



## Part II. Description of Curriculum Change

### 1. Catalog description for the revised program.

#### English Honors Program:

The honors program is open by departmental permission to declared English majors with a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 GPA in English courses.

To apply, students must submit a letter of application and a list of English courses taken (with instructor's names) to the Chair of the Honors Track Program. To be accepted, students must receive favorable evaluations from a majority of professors of courses taken and approval by the Honors Track Program committee.

Students must complete one upper-level (300-400) H-designated course (3 credits) or ENGL 483/H: Honors Thesis in English, and ENGL 484 Topics in English Studies. In conjunction with ENGL 484, students must take ENGL 485/H Honors Portfolio.

### 2. Summary of changes

#### a. Table comparing old and new programs

##### Current Program

English Honors Track

12

##### Revised Program

English Honors Track

7

**Prerequisites:** Declared major in English, completion of ENGL 101, 122, and 202; 15 cr in the major, including at least two survey courses; and permission of English honors track program committee.

##### Required Courses:

ENGL 480/H/ Distinction in English Seminar 3cr  
HNRC 499 Honors Senior Synthesis (1) \*cr  
6cr in any combination of the following options:  
ENGL 483/H/ Honors Thesis in English 0-6cr  
Any H-designated English course (2) 0-6cr

(1) Credits for HNRC 499 are counted in the Liberal Studies synthesis requirement.

(2) If 6cr of H-designated course work is the option chosen, then one of those H-designated courses must be 300- or 400-level.

**Prerequisites:** Declared major in English, completion of ENGL 101, 122, and 202; 15 cr in the major, including at least two survey courses; and permission of English honors track program committee.

##### Required Courses

ENGL 485/H: Honors English Portfolio 1cr  
6cr in any combination of the following options:  
ENGL 483/H/ Honors Thesis in English 0-6cr  
Any H-designated English course 0-6cr

### **3. Rationale for Change**

The English Honors Program has not been offered for the past two years due to changes in the English BA and Liberal Studies curricula and to enrollment issues.

The revised BA curriculum requires all BA majors take a capstone course, ENGL 484: Topics in English Studies. This course is virtually identical to ENGL 480/H/ Distinction in English Seminar and implements in all respects the honors seminar model, with the exception of the students themselves. The new Liberal Studies curriculum eliminates as a requirement LBST 499 and, thus, HNRC 499, a requirement of the current honors program. Staffing resources make offering both upper- and lower-level H-designated ENGL courses difficult. Finally, fulfilling 12 credit hours to complete the program has proven difficult for most BA students; it is nearly impossible for English Education majors.

The proposed program would maintain the goals and objectives of the existing program while reducing the overall credit load from 12 to 7. Concurrent with ENGL 484, students wishing to earn Honors must take ENGL 485/H Honors Portfolio (proposed course, see attachment). They must continue to take 0-6 credits in ENGL 483/H/ Honors Thesis in English and/or H-designated English courses.

### **Part III. Implementation**

#### **1. How will the proposed revision affect students already in the existing program?**

The Honors Program has not been offered for the past two years. No student is enrolled in it.

#### **2. Are faculty resources adequate?**

Yes. ENGL 485/H Honors English Portfolio course will either be taught on overload or added to the schedule of faculty who are teaching less than maximum hours.

#### **3. Are other resources adequate?**

Yes.

#### **4. Do you expect an increase or decrease in the number of students as a result of these revisions?**

We do not anticipate that this revision will result in more English majors; however, we do anticipate that student interest in the Honors Program will grow.

### **Part IV. Periodic Assessment**

The Honors Program will be considered part of any 5-year review or any accreditation agency review.