well as occasional outings to cities and cultural events. Students prepare the Honors Homecoming tent, get involved in annual service projects and give feedback to the Honors College. All events are listed in the weekly e-mail: read it, come, make some friends, and have fun!

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We invite high-achieving high school seniors to apply for our Presidential, Pemberton Presidential, and Honors Award scholarships. See [go.eiu.edu/HonorsScholarships](https://go.eiu.edu/HonorsScholarships).

The awards below are open to students in good standing with the Honors College in all years (freshman to senior) unless otherwise noted. Details, including deadlines and eligibility, are at [go.eiu.edu/CurrentHonors](https://go.eiu.edu/CurrentHonors). The Honors weekly e-mail will post deadlines – read it!

**Unless otherwise noted, submit all applications online through [Academic Works](#) by March 15.**

### DOROTHY DAVIS BUNGE SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an Honors student from DuPage County, Illinois, with a GPA of at least 3.5.

### FIRST NEIGHBORHOOD BANCSHARES, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an Honors student for academic excellence.

### HONORS TRANSFER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

This award is made to a few incoming students who are transferring to EIU, who have been involved in an Honors program at their prior college, and who are planning to be involved in University, General or Departmental Honors at EIU. Deadline is in early June. See details at [www.eiu.edu/honors/HTS.php](https://www.eiu.edu/honors/HTS.php).

### LASKY FUND EXCELLENCE AWARD

This prize is given to a top graduating Honors student, who has exemplified excellence in his or her academic pursuits, and has been very involved with Honors events. An essay and a recommendation are required.

### SANDRA & JACK PINE SCHOLARSHIP

This \$10,000 scholarship is awarded to an Honors student majoring in chemistry, physics, or mathematics. Unlike the other named awards listed here, both incoming freshman students and currently enrolled Honors students may apply for this award. For details, see [www.eiu.edu/honors/Pinescholar.php](https://www.eiu.edu/honors/Pinescholar.php)

## STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who wish to study abroad can receive a scholarship (generally \$500-\$2000) offered by the Honors College. Application deadlines vary with semester of travel.

## RACHAEL RICHARDSON SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a current EIU Honors student for academic excellence.

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# NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS ADVISING

The Honors College offers all EIU students support and guidance in major national scholarship and fellowship competitions. In order to plan for competition, interested students should make appointments for information with designated campus representatives as early in their academic careers as possible. We encourage all students (and recent alumni) with exemplary academic, service, and leadership records to talk to Ms. Schmidt ([smschmidt@eiu.edu](mailto:smschmidt@eiu.edu)). For national scholarship links see [www.eiu.edu/honors/National\\_scholarships.php](http://www.eiu.edu/honors/National_scholarships.php).

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# GROUPS

## ASSOCIATION OF HONORS STUDENTS (AHS)

AHS is a voluntary student organization that plans and executes social and service activities. All Honors students are encouraged to join. Invitations to AHS recruiting events are sent out in the Honors weekly e-mail.

## STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

This student body meets several times a semester to discuss policies and activities with the Dean of the Honors College. See [go.eiu.edu/HonorsAdvisory](http://go.eiu.edu/HonorsAdvisory).

## HONORS COUNCIL

This group is composed of faculty, staff, chairs, and students from across campus. This body reviews curricular or policy changes related to Honors, evaluates Presidential Scholarship applications, and reviews and approves other Honors College scholarship applications. For more details, and a list of current members, visit [go.eiu.edu/HonorsCouncil](http://go.eiu.edu/HonorsCouncil).

## ALUMNI COUNCIL

This group of alumni and friends of Honors meets twice a year to discuss networking, development, and the activities of the Honors College. They are a great support to current students. All alumni are invited to participate in Honors homecoming and other special events on and off campus.

# ANNUAL CHECKLISTS

## FRESHMAN STUDENTS

- Take HON 1190 or HON 1290 and 2-3 other Honors classes over the year
- Achieve a 3.0 GPA (or a 3.4 GPA if you receive a scholarship from the Honors College) by the end of fall
- Think about Study Abroad, a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), or an internship: speak with your advisor, and plan your future classes
- Look for scholarships and apply!

## SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

- Take 2-3 Honors sections of classes over the year
- If necessary, talk to Ms. Schmidt about an Honors reflective project
- Achieve a 3.2 GPA (or a 3.4 GPA if you receive a scholarship from the Honors College) by the end of fall
- Go on your study abroad, REU, or internship or continue planning for them
- If interested, apply for Departmental Honors in spring semester
- Look for scholarships and apply!

## JUNIOR STUDENTS

- Finish taking your Honors classes
- If necessary, talk to Ms. Schmidt about an Honors reflective project
- Once you have 60 hours, sign up for your Honors Senior Seminar.
- Students with 60-89 hours must be assisted by Ms. Schmidt. Students with 90+ hours may self-register
- If you will not be at EIU for all or part of your senior year, see Ms. Schmidt about early registration with 60+ hours
- Achieve a 3.4 GPA by the end of fall
- If applicable, take 6 Departmental Honors hours this year
- If applicable, go on your study abroad, REU or internship
- If applicable, in the spring see Ms. Schmidt early about graduate/medical/veterinary school applications
- Apply for graduation through the Registrar's Office
- Look for scholarships and apply!
- Start planning for jobs or post-graduate study
- Start lining up letters of recommendation for jobs and graduate or professional school applications

## SENIOR STUDENTS

- Be sure to complete your Honors Senior Seminar to meet University Honors Laureate requirements!
- If necessary, talk to Ms. Schmidt about an Honors reflective project
- If applicable, see Ms. Schmidt about graduate/medical/veterinary school applications
- Achieve a 3.5 GPA by the end of the academic year
- If applicable, take 6 Departmental Honors hours and complete your DH thesis/capstone project
- Talk to faculty and Honors staff about post-graduation plans

## OFF-CAMPUS RESEARCH PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Honors College invites faculty to nominate students to present original work at the Honors Council of the Illinois Region Student Research Symposium, and for students to propose presentations for the National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research

## KNOW YOUR HONORS ACRONYMS

**HCIR:** Honors Council of the Illinois Region

**NCUR:** National Conference on Undergraduate Research

**SRCA:** Student Research & Creative Activity Conference

**URSCA:** Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Awards



# HONORS EVENTS: 2021-2022

[GO.EIU.EDU/HONORSEVENTS](http://GO.EIU.EDU/HONORSEVENTS)

Events are subject to change. Check your EIU email and the Honors College website frequently for updates!



<b>Sun. Aug. 22</b>	Freshman Orientation: Honors Session
<b>Thurs. Aug. 26</b>	Welcome Back Picnic and Field Day, first AHS Meeting
<b>Tues. Aug. 31</b>	Honors Ice Cream Social
<b>Late Sept. - Early Oct.</b>	Priority Honors Advising Appointments
<b>Sat. Oct. 2</b>	Honors Visit Day (for prospective students)
<b>Mon. Oct. 11</b>	Annual Honors Pizza Crawl
<b>Mon. Oct. 18</b>	Priority Registration for spring begins
<b>Sat. Feb. TBA</b>	Honors Progressive Dinner
<b>Sat. Feb. 5</b>	Honors College Scholastic Quiz Bowl
<b>Feb. 12-14</b>	Presidential Scholarship interviews
<b>Sat. Feb. 26</b>	Illinois Honors Conference (HCIR), College of DuPage
<b>Early March</b>	Priority Honors Advising appointments
<b>Mon. March 21</b>	Priority Registration for fall begins
<b>Fri. April 1</b>	Student Research & Creative Activity Conference
<b>April TBA</b>	National Conference on Undergraduate Research, University of West Florida
<b>Sun. April 24</b>	Pine Honors College Awards Reception (by invitation)

## SCHOLARSHIP, CONFERENCE, AND GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

<b>Fri. Sept. 24</b>	URSCA Proposals due for spring awards
<b>Fri. Oct. 15</b>	Study Abroad Scholarships for spring abroad
<b>Fri. Nov. 12</b>	Abstracts for NCUR Conference due
<b>Fri. Jan. 14</b>	Pemberton Presidential, Presidential Scholarships
<b>Fri. Feb. 11</b>	Study Abroad Scholarships for summer abroad
<b>Fri. Feb. 18</b>	URSCA Proposal Deadline for summer awards
<b>Fri. Feb. 25</b>	Nominations: Honors Distinguished Faculty Award Deadline for SRCA Conference submissions
<b>Fri. March 15</b>	Study Abroad for fall, Continuing Student, Bunge, Lasky, Messer, Pine, Richardson, Whisnand, Schmidt Scholarships
<b>Fri. April 8</b>	URSCA Proposal Deadline for fall awards



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Pemberton Hall South  
600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920  
217-581-2017 | [eiu.edu/honors](http://eiu.edu/honors) | [honors@eiu.edu](mailto:honors@eiu.edu)