Welcome to the University Honors Program!

My name is Anh Tran and I am a senior in Architecture in the College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning (DAAP), as well as a dedicated member of the University Honors Program (UHP) family. Having been in UHP for four years, I cannot tell you how much my engagement in UHP contributed to my growth and invaluable experiences in college and in life.

The UHP appreciates you and your talents/interests. You will be encouraged to push boundaries and follow your passions. I received tremendous support from the program to pursue a variety of opportunities, from a photography project in Hawaii to a semester in Europe.

Being a member of UHP is more than just fulfilling academic requirements or receiving honorary benefits; as we spend our time at the university, we each grow into people that know our community and our responsibility towards it. UHP students serve the program and the university in many different ways. We not only earn academic achievements; we also excel as leaders of campus and as well-rounded individuals for professional life after college. Being in the program has been an honor, a gift and an experience I would never trade for anything else.

That was my UHP story. Now it is your turn to write your own. I am sure that you will enjoy UC and the University Honors Program.

From a graduating senior to incoming freshmen: welcome, have fun and enjoy your time!
- Anh Tran

University Honors Program at UC

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. It’s about trying new things, taking risks, and applying knowledge 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 in any college and in any major can fit honors into their UC experience. Students can explore opportunities within four thematic areas:

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

Students work closely with their UHP advisor to create an individualized plan to align with their passions and goals.

experience reflect integrate transform
Inquiry to Innovation  
PD2030  
Call number 504501  
Tues/Thurs, 3:30-4:50 pm

Inquiry to Innovation teaches students how to harness their creativity and work and think more holistically. Students will gain an appreciation for opposing points of view and learn to collaborate with partners across disciplines to develop innovative and actionable solutions to complex problems. The theme for this fall is leading change.

Students will identify opportunities on and around campus to become leaders of positive change. This could include issues of social justice, sustainable development, barriers to inclusion & equality, urban planning or student affairs—just to name a few. The course will help students leverage their passion to become driven leaders of change on and beyond campus.

Exploring Leadership  
HNRS2020  
Call number 510000  
Mondays, 3:35-6:20 PM

You are a leader. What difference will you make? Exploring Leadership engages students in the process of discussing what it means to be a leader. Breaking down the myths of leadership (e.g., leaders are born) students will co-construct a new understanding of what it means to lead. Because leadership is about working with others to get things accomplished, students will gain a deeper understanding of themselves and learn to appreciate diverse perspectives.

Through a series of discussions, guest speakers and activities, students will become co-constructors of knowledge and develop a personal leadership philosophy. Students will consider how they will use their leadership strengths to make a positive difference in the world.

Note: During CCM Orientation, we will meet with students and parents during lunch on Day 1 instead of the morning session.

“Bearcats Bound Orientation introduced me to the culture of UC and sparked my interest in engaging in activities outside of the classroom. I learned about organizations and opportunities I didn’t know existed that are exclusive to UC and the University Honors Program.”

“Honors seminars are a great way to explore your academic interests that may or may not relate to your major. You meet members of the UHP from other majors and become part of an engaged community of learners.”

University Honors Program at Bearcats Bound Orientation

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

You and your guests will meet upper-class students, UHP staff members and other incoming students during **day one of Bearcats Bound Orientation**. Our session will take place **7:45 - 8:45 a.m.** (before the main opening session) in the **Tangeman University Center Cinema**. Our staff and students look forward to meeting you!

Our session will provide an overview of how our program is different from most honors programs. We will present information on the following:

- UHP requirements & benefits
- Expectations for your first year as an honors student
- Opportunities to customize the UHP requirements to align with your interests, goals and passions

If you have questions after orientation, please reach out to the UHP staff. We want to help you make the adjustment to UC and Cincinnati an enjoyable experience. We are happy to answer any questions you have over the summer and/or during your transition.

**Note:** During CCM Orientation, we will meet with students and parents during lunch on Day 1 instead of the morning session.
The UHP hosts an annual, overnight retreat for our incoming freshmen. This year’s retreat will take place August 19-20. The Welcome Retreat is the perfect opportunity for you to connect with incoming students and UHP student leaders in an interactive setting. You’ll participate in large and small group activities focused on the thematic areas of the UHP. The deadline to register is Friday, July 24. Space is limited to the first 200 students and the cost is $50. Complete registration details listed below.

Move In Early
Students who register for the retreat and have an on-campus residence hall assignment can move into their room on Tuesday, August 18. 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. 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. See the box below for more details.

Pre-Retreat Social
Since participants will be on campus early, the retreat leaders will host an informal social gathering on August 18, beginning at 7:00 p.m., on Sigma Sigma Commons. This optional event will begin at the Sigma Sigma monument (the structure that looks like a torch).

Other Commitments?
Students participating in makeup orientation, CCM auditions, or UC Bearcat Bands camp are not able to participate in the Welcome Retreat. Don’t worry! There will be other opportunities to connect with UHP students and staff during the year, including Gateway to University Honors, our Fall Open House and our Homecoming Cookout. We look forward to engaging with you at that time!

Register for the University Honors Annual Welcome Retreat

“The Welcome Retreat was informative, fun, and social. A great way to start my college career.”

Sign up for the Welcome Retreat

1. Visit the retreat webpage and fill out the registration form: www.uc.edu/honors/honorsFYE/retreat

2. Download, print and sign the medical and release forms: www.uc.edu/honors/honorsFYE/retreat/forms

Mail your completed forms to: University Honors Program ATTN: Honors Welcome Retreat PO Box 210007 Cincinnati, OH 45221-0007

3. Upon receipt of your online registration and mailed medical and release forms, we will send a confirmation to your UC e-mail address. The confirmation e-mail will contain information on what to pack and where to meet on August 19. We will also bill your student account for the $50 participation fee.

4. Sign up to move into the residence halls early; check UHP box: https://hfs.uc.edu/early (Complete this step after receiving your housing assignment)
As an honors student, you are required to complete five honors experiences during your academic career at UC. You will have the flexibility to select experiences that meet your unique learning goals and interests. Honors experiences fall within one of four thematic areas (leadership, community engagement, global studies, and research & creative arts). An explanation of each thematic area and examples are listed below.

**Leadership**
Leadership has less to do with being elected into a leadership position and more to do with appreciating the strengths of all group members and working together to achieve a common goal. Sample experiences:

> Examined the leadership of the UC men’s soccer coaches and team captains
> Participated in the certification process to train service-dogs and become a leader in this field
> Mission trip to rural Appalachia to rebuild homes and learn about the community
> Explored the topic of human rights by studying international policy, human rights theories and historical events abroad
> Volunteered at a summer day camp; addressed the nutritional needs of children through educational programs

**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. Sample experiences:

> Mission trip to rural Appalachia to rebuild homes and learn about the community
> Explored the topic of human rights by studying international policy, human rights theories and historical events abroad
> Volunteered at a summer day camp; addressed the nutritional needs of children through educational programs

**Global Studies**
Global studies focuses on understanding and appreciating similarities and differences across cultures. 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 2016 honors seminars will travel to the following destinations:
- Scotland
- Brussels & The Hague
- Italy
- Brazil
- Iceland
- South Africa

Beyond travel through our seminars, students are encouraged to engage in domestic and international travel opportunities. Sample experiences:

> Traveled with Engineers Without Borders to develop sustainable water treatment facilitates in Tanzania
> International co-op in Germany or Singapore
> Cultural and historical study of Philadelphia

**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. Sample experiences:

> Wrote and self-published a graphic novel
> Participated in a music festival or summer intensive
> Engaged in research and mentoring alongside researchers from UC’s College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
> Designed and built a guitar

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

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**Exploring your Passions through Honors Experiences**

> Started the student organization GlobeMed to help underserved populations on the Thai-Myanmar border
**Gateway to University Honors (HNRS1010)**

*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. You will begin to **create a plan** for how you want to be engaged on campus and in the community. You will learn about the different types of honors experiences and how you can **customize your experiences** to align with your interests and goals. You will 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 *Gateway to University Honors* registration information.

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**Individualized Honors Advising**

You will meet with your honors advisor at least once each academic year to create an individualized plan that aligns with your interests, passions and goals. We encourage you to contact your honors advisor at any time with academic and/or personal questions or concerns. Our purpose is to serve as a coach and mentor for you as you pursue your passions.

**UHP Advising Team Quiz**

**Q1**

_________ is a UC alum from the class of 2008 and majored in Organizational Leadership with a certificate in International Human Rights.

**Q2**

_________ is passionate about leadership development. This advisor is a LeaderShape graduate and teaches the honors seminar, *Exploring Leadership*.

**Q3**

_________ researches game design and instructional technology. Specifically, connecting them to find new and effective ways to teach and learn.

**Q4**

_________ served as a student orientation leader as an undergraduate student. This role awakened the advisor’s desire to work in higher education.

**Q5**

_________ volunteers at a local animal shelter socializing dogs as they prepare for adoption.

**Q6**

_________ loves music and travel. This advisor plays saxophone in the UC Community Band and will attend the Eurovision Song Contest in Austria.

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“[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.”

Erin Alanson  Jason Autry  Dominique Brown  

André Durham  Kayti Kennard  Ashley Walker

Quiz answer key: Q1—Dominique, Q2—Erin, Q3—Jason, Q4—Kayti, Q5—André, Q6—Ashley.
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 contains everything you need to know about how being a member of UHP impacts your fall semester registration.

Priority Registration
Honors students receive priority registration beginning fall semester when they register for spring semester classes. Due to the orientation schedule, we are unable to provide priority registration at orientation.

Register for HNRS1010
All honors students are required to take Gateway to University Honors (HNRS1010) in the fall semester. This course does NOT carry a course fee, which means you can take this course even if you need to register 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.

Register for an Honors Seminar
Honors seminars are interdisciplinary courses that engage students in active discussions and experiential learning. Honors seminars are open to students of all levels and typically enroll 15-25 students. Honors seminars can apply toward general education requirements. Enrolling in an honors seminar allows you to satisfy multiple requirements with one class. Talk with your academic advisor about which general education requirements you need to satisfy and look for an honors seminar to meet the requirement. View the complete list of honors seminars online: www.uc.edu/honors/experiences/seminars.

Find Classes on OneStop

**Step 1:** Log on to OneStop: www.onestop.uc.edu

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

**Step 3:** From the drop-down menus, select the following:
- Term—“Fall Semester 2015-16” for term
- Session—“Fall Semester 2015-16 (all sessions)”
- Attributes—“H - Honors Course”

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

University Honors Program Staff

Raj Mehta, Director, University Honors Program
Debbie Brawn, Vice Provost, International Affairs
Erin Alanson, Administrative Director
Jason Autry, Associate Director
Dominique Brown, Assistant Director/Academic Advisor
Neil Choudhury, Assistant Director
André Durham, Assistant Director/Academic Advisor
Kayti Kennard, Assistant Director/Academic Advisor
Ashley Walker, Assistant Director/Academic Advisor
Tricia Yee, Coordinator of Special Projects & Programs

Note: You are not required to take an honors seminar. The only class you are required to take as a member of UHP is HNRS1010. Seminar offerings change each semester.