

Southern Nazarene University

CHARACTER | CULTURE | CHRIST



Honors Program Application Instructions

Who Can Apply

- Non-provisional, incoming SNU freshmen
- Current SNU freshmen in good academic standing

Suggested Scores*

- 25+ ACT/1100+ or higher SAT (Math + Verbal)
- Top 10% of graduating class
- Will need to have attained credit for Composition I (via CLEP, AP, concurrent enrollment or other) or have an ACT English subscore of 25 or higher by the time classes begin in August

Criteria for Selection

- High academic potential indicated by test scores/high school record
- Interest in and commitment to service-learning and leadership
- Creativity and independent thinking
- Appreciation for intellectually challenging coursework
- Desire to be part of a community of undergraduate scholars
- Ability to contribute to philosophical and disciplinary diversity

Application Process

1. Write a brief (1 page only, please) Application Cover Letter in which you discuss why you wish to join the Honors Program (HP) and what you feel you will contribute to the program.
2. Complete the HP Application Form (link at snu.edu/honors).
3. Write an HP Application Essay (instructions provided on p. 3 of this document).
4. Provide two (2) academic and/or work-related recommendation forms (recommendation form available at snu.edu/honors).
5. Submit these four (4) documents to the HP director by email attachment at gweaver@snu.edu (**preferred method**) or by mail to Honors Program, Attn: Dr. Gina Weaver Yount, Southern Nazarene University, 6729 NW 39th Expressway, Bethany OK

*If your test scores or grades are slightly lower than these standards, you may still apply. You should use the Application Cover Letter as a means to explain any extenuating circumstances and to describe ways you can demonstrate your honors capability (e.g., high school transcript, recommendation letter, academic awards).

73008. Your teachers/employers may email or mail their recommendation forms separately from the rest of your application.

6. We accept applications throughout the year. Anyone who meets the requirements will be accepted into the HP; however, once slots in the program are full, you will be placed on the waitlist, so the earlier you get your application in, the better.

You may be accepted into the Honors Program if you have already attended a Storm Surge prior to application, but your fall semester schedule will have to be revised.

Selection Procedure

- Each application is considered independently, and if the applicant qualifies for the program, he or she will be accepted until all spaces are filled.
- Some applicants may be asked to interview by phone before admissions are finalized.
- Approximately twenty-two students will be selected to participate in the Honors Program each year.
- Some students may be placed on a waiting list and invited to join the HP at a later time.
- Non-selected students may re-apply in the second semester of their freshman year.

Post-Admission Requirements to Remain Eligible for Honors Scholarships

- Progress towards completion of Honors Program each semester
- Maintenance of 3.5 or higher cumulative and semester GPA (student who falls below a 3.5 GPA in any one semester will be placed on probation; if a student's GPA remains below 3.5 the following semester the student will no longer be in good standing with the program and will not be eligible for the Honor's Scholarship until a 3.5 GPA is attained)
- Maintenance of good community standing based on report from Student Development and student's major department

Post-Admission Requirements to Graduate with Honors Program Designation

- Successful completion of all Honors Program work, including Honors Thesis/Project
- Maintenance of good community standing based on report from Student Development and student's major department.

Honors Program Application Essay Instructions

Write a response to any one article listed on **Arts and Letters Daily** (<http://www.aldaily.com/>). You may choose only from the columns "Articles of Note" and "Essays and Opinion."*



Details

- Your essay should be 500-600 words (equivalent to 1.5- 2 double-spaced pages). Run longer if you like, but 2 thoughtful pages are sufficient.
- **Your goal is to demonstrate that you like to think.** Write pro, con, or pro-and-con, but be persuasive. Give evidence, make illustrations. Be rhapsodic or terse or satiric or whatever, but show us an energetic mind.
- No substitutions in genre or media, please. Don't send us a research paper, a painting, a poem, a PowerPoint show, or a video, etc. instead of an essay. Those are valid ways of responding, and you may very well use them in honors assignments here. But an essay is what we need now.
- If you have questions about these instructions, please email the Honors Director at gweaver@snu.edu.

Format

- At the top of your essay, give your name, email address, and phone number(s).
- Give an original title for your essay.
- Below your essay title, state the article you're responding to (author, title, place of publication, and Web address).

How to submit your HP application essay

- Preferred method: Submit your essay electronically (by email attachment), along with your other application materials to honors@snu.edu.
- If you have already completed your Honors Program Application Form, there's no need to duplicate the application form. Just send the essay with a note that your application is already in.
- Alternative method: Submit your essay by snail mail to Honors Program, Attn: Dr. Gina Weaver Yount, Southern Nazarene University, 6729 NW 39th Expressway, Bethany OK 73008.

Follow-up

We will email you to let you know that your essay arrived.

*This activity and explanation used by permission of Chris Willerton, Abilene Christian University Honors Program.