



Professor Douglas Crews
Chair, Arts and Sciences Honors Committee

April 18, 2022

Dear Luke and members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

On Monday, April 11, 2022, the ASC Honors Committee reviewed and unanimously approved a revision to the ASC Honors Program.

The revised ASC Honors Program is the first major update of the program in many years. Due to the GE revision, the ASC Honors program had to be revised as the current requirements are embedded within the legacy GE and require each student to submit an Honors Contract in which an approved course is selected to fulfill each Honors requirement within the legacy GE. The ASC Honors committee, administrators, advisors, and students also had a desire to increase access, expand student choice, and embed experiential learning components into the Honors curriculum. This revision process included a faculty subcommittee of the Honors committee who met regularly and worked to develop and revise the requirements based on extensive advisor and student feedback. It also included regular feedback from the University Honors & Scholars program as they worked to develop shared university-wide components that guide college Honors programs.

The goal of the revision is twofold. First, it adjusts the Honors requirements to be in line with the new GE requirements. Second, the revised program allows students more flexibility in developing their Honors curricular requirements and requires a two-semester Honors project that compliments their degree and/or interests. This increased flexibility allows for increased access for regional campus students, transfer students, and students changing majors across colleges or within Arts and Sciences.

The revised program maintains the emphasis on breadth and depth that has long been the hallmark of the ASC Honors program. Students maintain breadth because their Honors requirements lie within both of their themes and they are required to have Honors coursework in the Arts and Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the Natural and Mathematical Sciences. Students maintain, and perhaps enhance, their experience of depth because they are required to do Honors experiences in each of their themes, must complete any Honors requirements within their major, and are required to complete a two-semester project of their design that enhances their Honors experience (this might include an Honors thesis, two semesters of research, internship, or service learning, or other creative endeavors). They are required to submit a proposal, a written report, and a presentation of their Honors project. They will also participate in an Honors version of the ePortfolio/bookend Reflection seminar in which they will reflect upon their Honors coursework and experiences.

We share the revised ASC Honors Program requirements with the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee and request your endorsement.

Sincerely,

Douglas Crews

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