



# HONORS PROGRAM PLANNING COMPLETION GUIDE

## – Points Curriculum

### HP MISSION STATEMENT

The Governors State University Honors Program is committed to providing high-impact, unique, challenging, and experiential learning opportunities, in and out of the classroom, for our high achieving students. We seek to promote leadership skills and personal development in our curricular and co-curricular opportunities for the betterment of the individual student, the university, and the global community.

## HP EXPERIENCES

HP students must complete two experiences. These experiences are meant to help HP students engage the GSU and South Suburban Communities. These curricular and co-curricular experiences should help foster leadership skills and personal development for the student, university and global community. **For HP Credit – Complete Experience.**

### EXPERIENCES

### COMPLETED

#1 – Honors Capstone Project/Internship/Thesis (completed by graduation)

#2– Leadership Experience (can be completed at anytime while at GSU)

## HP COURSES

Honors courses are meant to provide high-impact, challenging learning experiences that encourage experimental and experiential learning techniques. These courses should take concepts students are working on in the regular curriculum and encourage advanced, enriched level application of these concepts. Honors courses are taught by faculty specifically selected to work with honors students who can help you with your development in the honors program. Honors courses are worth 1 HP Point for a 1 or 2–unit course; 2 HP points for a 3 or 4–unit course.

**For HP POINTS – Complete course with grade of C or better.**

Please list your Honors Courses Below. Make an appointment with the HP director if you cannot meet the minimum course requirements (Incoming Freshmen: Minimum 4 courses unless earned dual–credit/AP for courses)

### COURSES

### POINTS

**COUN - 1008 MASTERING COLLEGE (HONORS)**

**ENGL - 1000 - WRITING STUDIES I (HONORS)**

**ENGL - 1010 - WRITING STUDIES II (HONORS)**

**COMM - 1000 - PUBLIC DISCOURSE (HONORS)**

**HONS 4700 - INDEPENDENT STUDY**

**HONS 4800 - INTERNSHIP**

**HONS 4900 - HONORS SEMINAR**

## HP CONTRACTS

Honors contracts are designed to allow students to earn HP points in non-honors courses. These can be utilized in major courses, minor courses, or upper-division electives. A course contract involves the completion of a project, research paper, or similar equivalent that is designed to enrich the learning experience occurring in the classroom. These projects may provide opportunities for applying for undergraduate research grants, presentation at the GSU Student Research Conference or other regional and national events. Honors Students may complete up to two contracts for honors credit without special permission from the HP director. Honors courses are worth 1 or 2 HP points each depending on what is agreed to by the student and instructor. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through research activities. **For HP Points – Contract approved by HP director prior to beginning, contract requirements completed.**

### CONTRACT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

### POINTS

## HP ABROAD

Study abroad opportunities allow students to study abroad in short-term (a few weeks) and longer term (a semester or year). These programs are either offered directly through Governors State or through enrolling in another university's study abroad program. Students earn 1 HP point for completing a study abroad experience to a maximum of 2 HP points. **For HP Points – Complete HP Abroad Verification Form.**

### STUDY ABROAD ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

POINTS

## HP RESEARCH

HP Research opportunities encourage honors students to be involved in working on research presented beyond Governors State University. This can include research students complete in their own classes as well as research students work on with other faculty. Students earn 1 HP point for each paper authorship or presentation they are involved in at a local or regional level. Students earn 2 HP points for each paper authorship or presentation they are involved in at a national level or a scholarly journal. Students earn up to 2 HP points for research assistantships with a GSU faculty member. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through research activities. **For HP Points – Complete HP Research Verification Form.**

### RESEARCH ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

POINTS

## HP CONCENTRATED AREAS OF STUDY

The GSU Honors Program encourages students to go beyond earning a bachelors degree by earning minors, teaching specializations, and double bachelor degrees. Students earn 1 HP point for completing a minor or teaching specialization and 2 HP points for completing a double major or two bachelors degrees. **For HP Points – Provide a Degree Audit Report with evidence of program completion.**

### MINORS, TEACHING SPECIALIZATIONS AND DOUBLE BACHELORS DEGREES

POINTS

## HP LEADERSHIP

HP encourages students to participate in leadership activities across the GSU and the South Suburban Community. The main standard is to explain what leadership skills or theory you are developing or using with your activity. You can practice those skills in being a peer mentor for new freshman Honors Program students, as a Student Senator, HP Student Council, or in other leadership capacities. Leadership experiences earn 1 HP point for each leadership opportunity completed. Students can earn a maximum of 2 HP points through leadership activities. **For HP Points – Provide evidence of completing leadership role or program.**

### LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

POINTS

## HP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HP encourages students to engage in professional development experiences beyond internship. These can include professional shadowing experiences, a collection of networking experiences, a professional organization membership, professional conference attendance related to a students' field of study, student career focused organizations or other professional experiences approved by faculty in your degree of study. One HP point is earned per professional development experience of at least 10 hours in duration. Students can earn a maximum of 2 HP points through professional development experiences. **For HP Points – Provide evidence of involvement in the professional development experience and faculty support that the activity is a professional development experience**

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

POINTS

## HP PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS

HP encourages students to apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships. These are significant national and international scholarships with national application pools and rigorous application processes. It is an excellent opportunity to experience what it is like to apply for a high-stakes position. Several scholarships require campus endorsements. Scholarship winners often have life-changing learning opportunities domestically or abroad. One HP point is earned per campus endorsed or submitted applications for qualified scholarships valued at less than \$10,000. Two HP points are earned per campus endorsed or submitted applications for qualified scholarships valued over \$10,000. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through prestigious scholarship opportunities. **For HP Points – Evidence of a qualified submitted or campus endorsed prestigious scholarship application.**

### PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS COMPLETED

POINTS

## ADD UP YOUR HP POINT TOTALS

POINTS

Both Experiences Completed

HP Courses

HP Contracts

HP Abroad

HP Research

HP Concentrated Areas of Study

HP Leadership

HP Professional Development

HP Prestigious Scholarships

**HP Points Grand Total**

## TO GRADUATE WITH UNIVERSITY HONORS

Starting as Freshmen – 14 HP points (minimum 8 HP points from courses) + 2 Honors Experiences

All other students – 6 HP points + 2 Honors Experiences

**Graduate with a GSU CGPA of 3.40 or Higher**