

CHARACTERISTICS OF AN HONORS COURSE

1. **Small enough for close attention to individual student learning.** University Honors Program seminars (UHON 351) that satisfy University Core Curriculum requirements are capped at 15.
2. **Taught by the best faculty.** Chosen by a panel of their peers, all UHON seminars are taught by faculty with substantial experience in their fields, sharing what they care passionately about in ways well suited to capable students.
3. **Innovative in teaching and learning.** Each UHON seminar is a memorable experience for both students and faculty in an engaged community of learning. Like graduate seminars, UHON courses offer sustained discussion, group projects, multi-media classrooms, Service learning, Problem-based Learning and/or independent research and creative activities.
4. **Comprised of truly exceptional students.** Eager to learn, well prepared, and broadly curious, UHON students generally motivate each other to assume much of the responsibility for the course themselves.
5. **Original in content and focus.** Rather than survey courses pure and simple, UHON courses develop major themes appropriate to larger learning objectives. Fore example, Professors John Jackson and Mike Laurence of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute are offering a course on Barack Obama and Presidential Politics in the Fall of 07. It satisfies requirements in social science, interdisciplinary studies, and multiculturalism in the University Core Curriculum, but it could also just as easily be considered an appropriate course for a UHP student whose major is on Political Science, Journalism, and/or Black American Studies.
6. **Flexible.** There is no one formula to success in a UHON course. The special qualities that individual faculty members bring to students in and out of the classroom matter far more than any one characteristic. We simply want to ensure that our very best students have the opportunity for a value-added learning experience, whether it be in a graduate seminar, a research laboratory, a study abroad trip, a musical or theatrical performance, an artistic exhibit, or a professional internship, whatever makes the best learning happen.