

# Whatcom Community College Honors Program

## What is the Honors Program?

Whatcom Community College has long been committed to excellence in education. The Honors Program has been developed to recognize academically talented students and to provide them with an opportunity to:

- Study aspects of a subject in more depth than a regular class allows
- Explore the interrelationship of knowledge
- Develop their talents and creativity
- Interact with other talented students
- Develop mentor relationships with faculty members

Both students and faculty benefit from the increased intellectual stimulation provided by the program.

## How does the program work?

The program is designed to provide the Honors student with a variety of challenging learning opportunities:

One option consists of enrolling in honors seminars. These are two-credit courses linked to regular courses which fulfill core skills or distribution requirements in the AAS transfer degree. Students enrolled in a seminar will meet two hours per week with a faculty member and up to 12 Honors students to explore a topic in the subject area in depth. Four hours of work per week outside of class should also be expected.

As a second option, after the student has completed at least one Honors seminar, s/he may work with an approved faculty mentor to develop a special performance, exhibit, original research, or other product during the given quarter. These projects should exhibit knowledge at an advanced level.

A student must complete a minimum of two seminars/projects to graduate in the Honors Program.

## What special services and privileges do students receive in the Honors Program?

Students in the Honors Program will be able to register the first day of registration. This will assure them access to the courses that are linked to the Honors seminars.

Honors students may select a faculty mentor in their major area of interest to help them with academic and career planning.

Students will graduate with Honors in the Honors Program provided that they maintain program requirements.

## What is required once a student is accepted into the program?

To maintain active status in the Honors Program, a student must:

- Abide by the Whatcom Community College Students Rights and Responsibilities
- Maintain a 3.50 cumulative college-level GPA

## How do I apply for the Honors Program?

A student may initiate an application at any time.

Students applying for the Honors Program should demonstrate superior academic ability and intellectual curiosity. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 is required. The process for acceptance into the program is:

1. Fill out an Honors Program application and return it to the Program Coordinator.
2. Attach an unofficial copy of your most recent transcript.
3. Submit at least one faculty or staff recommendation which addresses the student's creativity, intellectual curiosity, motivation, and commitment to go beyond the norm.
4. Demonstrate college-level writing in the Honors Program application and by placement in ENGL& 101.

## How can I get more information?

Please contact:

Tony Will  
Honors Program Coordinator  
Cascade Hall, Room 155  
(360) 383-3567  
Email: [awill@whatcom.edu](mailto:awill@whatcom.edu)

or contact:

**Division Support Office**  
Cascade Hall, Room 145  
(360) 383-3256

**Whatcom Community College**  
237 West Kellogg Road  
Bellingham, WA 98226  
(360) 383-3000

Website: [www.whatcom.edu](http://www.whatcom.edu)

## **Affirmation of Inclusion**

WCC is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the college community feels welcome to participate in the life of the College, free from harassment and discrimination. We welcome people of all races, ethnicity, national origins, religions, ages, genders, sexual orientations, marital status, veteran status, abilities and disabilities. Toward that end, faculty, students and staff will treat one another with respect and dignity; promote a learning and working community that ensures social justice, understanding, civility and nonviolence in a safe and supportive climate; and influence curriculum, teaching strategies, student services and personnel practices that facilitate sensitivity and openness to diverse ideas, peoples and cultures in a creative, safe and collegial environment.

## **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

WCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, genetic information or age in its programs and activities. WCC's discrimination and harassment policy (policy 615) and the student rights and responsibilities policy (WAC 132U-125) strictly prohibit sexual harassment, intimidation, and violence. Anyone who has experienced sexual misconduct is encouraged to contact a WCC counselor in entry and advising (Laidlaw 116) at 360-383-3080 to receive confidential support and learn about reporting options. Any disclosure of such misconduct shared with another faculty or staff member is non-confidential and requires a report to WCC's Title IX coordinator, who has been designated to handle such reports. Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination, Title IX, and sexual misconduct policies can be directed to the Title IX and ADA coordinator at 360-383-3049.