Table of Contents

Letter from the Director ....................................................... 3
Honors Program Requirements........................................... 4
Notes on Meeting Program Requirements .......................... 5
Honors Scholar Project ........................................................ 7
Important Honors Policies .................................................. 8
Honors Involvement ................................................................ 9
Temple Research Opportunities ......................................... 10

Honors Program Contact Information

Mailing Address
Temple University Honors Program
204 Tuttleman Learning Center
1809 North 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Phone: 215-204-0710
Fax: 215-204-0711
Email: honors@temple.edu
Web site: www.temple.edu/honors

Staff Directory

Dr. Ruth Ost, Director
Email: rost@temple.edu
Phone: 215-204-0714

Amanda Neuber, Assoc. Director
Email: aneuber@temple.edu
Phone: 215-204-0716

Brad Pearson, Senior Advisor
Email: pearsonb@temple.edu
Phone: 215-204-0712

Musu Davis, Academic Advisor
Email: musu@temple.edu
Phone: 215-204-0713

Jackie Everette, Admin. Assistant
Email: j.everette@temple.edu
Phone: 215-204-0710

Cover: “North-East” by Lindsey Roper (‘13), an Honors Graphic Arts major
A Letter from the Director

Welcome to Temple, Class of ‘17! By the end of Orientation you will have been told so many things and given so much advice that we thought we’d supply you with a hardcopy of the Honors Handbook. It’s a sensible plan to read it before you register for second semester classes, and refer to it when you have questions about rules, regulations and best practices for a successful Honors experience.

What else to tell you? You have all been successful in high school, both in and out of class. You know how to earn good grades while balancing athletics, student government, theater, band, etc. Chances are excellent that you’ll do equally well here, maybe better if that’s possible, but there are some differences worth noting.

· **Classes.** You have tremendous choice. We have something like 122 majors at Temple. Major in what you love. Double major and minor in what you come to love. If you take this advice, you’ll want to go to class, study, net a beautiful transcript, and garner great recommendations for whatever is next—and there will be a cool next! Avoid investing in angst about which major will fork over a high-paying job. If you want certainty, create a fabulous app. In the meantime, we’ll help make sure you don’t get too carried away—we want you to graduate with the Class of ’17.

· **Time.** You’ll have a lot of it. This will be new, given how your high school lives were structured. Our staff has a pretty good idea of how distracting life in the residence hall can be (we had that experience ourselves) what with so many fascinating new people living next door (commuters, you’ll find your new friends will be distracting, too!). Get yourself on a schedule. Join a club—or start one; run for office; write for Temple News; join the Gospel Choir; go with Amanda and Musu to Appalachia; play a sport; go to the IBC; discover Philadelphia, and don’t forget to do laundry. Use your PEX Passport. Do something to remind yourself that you are leading a fascinating life!

· **Professors.** Your high school teachers knew you well—you were probably their favorite, at least some of you were, some of the time. Get to know your professors here. Go visit them in office hours. It is never too soon to drop by. If you are an introvert, know that all you have to do is express a scintilla of interest in whatever they teach, and they will be off and running on their topic. If they get to know you, when something comes along, your name will be the one they remember for a job, a research assignment, a scholarship. This can happen your first year at Temple. I might add that if you get to know us well we can be useful to you.

· **Wins.** Just to remind you, our students have had tremendous success winning local and national competitions in a wide variety of fields. Here’s the trick: you have to apply. And while I’m on the subject of successful applications, just know that our students do well getting into great summer programs, the best graduate and professional schools, and landing terrific jobs. All majors lead to success. And if you want data, I have data!

· **Welcome to Temple. Now Go Away.** Okay, maybe that isn’t what you expect to hear as you’ve just arrived. But we think all of you would benefit from studying abroad, whether at one of our campuses, say in Rome or Tokyo, or with other programs. Start talking with your families now so when the time comes, they will wish you buon viaggio. (Tell them to come and visit!) I vote for you to go abroad for an entire semester. Better yet, a year. But there is always summer…

· **Summers.** It’s never too soon to start to plan what you’re going to do with a summer stipend. Talk with us, your professors, visit the Education Abroad office (next door to Honors), talk with anyone who will listen! You never know who is going to make a suggestion that will lead to an internship, research opportunity here or abroad. If they give you a name and e-mail or phone number, follow through. Along with applying for things, following through matters. But you know that or you wouldn’t already be in Honors.

I have much more to say, as does the rest of the Honorable staff—Amanda, Brad, Musu and Jackie—stop by anytime and ask us for advice and we’ll be on the case! Meanwhile, I’ll leave you with this cutting from Larry Page’s graduation speech, albeit at another university (Page co-founded Google—and had the seed idea for it when he was 23):

> Always work on something uncomfortably exciting.¹

Have a great Temple experience! We are here to help you however we can.

Best,

Dr. Ost, aka Ruth

Honors Program Requirements

For all incoming first-years & transfers with fewer than 45 credits

You must complete 10 Honors Courses, graduate with a 3.25 GPA & complete your undergraduate degree at Temple University. The courses must be distributed as follows:

Analytical Reading and Writing (English 0902)
If you exempted from Analytical Reading and Writing through placement testing or transfer credit, you must take one additional Honors class at any level to fulfill the 10-course requirement.
Mosaic I and II (IH 0951 and 0952)
If you already have credit for one or both of the Mosaic courses, you must take other Honors courses at any level to fulfill the 10-course requirement
Three additional Honors courses at any level
Four upper-level Honors courses at the 2000-level or higher*

For transfers who enter Honors with 45-59 credits

You must complete eight Honors Courses, graduate with a 3.25 GPA & complete your undergraduate degree at Temple University. The courses must be distributed as follows:

Four Honors courses at any level
If you need to take any of the following classes, they must be taken in Honors:
Analytical Reading and Writing (English 0902); Mosaic I (IH 0951); or Mosaic II (IH 0952)
Four upper-level Honors courses at the 2000-level or higher*

For transfers who enter Honors with 60+ credits

You must complete six Honors Courses, graduate with a 3.25 GPA & complete your undergraduate degree at Temple University. The courses must be distributed as follows:

Two Honors courses at any level
If you need to take any of the following classes, they must be taken in Honors:
Analytical Reading and Writing (English 0902); Mosaic I (IH 0951); or Mosaic II (IH 0952)
Four upper-level Honors courses at the 2000-level or higher*

Note: One-credit labs do not count towards Honors Program requirements
*Upper-level Honors requirements can be met through contracts. See “Notes on Meeting Program Requirements” for more information.
Meeting Program Requirements

For students in some majors, finding the academic space in their schedule to graduate on time and complete the Honors Program is challenging. To accommodate these students, we have developed a few methods to help students in even the most inflexible majors complete the program and graduate in a timely fashion.

Contracts

Non-Honors courses can count towards upper level Honors requirements by contracting the course.

What courses can be contracted to count towards Honors Program requirements?

- Upper level non-Honors courses (numbered 2000 to 4999)
- Graduate courses (5000 or higher) or undergraduate courses cross-listed with graduate courses
- Independent studies

Note: Not applicable for non-Honors courses that have Honors equivalents. Courses must be at least 3 credits.

What must be done to successfully contract a course?

- For upper level non-Honors courses (numbered 2000 to 4999): The student and professor must agree on an extra, graded component in addition to the standard requirements. This can be an extra research paper, lit review, or experience that qualitatively enhances the course. The above list is by no means exhaustive—a different kind of project can be determined at the professor’s discretion.
- For graduate courses (5000 or higher) or undergraduate courses cross-listed with graduate courses: No extra component needs to be added to student requirements to make it count towards Honors requirements—only confirmation that student will be held accountable for completing graduate-level syllabus. A contract proposal form must be submitted to the Honors office in order for the Honors staff to know that you wish the course to count towards your Honors Program requirements. PLEASE NOTE: Graduate courses must first be cleared with your college advising unit to ensure that they will count towards graduation requirements.
- For independent studies: No extra component needs to be added to student requirements to make it count towards Honors requirements, however a contract proposal form must be submitted to the Honors office in order for the Honors staff to know that you wish the course to count towards your Honors Program requirements.

Note: For a contracted course to count towards Honors requirements, the student must earn at least a B+ in the course.

What is the process for contracting a course?

We recommend that students begin the process of contracting a course by meeting with their professor to determine a suitable extra component for their studies. Once agreed upon, the student must complete the Honors Contract form (found on our web site under “Forms for Current Students”), both parties must sign off on it, and the form must be returned to the Honors office in Tuttleman 204 by the end of the add/drop period. No contracts will be approved if they are turned in later, unless the student has cleared it previously with an Honors advisor. The professor may wish to alert an Honors advisor once the contract requirements are met—this is fine, but not required. The Honors staff will designate the course for Honors credit only after a final grade (of B+ or higher) has been granted.

IMPORTANT:

How many contracts can a student use towards meeting Honors Program requirements?

A student is allowed a maximum of two contracts to count towards their upper level Honors requirements. Students who feel that they will need more than two contracts must submit a Petition for Amended Program Requirements (see the next page) to the Honors office.
Notes on Meeting Program Requirements (continued)

**Petitioning for Amended Program Requirements or Additional Contracts**

If you have two or fewer semesters remaining at Temple, and you will not be able to complete Honors Program requirements through standard Honors course offerings and the maximum allowed contract total, you are eligible to submit a petition for amended requirements or additional contracts. The petition form is located on our web site (under “Forms for Current Students”) and will be accepted at various times throughout the year (these times will be announced through our listserv). Please speak with an Honors advisor for more information.

**Students on Accelerated Graduation Tracks**

If you are planning on graduating from Temple in fewer than 8 semesters you are still expected to meet all Honors Program requirements. However, if you are accepted to an accelerated track in Temple Health Scholars (3+4 Med, Dental, and Pharm), then courses taken in your first year of professional school can count towards Honors Program requirements. Meet with an Honors advisor to discuss this option.

**Note:** If you are on a non-degree granting accelerated track, you are eligible to take Honors classes, though the Honors transcript notation is only awarded if you are granted a bachelor’s degree from Temple University.
Honors Scholar Project

Beyond the general Honors Program requirements, the Honors Program offers another way to distinguish yourself in preparation for advanced studies or graduate school, or if you are just interested in doing independent research.

Honors students have the option to complete an Honors Scholar Project. This project is meant to be an interdisciplinary exercise—we ask that you collaborate with faculty outside of your primary field of study or, at the very least, incorporate multiple disciplines in your research design. Please read below for project requirements, a general timeline, and benefits.

Requirements

- Students must submit an Honors Scholar Proposal Form (found on our web site under “Forms for Current Students”) to the Honors office—ideally a year before their proposed finish date
- Projects must be demonstrably interdisciplinary—students will provide a project justification with their proposal form to Honors
- Project must be at least 30 pgs. (or comparable length according to discipline standards)
- Project must be presented at a conference (e.g. TURF-CREWS)
- Student and faculty mentor must arrange a defense for the project
- Project must be approved by mentor and second reader, who will confer to determine if the project will be granted “Honors Scholar” status
- Project must be submitted to Honors office prior to graduation

Timeline

**Junior Year:** Students should identify a mentor who will assist in developing a research question as well as defining research methods. Student should also identify possible presentation venues for project. Upon finding a mentor, developing a research question and timeline for completion, student should submit Honors Scholar Project Proposal Form to the Honors office in Tuttleman 204 for approval.

**Senior Year** (or final two semesters): The final two semesters should be devoted to honing the research question, beginning research, and then writing, defending and presenting the Honors Scholar project. We highly recommend students take a research or methodology course to assist them in developing their project in the early stages (e.g. History 4989: Research and Methodology, or College of Liberal Arts 3900: Evidence). By the end of classes in the student’s final semester, a hard copy of the project, as well as an electronic copy of the abstract should be delivered to the Honors office for all successful projects.

Benefits

Students who successfully complete the Honors Scholar Project will receive a transcript notation that identifies them as University Honors Scholars, as well as have their project title included on their transcript. Students will receive a Scholars medal to be worn at graduation, as well as receive additional recognition during the Honors Senior Ceremony in the spring.

Please note: This project can be done in conjunction with a thesis you may already be doing; however, for it to be used as your Honors Scholar Project, it must also fulfill the aforementioned Honors Scholar requirements.
Important Honors Policies

**Honors Probation/Dismissal**

It is possible to be dismissed from the Honors Program, thereby losing all Honors-related academic and financial benefits. Ensuring you know the following information will help you stay in good standing with the Honors Program and avoid dismissal.

- You will be on Honors probation if your **cumulative GPA falls below 3.25**.
- Once your cumulative GPA is back to at least 3.25 you will be back in good standing with the Honors Program.
- While on probation, if you are unable to bring your cumulative GPA back to 3.25 yet you earn a semester GPA of at least 3.25, you will not be dismissed, though you will remain on probation until you bring your cumulative GPA back up to at least 3.25.
- If you do not earn a semester GPA of at least 3.25 while on probation, you will be dismissed from the Honors Program*.
- To graduate with the Honors designation on your transcript, you must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 at the time of graduation.

*Note: Only students on Honors probation are eligible for dismissal due to GPA

*Students admitted to Honors as incoming first-year students (that is, prior to their freshman year) will not be dismissed for GPA reasons until after first semester of their sophomore year.

**Honors Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Students in Honors must complete at least:

- 3 Honors classes by end of freshman year
- 6 Honors classes by end of sophomore year
- 8 Honors classes by end of junior year

If you are not meeting satisfactory academic progress for Honors regardless of your GPA, you will be notified and asked to communicate back to the program. If you do not respond by the date indicated in the correspondence, you will be dismissed from the Honors Program.

*Note: These progress benchmarks do not apply to students who transfer into the Honors Program, though transfer students should be taking Honors courses at a similar pace.

**Honors Course Equivalencies**

Honors and their non-Honors equivalents (e.g. Math 1941: Honors Calculus I and Math 1041: Calculus I) are treated equally as far as course repeats are concerned. That is, if you take both Math 1941 and Math 1041 only one course will count for credit and only the highest GPA will be factored into your cumulative GPA.

Honors and their non-Honors equivalents are also treated equally as far as transfer credits are concerned. That is, if you receive AP/IB/dual enrollment credit for a non-Honors course and take its Honors equivalent at Temple you will forfeit the previous credit earned and replace it with the Honors course and its grade.

If Honors credit is ever replaced with non-Honors equivalent credit, that course will no longer count towards a student’s Honors Program course requirements and progress.

If you have any questions about which courses are considered equivalents, see an advisor.
Honors Involvement

The Honors Program is more than great classes and individualized advising. We are also a community of students, faculty, and staff devoted to enriching the Temple campus and surrounding areas. We offer a variety of ways to get involved, give back, and learn a little about yourself in the process.

Honors Admissions and Transitions Team: Serve as ambassadors to the Honors Program during the spring semester and help prospective students learn about Temple and the Honors Program by leading them on campus and residence hall tours and helping with Experience Temple Day. Applications will be sent out in November through the Honors listserv. See Amanda for more information.

Honors Mentoring Network: Work with new Honors students in their transition to Temple University, the Honors Program, and to Philadelphia! This program is open to outstanding upper-level students who have thrived in their undergraduate experience and wish to give back by helping other students do the same. Applications will be sent out in October through the Honors listserv. See Brad for more information.

Honors Activities Board (HAB): Work with fellow Honors students to program socially and culturally enlightening events each semester. Past events include a trip to the Philadelphia Zoo, a roundtable talk on graphic novels and comics, and a bike trip around Philadelphia! Visit www.honorsactivitiesboard.com for more information.

Honors Immersion Programs (HIP): Spend time working with and for members of a different community and with fellow students. HIP seeks to engage and learn in an environment that integrates meaningful community service with reflection to enrich the experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Our largest program is the Honors Appalachian Experience—each summer, we send students to the Appalachian region to work with equality housing alliances (ie: Habitat for Humanity). Applications will be sent out in November through the Honors listserv. See Musu for more information.
Interested in research opportunities? Here’s a few that are offered through the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies (OVPUS). These are not Honors-specific, but we encourage all Honors students to apply:

**Diamond Scholars:** The Diamond Research Scholars Program provides Temple undergraduates the opportunity to engage in a focused, mentored research or creative arts project during the summer and fall. The program requires that students participate in the three-day Diamond Research Program Institute and devote eight to ten weeks during the summer to develop a research project in their area of interest under the direction of their faculty mentor. Students who are accepted into the program will receive the “Conwell Undergraduate Research Award” of $2750.

**CARAS:** The Creative Arts, Research and Scholarship Program (CARAS) provides undergraduate and professional students grants of up to $3,000 in support of scholarly, research or creative arts projects undertaken with the supervision of a faculty mentor. Successful applications will provide a clearly focused project addressing a significant issue, concern, or aspect in the student’s field of study, include a detailed budget proposal, and be endorsed by a faculty mentor and the dean of the student’s school or college.

**URIF:** The Undergraduate Research Incentive Fund is available to any full-time undergraduate student enrolled at Temple who seeks financial support for research related activities such as undergraduate research projects or participation in professional conferences. Awards from the URIF are dependent on the availability of matching funds from the students’ own Department, School and/or College.

**TURF-CreWS:** The Temple Undergraduate Research Forum - Creative Works Symposium (TURF-CreWS) provides ambitious, intellectually motivated undergraduate students the opportunity to present and defend their original research or creative work to a forum of colleagues, faculty, family, and friends. TURF/CreWS is open to all departments and all colleges. TURF/CreWS welcomes research from every discipline. All Schools, Colleges, Departments, and Programs in the University are eligible to nominate undergraduate student papers, posters, and works. TURF-CREWS participation is on a competitive basis.

**Diamond Peer Teachers:** The Diamond Peer Teacher Program offers a semester long funded teaching experiences under the direction of the faculty mentor. Participants receive a semester stipend of $2,250, tuition remission for one hour of internship, and Honors credit for the pedagogical experience.

...And one more we want you to know about. This one is from Temple’s Institute for Public Affairs:

**Harrisburg Capital Semester:** An internship semester in Harrisburg where students have the opportunity to explore government affairs, policymaking, and implementation first-hand while earning full-time credits and staying on track to graduation. Students with majors in any field are eligible, and encouraged to apply! Go to [www.temple.edu/ipa](http://www.temple.edu/ipa) for more information.