

Utah State University Honors Program
Call for Honors First-Year Experience Course Proposals
DUE OCTOBER 4, 2019

The Utah State University Honors Program, in cooperation with the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, seeks creative, exciting proposals from faculty for Honors First-Year Experience courses. In addition to meeting USU's General Education Breadth requirements, these introductory seminars offer first- and second-year honors students transformative, uniquely memorable educational experiences as they investigate the "big questions" at the heart of general education at USU. Honors courses actively engage students in hands-on research and field work, global and local citizenship, and cross-disciplinary conversation. We seek 6-8 Honors First-Year Experience courses in a range of the following breadth categories: BHU (Humanities: HONR 1320), BCA (Creative Arts: HONR 1330), BSS (Social Sciences: HONR 1340), BLS (Life Sciences: HONR 1350), and BPS (Physical Sciences: HONR 1360), with particularly high demand for BCA courses. Selected courses will launch in Fall/Spring 2020-21.

Faculty applications are due Monday, OCTOBER 4, 2019, and must include:

- A completed information form, with Department Head signature indicating permission to teach for the University Honors Program, should the proposal be accepted;
- A one-page pedagogical resume with evidence of an outstanding record of teaching;
- A one-page description of a transformative Honors First-Year Experience course designed to challenge 25 high-achieving honors students from all majors to take risks and to embrace the role of "citizen scholar." Descriptions should clearly articulate:
 - How the proposed course meets [USU's General Education Breadth requirements](#);
 - How course assignments, activities, and structure create an experiential educational opportunity for honors students; and
 - How the course will help students to meet each of the USU Honors Program's learning outcomes: critical thinking, independent research, interdisciplinary learning, and community engagement.
- A draft syllabus outlining 15 weeks (no dates necessary at this stage) of proposed texts, assignments, and activities (please limit syllabus length to no more than five pages).

Application decisions will be made by NOVEMBER 1, based on review by two cross-college boards: the Honors Faculty Advisory Board and the Honors Student Advisory Board. The Honors Program Director may also consult relevant Department Heads and Deans, as necessary. Successful applications will present courses that appeal in clear, specific language to both faculty and students.

Faculty selected from the initial application pool to teach for the University Honors Program will then:

- Submit to Honors a General Education course approval request and updated syllabus by November 29, 2019;
- Revise as required to secure Honors and General Education final approval by May 1, 2020
- Earn a \$1000 course-development stipend upon final course approval;
- Agree to teach the course, once in either Fall 2020 or Spring 2021, and for two academic years thereafter; Honors agrees to pay \$4500 each time the course is taught, to be used as course buyout or faculty compensation at the department's discretion;
- Earn the title "Distinguished Professor (Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Professional Practice Professor, etc.) of Honors Education" while teaching the course;
- Teach a seminar-style course of no more than 25 honors students, with the assistance of an Honors Undergraduate Teaching Fellow specially selected for the course.

All faculty applicants will be notified with a decision by November 1, 2019. For submission questions, please contact Dr. Kristine Miller, Honors Program Director, at kristine.miller@usu.edu or 797-3637. Applications should be submitted to the Honors Program office or sent to honors@usu.edu.