Congratulations and welcome to the University of Cincinnati and the University Honors Program (UHP)! You worked hard to get to this point in your life and you should be proud of what you’ve accomplished. I’m sure you have an idea of what you want to get involved in when you come to UC; similar groups that you were involved with during high school or activities specific to your major. But what UC and UHP have challenged me to do every day, and will soon challenge you to do, is step outside of your comfort zone. Meeting new people and joining groups you never thought you would get involved in is just the beginning!

I encourage you to learn something new at every chance you get and make the most of your time at UC because time goes by way too quickly. Use the learning opportunities presented through UC and UHP to find out more about yourself and what you are passionate about. UHP has given me several paths to follow my passions and pursue projects that I created myself. The staff has shown me that being my own person and utilizing my strengths to the best of my ability are necessary and that working on my weaknesses is a large part of life. There are times that you’ll get knocked down while you are here, but use those times to make yourself stronger and more knowledgeable.

Honors will open doors and opportunities for you that you never even dreamed of — grab hold of them! Study abroad or take an honors seminar that has absolutely nothing to do with your major. Do things that make you happy and don’t worry about the possibility of failing or not being able to do everything you think you should. Challenge yourself to step outside of your box and follow passions you never even knew you had! Good luck in your upcoming years at UC and go Bearcats!

Sincerely,

Alyssa Vah
Nursing Major
Class of 2014
UHP Ambassador

Our mission is to help students maximize their educational opportunities while discovering and pursuing their passions in life and using their gifts and talents to make meaningful contributions to society.

Our program is not about taking harder classes or doing more work. Rather, it’s about trying new things, taking risks and learning in areas you might not otherwise have engaged. It’s about applying your knowledge and skills in real-world settings. It’s about transformation — academically, professionally and personally.

University Honors students have the freedom to decide how they will complete program requirements. Students will explore opportunities within four thematic areas:

- Leadership
- Community Engagement
- Global Studies
- Research & Creative Arts

Students often ask if they can fit honors into their college requirements. The answer is yes! Students, in any college, in any major can fit honors into their UC experience.

You will work closely with your UHP advisor to create an individualized plan that aligns with your interests, passions and goals. We are eager to help you get started!

To learn more about the University Honors Program, read through this newsletter and explore our website.

www.uc.edu/honors
University Honors Program at Bearcats Bound Orientation

Bearcats Bound Orientation is a wonderful opportunity for you to learn more about UC and begin to explore ways to make the most of your college experience.

You and your parents/guests will meet UHP staff members and students during day one of Bearcats Bound Orientation. Our session will take place from 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. (before the main opening session) in the Tangeman University Center Cinema. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn about:

- UHP expectations and requirements
- Benefits of participation
- Opportunities for first-year honors students
- Unique honors seminars

Our staff and students look forward to meeting you at orientation!

If you have questions after orientation, please reach out to our staff. (See page 5 for advisor listings.) We want to help you make the adjustment to UC and Cincinnati an enjoyable experience.

Note: We will not have a session during CCM orientation (June 26-27). As an alternative, you are welcome to visit our office (700 Swift Hall) during your free time to meet with our staff.

Exploring Leadership
HNRS2020
Call number 202155
Wednesdays, 3:35-6:25 PM

This seminar is designed for first and second-year students. It encourages students to explore the nature of leadership — across our world, our country, and our campus. Students will examine and discuss leadership theory, styles, skills and historical and cultural references. Students will appraise common beliefs about leaders and leadership. Because leadership, at its essence, is about working with other to get things accomplished, students will gain a deeper understanding of themselves and learn to appreciate a wide spectrum of differences.

Course activities will move students toward the practical process of leadership in their own lives. Students will become co-constructors of knowledge and develop a unique philosophy of leadership.

Honors Seminar Spotlight

Inquiry to Innovation
HNRS2031
Call number 209293
Tues/Thurs, 3:30-4:50 pm

This seminar is designed for first and second-year students. It introduces and explores the creative process of research and innovation. Through innovative problem solving, students will collaborate in cross-disciplinary teams to address specific and real-world urban problems. This fall, students will examine urban issues related to population growth and crowding in cities.

The dynamics of teamwork will be examined and practiced. The nature of positive cross-disciplinary interaction will be reviewed and tested. Best practices in research and representation of findings will be discussed. Tools for each of these aspects will be developed and applied during an innovation exercise in collaboration with community partners that will produce proposals for implementation.

Inquiry to Innovation and Exploring Leadership are being offered Fall 2014. These honors seminars are open to all honors students but are geared primarily toward first and second-year students.
Honors Experiences: Exploring Opportunities

Honors students are required to complete five honors experiences during their academic career at UC. Students have the flexibility to select experiences that meet their unique learning goals and interests. There are two types of honors experiences: honors seminars and experiential learning projects.

Honors Seminars
Honors seminars are interdisciplinary courses that align with one or more thematic areas and engage students in active and experiential learning. Experiential learning components may include domestic or international study tours, service-learning, visits to local sites in communities, integration of lab work and/or other activities in which students are engaged in the process of creating new knowledge. Honors seminars can apply toward general education requirements. The list of honors seminars change annually. You can view the honors seminars by term online: www.uc.edu/honors/seminars.

Experiential Learning Projects
Experiential learning projects allow students to expand and apply their knowledge beyond the boundaries of academic courses. Through pre-approved and/or self-designed projects, students can explore the world, conduct research with faculty, contribute their masterpiece in a creative arts field or provide significant leadership to campus or community organizations. Students will learn more about self-designed experiential learning projects in the Gateway to University Honors course.

The following examples highlight some experiential learning projects you can participate in as a member of the UHP.

**Leadership**
Leadership has less to do with being elected into a leadership position and more to do with appreciating the strengths of all members and working together to achieve a common goal. **LeaderShape** is a 6-day national leadership institute designed to help students lead with integrity and create a personal vision. Applications for LeaderShape will be available early in fall semester.

**Community Engagement**
Community engagement involves participating alongside others through service projects and taking the time to address the root causes of community challenges and social inequities. UHP coordinates two service-learning opportunities.

**WorkFest** provides students with the opportunity to rebuild and improve the homes of residents in rural Appalachian counties in Kentucky. **Making Wishes Come True** is an opportunity for students to volunteer at Give Kids the World Village, a non-profit that provides memorable, magical, cost-free experiences to children and their families in Central Florida. Applications for these service-learning experiences will be available early in fall semester.

**Global Studies**
Several of our honors seminars include short-term (4-10 days) domestic and international travel opportunities. While not all honors seminars have a travel component, our spring 2014 honors seminars will travel to one of the following destinations:
- Paris, France
- Florence & Rome, Italy
- Tanzania
- Hawaii
- New York City

Applications will be available summer 2014.

**Research & Creative Arts**
Research and creative arts provide students with the opportunity to investigate research questions, develop innovative solutions for a variety of challenges and/or immerse themselves in artistic pursuits. The Biomedical Research Mentoring Program connects first and second-year students with a research mentor and provides them with hands-on opportunities to contribute to the research field. Research opportunities are available at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and UC’s College of Medicine. Students are mentored by graduate students. Applications will be available in October.

Regardless of your unique interests and goals, there is something for everyone. If what you are looking for doesn’t exist, we will help you create it! To learn more about honors experiences, explore our website.

www.uc.edu/honors/experiences

We encourage you to check out our student spotlights to read about some of the unique ways students have completed their honors experience requirements. You will notice that each student approaches the requirements differently. www.uc.edu/honors/abouthonors/studentspotlights

"University Honors allowed me to tailor my undergraduate career to my interest and passions, ultimately helping me to clarify my plans for post-graduate work."

TEAM UP FOR SUCCESS AND COLLABORATE TO CREATE A WINNING TEAM. DESIGN EXPERIENTIAL PROJECTS FOR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE THE WORLD, APPLY THEIR KNOWLEDGE, AND ENGAGE IN WRAP-UP ACTIVITIES. DESIGN NEW EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECTS FOR STUDENTS TO EXPAND AND EXPLORE NEW AREAS AND ENGAGE STUDENTS IN GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.
The UHP hosts an annual, overnight retreat for our incoming freshmen. This year’s retreat will take place **August 20-21**. The Welcome Retreat is the perfect opportunity for you to connect with other incoming students and current UHP student leaders in an interactive and fun setting. The connections you make can last throughout your time at UC and beyond! You’ll participate in large and small group activities focused on the thematic areas of the UHP.

To register, access the registration form online. Complete registration details are listed in the box below. **The deadline to register is July 25.** Space is limited to the first 200 students; be sure to register as soon as possible!

### Move In Before the Retreat

Students who register for the retreat and have an on-campus residence hall assignment can move into their room on **August 19**. Students will be required to sign-up and pay an early move-in fee to Housing & Food Services. To sign up for early move-in authorization, visit the housing website after receiving your housing assignment. There are more details below. Payment must be received by the Housing & Food Services office prior to arrival. Students moving into University Park Apartments should contact the management office for personal arrangements.

### Pre-Retreat Social

Since participants will be on campus early, the retreat leaders will host an informal social gathering on **August 19**, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at Sigma Sigma Commons.

This optional event will begin at the Sigma Sigma monument (the structure that looks like a torch). This is an opportunity for you to meet the retreat leaders and other first-year honors students and become acquainted with campus before the retreat.

### Other Commitments?

Students participating in orientation sessions that occur in August (i.e., make-up and international), CCM auditions and programming or UC Bearcat Bands camp are not able to participate in the Welcome Retreat. Don’t worry! There will be opportunities to connect with UHP students during the year and through the Gateway to University Honors course (HNRS1010).

### Steps to Sign up for the Welcome Retreat

1. Visit the retreat webpage and fill out the registration form: [http://www.uc.edu/honors/honorsFYE/retreat](http://www.uc.edu/honors/honorsFYE/retreat)

2. Download and sign the waivers and emergency form as part of the online registration process. Mail your completed forms to:
   
   **University Honors Program**
   
   **ATTN: Welcome Retreat**
   
   **PO Box 210007**
   
   **Cincinnati, OH 45221-0007**

3. Upon receipt of your online registration and mailed waiver and emergency forms, we will send a confirmation to your UC e-mail address. The confirmation e-mail will contain information on what to bring and where to meet on August 20. We will also bill your student account for the $50 participation fee.

4. Sign up to move into the residence halls early; list UHP as the sponsor: [https://hfs.uc.edu/early](https://hfs.uc.edu/early)

   (Complete this step after receiving your housing assignment)
Gateway to University Honors (HNRS1010) is a 1-credit hour course that all honors students are required to take during their first semester at UC.

In this course, you will learn about opportunities for involvement that align with the four UHP thematic areas: leadership, community engagement, global studies and research & creative arts.

You will begin to create a plan for how you will complete the UHP requirements. You will also create a learning portfolio which you will use to reflect upon and integrate your experiences.

Through a series of activities, assignments, and discussions, students who actively participate in this course will:

- Understand the requirements and benefits of participation in UHP
- Evaluate personal goals and interests related to the four UHP thematic areas
- Explore the value of reflection and engage in the reflection process
- Develop relationships with members of the UHP community

See page six for more information on registration for HNRS1010.

“The most significant part of this class was that it forced us to think about ourselves, our values, and what we hope to accomplish by the time we graduate.”

Individualized Honors Advising

You will meet with your honors advisor at least once each academic year to select and/or develop honors experiences that align with your interests, passions and goals. In addition to your annual meeting, we encourage you to contact your advisor at any time with academic and/or personal questions or concerns. If we don’t have the answers, we will help you find them! Advising assignments are listed below. You can learn more about our advising team online. [www.uc.edu/honors/contact](http://www.uc.edu/honors/contact)

Erin Alanson (erin.alanson@uc.edu, 556-6288) advises honors students in:
- College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning
- College-Conservatory of Music

Jason Autry (jason.autry@uc.edu, 556-6255) advises honors students in:

André Durham (andre.durham@uc.edu, 556-6213) advises honors students in:
- McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, non-STEMM majors (Africana Studies; Anthropology; Archeology; Asian Studies; Classical Civilization; Classics; Communication; English; Exploratory Studies; French; German Studies; History; Interdisciplinary Studies; International Affairs; Journalism; Judaic Studies; Liberal Arts; Organizational Leadership; Philosophy; Political Science; Sociology; Spanish; Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies)
- College of Nursing
- College of Allied Health Sciences

Kayti Kennard (kayti.kennard@uc.edu, 556-1003) advises honors students in:
- McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, STEMM majors (Astrophysics, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Geography, Geology, Mathematical Sciences, Neuroscience, Physics, Pre-pharmacy, and Psychology)
- Students affiliated with UC’s College of Medicine Connections Dual Admissions (BS/MD) Program (regardless of college and major)

Jessica King (jessica.king@uc.edu, 556-6274) advises honors students in:
- College of Engineering and Applied Science (Biomedical and Chemical)

Ashley Walker (ashley.walker@uc.edu, 556-1065) advises honors students in:
- College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services
- Carl H. Lindner College of Business

“[My advisor] knows me well enough to be able to suggest what opportunities I may be interested in. At every meeting, [my advisor] makes sure we review my honors requirements, in addition to allowing me to reflect on what I have done at UC, what I am currently doing, and what I intend to do in the near future.”
Honors Registration Information

During Bearcats Bound Orientation, you will register for your fall semester classes with a college academic advisor. Although your honors advisor will not be on-hand while you register, your college advisor is aware of your requirements as a member of the University Honors Program. The following information will answer your honors-specific questions with regard to fall semester registration.

Priority Registration
Due to the orientation schedule, we are unable to provide priority registration to honors students at orientation. However, you will have priority registration when you register for all fall/spring semesters in the future.

Register for HNRS1010
All honors students are required to take Gateway to University Honors (HNRS1010) fall semester. This course does NOT carry a course fee which means you can take this course even if you are already registered for the maximum number of credits (18).

If there is not an open section of HNRS1010 that fits your schedule, contact your honors advisor immediately following orientation to discuss your options. This course is only offered fall semester so it is imperative that you add it to your fall semester schedule. This is the only course required for participation in the University Honors Program.

Consider Registering for an Honors Seminar
Honors seminars are open to students of all levels and most honors seminars meet a Breadth of Knowledge (BoK) requirement. Enrolling in honors seminars allows you to satisfy multiple requirements with one class! Talk with your academic advisor about which BoK courses you need to satisfy and then look for an honors seminar that will meet the requirement. BoK information is located on the UHP website and through OneStop. Completing an honors seminar can help you fulfill UHP requirements and general education requirements. View the complete list of honors seminars online: www.uc.edu/honors/Seminars

Note: You are not required to take an honors seminar your first semester. The only class you are required to take your first semester is HNRS1010.

Finding Classes on OneStop
Here are the steps for locating honors seminars on OneStop.

Step 1: Log onto OneStop
www.onestop.uc.edu

Step 2. Click “Registration Information” and then “View Class Offerings”

Step 3. From the drop-down menus, select:
• “Fall Semester 2014-2015” for term
• “Fall Semester 2014-15 (all sessions)” for session
• “H - Honors Course” for attributes

Note: Selecting “University Honors Program” in the “Offering College” field and/or “HNRS” in the “Discipline” field will not provide a full list of honors seminars.

University Honors Program Staff

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Vice Provost, International Affairs</td>
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<td>Debbie Brawn</td>
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<td>Erin Alanson</td>
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