The Reaud Honors College Experience
A Guidebook
The students of the Reaud Honors College would like to extend their gratitude to Mr. Wayne Reaud. Thanks to Mr. Reaud’s generosity, the Honors College has the support it needs to develop its future projects and plans. His donation has provided students with significant educational opportunities, enabling the Reaud Honors College to make an even greater impact on students’ lives. Thank you for choosing to help provide a quality education and college experience to hundreds of students every year.
Welcome to the Reaud Honors College at Lamar University. We believe in enabling the whole student to achieve his or her maximum intellectual and personal potential. Whatever your academic and career goals are, we work with you to empower you to do more and get the most out of college, both inside and outside of the classroom. We pride ourselves on being full-service, providing opportunities in academics, campus engagement, residential life, summer projects, and community service, with personal attention paid to the needs, interests, and aspirations of each individual student. The Reaud Honors College at Lamar University combines personal attention and academic opportunities with accessibility and affordability. As a student in the Reaud Honors College, you will have a unique opportunity to develop as a person and to showcase your activities and achievements. This Guidebook is a comprehensive guide to the Reaud Honors College and the resources available to you at Lamar University. As a reference work, it should help you get the most out of your time in the College and Lamar University.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Dodson
Dean, Reaud Honors College

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Reaud Honors College Mission Statement

THE REAUD HONORS COLLEGE INTEGRATES ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP.

How We Live Our Mission:

We encourage and facilitate involvement in the Honors student, University, and local communities through Honors residential life, the Honors Points system and the Honors Student Association.

We provide enhanced Honors course offerings in the core curriculum, upper-division degree requirements, and unique interdisciplinary Honors seminars and topics courses.

We support student participation in the high impact educational practices of undergraduate research and creative activity, diversity and global learning, internships and cooperative education, and service learning with personal attention paid to the needs, interests, and aspirations of each individual student.

Graduation Requirements

All students entering the Lamar University Reaud Honors College are encouraged to work toward becoming Reaud Honors College Graduates. To achieve this distinction, the Reaud Honors College student must:

PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST 40 HONORS EXPERIENCES OVER FOUR YEARS, WITH ALL EXPERIENCES REPORTED ON YOUR ePORTFOLIO

AND

PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST ONE HIGH IMPACT EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE (UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH/CREATIVE ACTIVITY, DIVERSITY/GLOBAL LEARNING, SERVICE LEARNING, OR CO-OP/INTERNSHIP)

AND

MAINTAIN A GPA OF 3.4 OR ABOVE

AND

TAKE AT LEAST 2 HONORS SEMINARS OR 1 HONORS TOPICS COURSE

AND

COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF 26 CREDIT HOURS OF HONORS COURSES, OF WHICH AT LEAST EIGHT HOURS MUST BE UPPER-LEVEL HONORS COURSES

OR

COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF 23 CREDIT HOURS OF HONORS COURSES, INCLUDING SIX HOURS OF THE HONORS THESIS

NOTE: A grade of B or better must be earned in order to receive Honors credit for a course.

Special recognition is given to Reaud Honors College Graduates at University commencement exercises, including the opportunity to wear the Honors medallion and a notation by the student’s name in the commencement program. The status of Reaud Honors College Graduate will also be permanently affixed to the individual’s official University transcript.

A student engaging in Honors-type academic activities may receive non-course based credit. The amount of such credit may range from 1 credit hour to no more than 6 credit hours and will be determined by the Reaud Honors College Dean.
Honors Advising

The Reaud Honors College is committed to providing each student with a welcoming and supportive environment, and Honors advising is an important part of that commitment.

Advising is most effective when students are active and prepared. Prior to each advising session, students should review relevant materials and formulate questions regarding any issues which they need clarified. Since the College often communicates significant information by email, students should check their email on a daily basis and take appropriate action in response.

In addition to advising with the Undergraduate Advising Center during their first two years and their Department in their junior and senior years, Honors students are required to advise with the Reaud Honors College at least once every year, and failure to do so may result in suspension of early registration privileges. Students meet with the College Dean during their first year, preferably in their first semester. After that, students will meet with the College’s Graduation Counselor in their sophomore, junior, and senior years. Of course, students are always welcome and encouraged to contact the College outside of advising if they have question they need to have answered. Finally, prospective Reaud Honors College Graduates will have an exit interview with the College Dean near the end of their final semester.

Honors advising sessions focus on the whole of the student’s collegiate experience and her/his aspirations after graduation from Lamar. Through advising, students develop a plan for the achievement of Reaud Honors College Graduate status, and the College tracks students’ progress toward that goal. As importantly, the advising process enables students to explore, refine, and develop their personal goals and assists them in engaging with realistic opportunities in their academic and professional lives.

Plan for the Achievement

Advising is most effective when students are active and prepared. Prior to each advising session, students should review relevant materials and formulate questions regarding any issues which they need clarified. Since the College often communicates significant information by email, students should check their email on a daily basis and take appropriate action in response.

Curriculum

The Reaud Honors College is attentive to the energy and curiosity of emerging scholars. Honors students can fulfill all of their core curriculum requirements in Honors sections of core courses. These sections provide smaller classes, more engaging course content, and a supportive learning environment. At the advanced course level, Honors students are able to obtain Honors credit by pursuing their particular interests through individualized projects. As an Honors student, you will be able to register early in order to get into those courses you need.

The Reaud Honors College also offers a unique set of courses that are available only to Honors students. Honors Seminars and Honors Topics courses are taught by distinguished Lamar faculty on an ever-changing array of diverse subjects. Each Seminar or Topics course is an interdisciplinary, intellectually challenging, out-of-the-box course, and Honors students are invited to propose their own ideas for such courses.

All students entering the Reaud Honors College are expected to work toward becoming Reaud Honors College Graduates. To achieve this distinction, the Reaud Honors College student must, among other requirements:

- Take at least 2 Honors Seminars or 1 Honors Topics course
- Either complete a minimum of 26 credit hours of Honors courses, of which at least eight hours must be upper-level Honors courses, including HNRS courses, OR
- Complete a minimum of 23 credit hours of Honors courses, including HNRS courses and six hours of the Honors Thesis.

Normally, a Reaud Honors College student may earn no more than a cumulative total of 15 hours of Honors Credit through any combination of Independent Study, Honors Contracts, and the Honors Thesis.

Credit Hour Targets for the End of the Second Year:

- Excellent: 17-19
- Good: 14-16
- Acceptable: 12-13
- Problematic: Under 12

If a student has brought a significant number of AP/Co-enrollment credit hours to Lamar, the student needs to be careful about preserving the remaining core courses for Honors.

Seminars (HNRS-3161) and Topics (HNRS-4364): Students in their second semester may enroll in these courses and should not wait until their senior year to start fulfilling this requirement.
**ANNUAL COURSE ROTATION**

**FALL**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM</td>
<td>1311</td>
<td>Honors General Chemistry I</td>
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<td>CHEM</td>
<td>3311</td>
<td>Honors Organic Chemistry I</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL</td>
<td>1301</td>
<td>Honors Composition I</td>
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<td>2326</td>
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<td>Honors US History to 1877</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH</td>
<td>2413</td>
<td>Honors Calculus &amp; Analytic Geometry I</td>
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<td>MATH</td>
<td>3435</td>
<td>Honors Calculus &amp; Analytic Geometry III</td>
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<td>2306</td>
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<td>POLS</td>
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<td>PSYC</td>
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**Creative Arts Core**

**Variable but includes Honors Sections of:**

- COMM 1370 – Film Appreciation
- PHIL 1330 – Art and Ideas
- MUSI 1306 – Music Appreciation
- ARTS 1301 – Art Appreciation
- THEA 1310 – Theatre Appreciation
- DANC 2304 – Dance Appreciation

**HNRS 3161** Honors Seminar: one to three sections

**HNRS 4364** Honors Topics: one to three sections

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<td>ELEN</td>
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<td>Honors Senior Projects Design II</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL</td>
<td>1302</td>
<td>Honors Composition &amp; Rhetoric II</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST</td>
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<td>Honors US History since 1877</td>
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<td>SOCI</td>
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<td>Honors Introduction to Sociology</td>
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**Creative Arts Core**

**Variable but includes Honors Sections of:**

- COMM 1370 – Film Appreciation
- PHIL 1330 – Art and Ideas
- MUSI 1306 – Music Appreciation
- ARTS 1301 – Art Appreciation
- THEA 1310 – Theatre Appreciation
- DANC 2304 – Dance Appreciation

**HNRS 3161** Honors Seminar: one to three sections

**HNRS 4364** Honors Topics: one to three sections

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**PETITION FOR HONORS CREDIT**

Any section of these courses taught by the professor listed may be petitioned for Honors credit.

- **ACCT** LEC 2301 Introduction to Financial Accounting Seawright
- **ANTH** LEC 2346 Introduction to Anthropology Clanahan
- **BIOL** LEC 2306 Environmental Science Armacost
- **BIOL** LEC 2420 Microbiology Kuckner
- **BUSW** LEC 1370 Business Env. & Public Policy Cavaillerie or Baldo
- **DSDE** LEC 1374 Introduction to Deaf Studies Any Instructor
- **ECON** LEC 2301 Principles of Economics I (Macro) Price
- **ECON** LEC 2302 Principles of Economics II (Micro) Price
- **FCSC** LEC 1322 Nutrition/Diet Any instructor
- **MGMT** LEC 3310 Principles of Management/Organization Dyson
- **MEEN** LEC 4310 Integrated System Design (PLUS LAB) Aung or Zhou
- **MEEN** LEC 4316 Integrated System Design (PLUS LAB) Aung or Zhou
- **MULT** LEC 1218 World Music Proksch
- **MULT** LEC 2340 Music History I Proksch
- **MULT** LEC 3340 Music History II Proksch
- **NURS** LEC 2373 Basic Pathophysiology Hale

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**HONORS INDEPENDENT STUDY**

The Honors Independent Study class (HNRS 3360) offers Reaud Honors College students the opportunity to create a course in an area outside the standard curriculum.

The student must identify a faculty member who will supervise the course and using the approved form, submit a detailed description of the coursework to be completed, including reading lists and/or research objectives and a clear indication of the final product to be submitted for evaluation. The form should also include any agreement reached as to the application of the Independent Study course to the student’s degree plan.
Petition for Honors Credit

The intent of the Petition for Honors Credit is to provide the opportunity for the Honors student to earn Honors credit in a course from his/her degree plan, normally in the student’s College or disciplinary core, that is not offered as a stand-alone Honors section. The Petition for Honors Credit option is initiated by the instructor and offered by that instructor on an ongoing basis for any course level and usually involves several students. In order for a course to be available on a Petition for Honors Credit basis, it must be listed as such on the Honors Course Schedule.

The student must earn a grade of 'B' or better in the regular coursework in order to obtain honors credit. Generally, fulfillment of the terms of the Petition only determines whether the student earns honors credit for the course and does not impact the final course grade. Petition forms are available in the Reaud Honors College Office or on the College’s website.

PROCEDURE FOR HONORS PETITIONS

1. The student should identify a course section listed as available on this basis on the Honors Course Schedule.

2. At the beginning of the semester, the student completes the correct Petition for Honors Credit Form, and both the student and the Professor sign and date the form.

3. The student submits the completed and signed form to the Reaud Honors College Office by the 12th class day. Petitions submitted after the 12th class day will not be accepted.

4. The Petition is recorded by Executive Assistant of the College. A student may withdraw from a petition no later than the official Last Day to Drop/Withdraw without Academic Penalty by notifying both the Reaud Honors College Office and the Professor. Such a withdrawal will be recorded.

5. The student submits the work agreed upon in the Petition to the instructor by the established deadline.

6. The Reaud Honors College sends a completion form to the instructor, who will return the form, usually via campus mail, indicating whether the contract was completed in a satisfactory manner.

7. If the petition has been completed satisfactorily, the College will inform the Registrar and the particular course will be marked as “Honors Credit” on the student’s transcript. If the petition was not completed, the student will not receive honors credit and will be disqualified from entering into further petitions or contracts, unless the Honors Dean determines that there is a compelling reason to allow the student to do so.

Honors Contracts

Honors Contracts are the primary means by which Reaud Honors College students earn Honors credit at the 3000-4000 (or upper-division) course level by providing students with the opportunity to earn Honors credit in a course from her/his degree plan. An Honors Contract is an agreement between an Honors Student and a Professor on a mutually designated project that elevates a course from regular to Honors credit. Contracts are initiated by students and must involve the completion of an additional and meaningful project beyond that of the regular requirements of the course.

THE EXPECTATION FOR CONTRACTS IS THAT THE STUDENT WILL COMPLETE AN ADDITIONAL AND MEANINGFUL COMPONENT OF WORK BEYOND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE REGULAR COURSE SYLLABUS. THIS MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED IN MANY WAYS, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) THE FOLLOWING:

- Investigating an area of the discipline not covered in depth in the regular course.
- Investigating how the student's major area(s) of interest connect with this discipline.
- Applying the information/expertise learned in the course in a creative way.
- Participating in an appropriate and relevant faculty-initiated research project.
- Devising and carrying out a clearly delimited original research project.
- Monitoring and analyzing "current events" associated with the course topic.
- Performing a literature survey in a collateral area of the course topic.

The Honors component may involve a standard research paper, a bibliographic essay, a classroom presentation, or other product as appropriate to the course material.

The student must earn a grade of ‘B’ or better in the regular coursework in order to obtain honors credit. Generally, fulfillment of the terms of the contract only determines whether the student earns honors credit for the course and does not impact the final course grade. Contract forms are available in the Reaud Honors College Office or on the College’s website.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTRACTS

1. The student must be an Honors student in good standing (not on probation) in order to take advantage of contracts.

2. Reaud Honors College students normally may not earn more than 6 hours of Honors Credit through the Honors Contract option, unless the Honors Dean determines that there is a compelling reason to allow the student to do so.
PROCEDURE FOR HONORS CONTRACTS

1. The student should identify a course of interest. Contracts are only available for courses at the 3000-4000 level.

2. The student is responsible for initiating the contract at the start of the semester by meeting with the instructor and agreeing on a project idea and description.

3. The student completes the correct Honors Contract Form, which includes the work to be done and the final product.

4. Both the student and the professor sign and date the form.

5. The student submits the completed and signed form to the Reaud Honors College Office by the 12th class day. Contracts submitted after the 12th class day will not be accepted.

6. The Dean reviews and either approves the contract or returns it to the student for revision and resubmission.

7. After the Dean signs the contract, it is recorded by Executive Assistant of the College. A student may withdraw from a contract no later than the official Last Day to Drop/Withdraw without Academic Penalty by notifying both the Reaud Honors College Office and the professor. Such a withdrawal will be recorded.

8. The student submits the work agreed upon in the contract to the instructor by the established deadline.

9. The Reaud Honors College sends a completion form to the instructor, who will return the form, usually via campus mail, indicating whether the contract was completed in a satisfactory manner.

10. If the contract has been completed satisfactorily, the College will inform the Registrar and the particular course will be marked as “Honors Credit” on the student’s transcript. If the contract was not completed, the student will not receive honors credit and will be disqualified from entering into further contracts, unless the Honors Dean determines that there is a compelling reason to allow the student to do so.

GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING A GOOD CONTRACT

Ideally, a good Honors Contract should

- be undertaken in a course of significant interest to the student.
- be of mutual interest to both the student and the instructor.
- engage the student’s higher cognitive abilities of analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and creation.
- involve a project or activity that deepens and advances one’s understanding of the course’s subject matter and results in an experiences that advances one’s academic and professional aspirations.
- open up the possibility of engaging in further undergraduate research or creative activity beyond the scope of the course.
- result in a presentation of undergraduate research or creative work at a Lamar Undergraduate Research Conference or Expo, a regional or national conference within one’s discipline, or a regional or national Honors conference.
- be appropriate to the number of credit hours earned in the course.

Students should avoid contracts that

- consist of busy work.
- are of little to no interest to the student or instructor.
- have no clear connection to the content of the course.
- are described in vague and confusing terms (e.g. “the student will write an extra paper”).
- are for work that the student has already completed.
The Honors Thesis is an important option for becoming a Reaud Honors College Graduate. For students aiming at post-baccalaureate degrees, the Honors Thesis is an opportunity to demonstrate clearly the ability to complete a major research/creative project. For all students, it provides the opportunity to pursue in depth an area of study or research that is personally important or intriguing. It can easily become the foundation for post-graduate research, facilitating the acquisition of grants and other support in graduate school.

**During the Junior Year, the Honors Student should identify the general topic of the Thesis Research as well as a Faculty member who will be the Thesis Supervisor. Before the conclusion of the second semester of the Junior Year, the student should submit:**

1. a letter of intent to the Dean of the Reaud Honors College accompanied by
2. a Thesis Prospectus outlining the project envisioned for the Thesis, including proposed length of the finished paper, and
3. a letter from the intended Thesis supervisor indicating his/her willingness to serve in this capacity.

**After these items have been submitted, the student and thesis supervisor will meet with the Honors College Dean to discuss the process.**

**General Regulations**

1. No student will be permitted to enroll for HNRS 4360 or 4361 (Honors Thesis) until he/she has achieved senior standing through the completion of 90 hours of course credits, inclusive of at least 12 hours of Honors credits.
2. The request for HNRS 4360 or 4361 must include signatures of all thesis committee members.
3. The request for HNRS 4360 or 4361 must include a clear definition of final products to be completed by the end of the term. See guidelines on research and writing below.
4. The thesis student may submit a request for research funds from the Honors Council, when appropriate. Forms and guidelines for such a request are available from the Dean of the Reaud Honors College.
5. If the product designated for HNRS 4360 is not completed on schedule, the student will not be permitted to enroll for HNRS 4361.
6. A grade of "incomplete" will be assigned for 4360 until after the completion of 4361. In the case of a student who does not make adequate progress to enroll in 4361, a grade of NG will be assigned for 4360.
7. Special arrangements are available in those disciplines, such as Studio Art, in which a Senior Thesis is part of the degree plan.

**Thesis Committee**

A Thesis Committee must be formed before the request for HNRS 4360 or 4361 will be approved. This committee will include:

1. The Thesis supervisor as chair of the committee. The supervisor must be a full-time Lamar University faculty member with the rank of Assistant Professor or above.
2. Another faculty member of the student’s choice
3. The Dean of the Reaud Honors College or an alternate designated by the student with the approval of the Dean
4. Copies of thesis materials will be forwarded to the full committee only after initial approval of the thesis supervisor.

**Research and Writing**

The following elements will normally form part of the student's progress toward the completed thesis:

1. The thesis Prospectus is due with the application for enrollment in HNRS 4360.
2. During the 4360 semester, the student will complete a literature review/annotated bibliography and submit a research design no later than mid-semester.
3. A summary statement on research completed and an outline of the thesis are due by the end of the 4360 semester.
4. A draft of the thesis is due by midterm of the 4361 semester. A finished copy of the thesis must be submitted to the Thesis Committee at least two weeks before Last Class Day at the end of the term.

**Presentation**

The student must make a public presentation of the thesis findings before receiving final approval of the Thesis Committee. The time and place of presentation will be coordinated by the Dean of the Reaud Honors College.

**Approval**

Signatures of all members of the Thesis Committee must be secured before the date designated for submission of grades so that the Thesis Supervisor may assign a grade for both HNRS 4360 and HNRS 4361.
Non-Course Credit Guidelines

Honors students have often earned a significant number of credit hours before they enter the College and thus face difficulty in earning Honors hours in the core curriculum. Non-course credit enables such students to address potential shortfalls by earning Honors credit for Honors-type activities. A student may submit a request for non-course credit for activities completed outside of usual Reaud Honors College graduation requirements. In order to be eligible for non-course credit, the student must have earned at least 15 credit hours prior to entering the Reaud Honors College.

A student may receive up to six hours in non-course credit.

The Dean of the College shall approve activities and Honors course hours awarded.

Activities approved for non-course credit may only be used for non-course credit and cannot count towards the High Impact Educational Practice requirement or Reaud Honors College Points.

Students are required to submit documentation for activities completed.

Examples of Activities Suitable for Non-Course Credit:

- Participation in conferences or academic competitions may count 1-3 credit hours as determined by the Reaud Honors College Dean, depending on activities the student participates in during the conference. Conference subjects include, but are not limited to: academic, leadership, and professional development. A written report is required to receive credit - up to 3 credits.
- Research experiences for undergraduates, summer undergraduate research fellowships, and OUR undergraduate research grants - 6 credits.
- Study abroad - 3 credits.
- Unpaid internships - 3 credits.
- Partners in the Parks Program - 3 credits.
- Summer Reading Club - 1 credit hour (may be repeated for up to 3 credits).
- Job shadowing (if credit hours are not otherwise earned). A written report is required to receive credit. One credit for every 15 hours of shadowing, up to 3 credits.

Honors Experiences

As an Honors student, you will attend events and participate in service projects that will broaden your horizons and enhance your learning experience at Lamar University.

To earn Reaud Honors College Graduate status, you need to participate in diverse range of activities.

Honors experiences may include most any intellectual or cultural event held on campus such as:
- Theatre performances
- Art exhibitions
- Academic lectures
- Research presentations
- Creative activities
- Leadership meetings
- Honors events
- Volunteer experiences on campus and off campus

Leadership positions will be included and considered. These experiences are crucial in developing the soft skills (leadership, organizational, networking, cultural competence, etc.) that are essential for your career path after Lamar.

You will document all of your Honors experiences on your ePortfolio in the way that you desire. Official documentation of Honor’s Experiences will be submitted online via your eP to the Reaud Honors College Office by the Spring of each academic year on a date to be announced. College staff will review eP’s to make sure that students are on track to graduate with Reaud Honors College Graduate status.

Requirement:

On average, at least one activity per month during the Fall and Spring semesters and one during the summer (10 per year), all activities added to your eP. Of course, you may attend, volunteer, or lead as many activities as you wish.
E-Portfolios and Digital Literacy

During your time as an Honor’s student, you will be exposed to a variety of learning opportunities that can enhance your learning experience as a Reaud Honor’s College student. To maximize the potential impact these learning opportunities could have on your future, we are asking that each of you build an ePortfolio (eP). As you build your eP, you will be using a variety of digital tools and resources to help you showcase your learning experience and share your story about what makes you unique. You will also be sharing your Honor’s experiences on your eP.

WHY CREATE AN eP AND LEARN DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS?

We believe you should have a meaningful and productive college experience that is shared with others both face to face and in the digital world.

To do this, you will develop an ePortfolio that shares your accomplishments and experiences that can benefit you both academically and professionally.

Your ePortfolio will be your platform to develop and prepare yourself as a professional while allowing you to develop digital literacy skills that will prepare you for the job market.

As you build your ePortfolio, we immerse you in the COVA learning framework which allows you to:

- Reflect upon your learning experiences both academically and socially
- Share your coursework, undergraduate research, study abroad, clubs/organizations, volunteer work, high impact practices, etc.
- Create your ePortfolio as a FUN learning experience that will become a career tool that you share with future employers
- Given CHOICE as to which activities you attend and will share these activities on your ePortfolio, as part of your Honor’s experiences
- Learn to share your VOICE as you reflect upon the activities in which you choose to partake

Every experience provides an AUTHENTIC learning opportunity for your, so take OWNERSHIP of what you choose to do and give it your best

During the first semester of your freshman year, you will participate in a leadership community that will help you align your values, goals, and belief systems with your pathway moving forward as a Lamar University Reaud Honor’s College student. The community is a 0 credit online, 5-week learning community that revolves around four pillars: academics, research, leadership, and global impact. Each week you will participate in discussions about your academic career goals, research agenda, leadership opportunities, and the impact you are looking to make as a budding professional in your area of expertise that you will develop over the next four year. You will also develop your ePortfolio as part of the community in the final few weeks in the leadership community. We hope you will enjoy this experience as we have specifically designed this for you based on the input and experiences from your peers.
**High Impact Educational Practices**

One of the distinctive features of the Reaud Honors College is its commitment to High Impact Educational Practices (HIEP) in the form of:

- Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity
- Global Learning and Diversity
- Internships and Co-op Programs
- Service Learning and Leadership

Reaud Honors College students participate in at least one of these activities during their time at Lamar University. High Impact Educational Practices will further your academic, professional, and personal development, while giving you an edge after you graduate.

The Reaud Honors College offers financial support for these activities to those students who are on track to achieve Reaud Honors College Graduate status in terms of grade point average, credit hours in Honors, and Honors points. Lamar University also has a variety of avenues of support for student participation in these activities, including the Beck Fellowship. Beginning with the Spring semester, the David J. Beck Fellowship provides a full academic scholarship for a year and a stipend for a summer project. For detailed information about the Beck Fellowship, students should consult with the Reaud Honors College Dean. Applications are due October 1st.

Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

The Reaud Honors College and Lamar University are committed to providing students with opportunities for leading edge research, scholarship, and creative activity. Undergraduate research and creative activity is a high-impact practice that enables students to develop their communication, critical thinking, and quantitative skills while providing a greater depth of understanding in their chosen field of study. This is particularly important for students who are looking to go on to graduate or professional school, as Lamar University Reaud Honors College Graduates often do.

Through its endowment, the Reaud Honors College provides grant support for conference presentations; interested students need to contact the College’s office regarding travel policy requirements before applying for a travel grant. There are also a number of other resources on and off campus, starting with the Office of Undergraduate Research.

The Office of Undergraduate Research

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) creates, facilitates and enhances opportunities for students interested in conducting undergraduate research and creative activity. The office serves undergraduates from all colleges and programs and enable undergraduates to make a difference in their fields and form strong mentor relationships with faculty members in their respective disciplines.

Every year the OUR awards grants for support of research and creative activity. The program is meant to encourage undergraduate students from all academic areas to participate in scholarly work mentored by at least one LU faculty member. These grants are open to all majors and consist of a $500 stipend and $1000 in research. Application deadline is always at the end of September and students are required to present their work during the Spring Undergraduate Research Expo. The office also offers Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) for LU students. These fellowships consist of a $2,000 stipend, summer housing at Lamar University, and up to $1,000 for research support.

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The Office also sponsors two annual Conferences at which students can present their work: one for the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and one for the Humanities, Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Business, and Education. Both Conferences usually take place during the Fall semester.
Diversity and Global Learning

The Reaud Honors College educates students for leadership in the regional, state, national, and global communities. To that end, we encourage students to explore the diversity of culture and life within the United States and to pursue study and service opportunities abroad. Study abroad includes any academic work completed outside of the United States of America, which, in terms of quality and subject matter, satisfies both the course and degree requirements expected by Lamar University.

The College provides financial support for such projects through the McMaster Study Abroad Scholarship. In order to be eligible for these scholarships, applicants must be on track to achieve Reaud Honors College Graduate status in terms of grade point average, credit hours in Honors, and Honors points. Honors students can also receive support from the University's Office of Study Abroad, as well as external scholarships. As a condition of receiving the scholarship, the student must submit a written report of activities that may be used in the College's magazine, Cadenza, along with receipts and other documentation of the expenditure of the scholarship, within two months of completion of the project supported, and make an oral presentation of his/her experiences in the Program.

The Office of Study Abroad

Lamar University’s Office of Study Abroad encourages and supports students who wish to participate in study abroad programs that have the potential to broaden their cultural horizons. The Office of Study Abroad organizes numerous Lamar faculty-led study abroad programs throughout the year and coordinates a number of semester exchanges. Programs are offered at all academic levels and across a variety of academic disciplines.

The Office awards a Study Abroad Fee Grant to all currently enrolled LU students in good academic standing. It is available for use on all LU short-term faculty-led programs as well as semester exchanges and approved non-LU study abroad programs. The award amount varies, though it is approximately $500. Applications for the Study Abroad Fee Grant and several other study abroad scholarships can be accessed online at www.lamar.edu/studyabroad.

Partners in the Parks

The Partners in the Parks is a week-long experiential learning program at a National Park sponsored by the National Collegiate Honors Council in collaboration with the National Park Service. Every year the Reaud Honors College provides selected students with $1000 McMaster Grant to participate in the Partners in the Parks Program. Information about Partners in the Parks is available at nchchonors.org/partners-in-the-parks/.

In order to apply for this opportunity, students need to submit a resume and a letter detailing their participation in the Reaud Honors College and the importance of their participation in the Program. The deadline for submission to the Reaud Honors College Office is February 15th, or the following Monday if the 15th falls on a weekend. Additionally, all applicants must be on track to achieve Reaud Honors College Graduate status in terms of grade point average, credit hours in Honors, and Honors points.

STAIRSTEP

(Students Advancing through Involvement in Research Student Talent Expansion Program)

The program engages and develops students through an undergraduate experience that includes research, mentoring, tutoring, outreach, support, and other activities designed to enhance the students’ learning experience. STAIRSTEP students are paid to perform research and outreach for an average of ten hours per week. STAIRSTEP students experience the thrill of discovery as they work in teams with other students and faculty who serve as mentors and role models. The teams include students from all levels, freshmen through seniors, and adopt a peer-instructional method. The students apply concepts they learn in class to their research, and their research is in turn incorporated into relevant classes. STAIRSTEP students get experience in teamwork, leadership, writing papers and making professional presentations.

McNair Scholars Program

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, or the McNair Scholars Program, assists talented juniors and seniors who are first generation and low-income students, or who are from a group underrepresented at the doctoral level. The program encourages students to pursue graduate studies by providing opportunities to define goals, to engage in research, and to develop the skills and student/faculty mentor relationships critical to success at the doctoral level.

National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates

According to the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the NSF. REU projects involve students in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the REU program. Each student is associated with a specific research project, where he/she works closely with the faculty and other researchers. Students are granted stipends and, in many cases, assistance with housing and travel. Undergraduate students supported with NSF funds must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions. More detailed information can be obtained at: https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/
**Internships and Co-op Programs**

Internships and Co-operative education programs are a common form of experiential learning, particularly in such fields as engineering, political science, and business. Internships and Co-ops provide the student with direct learning in a work setting usually related to their career interests. Students receive supervision from professionals within their prospective career field and are able to apply in the workplace what they have learned in the classroom. Honors students who are interested in internships and co-op programs should consult their respective Departments or Colleges and Lamar’s Center for Career and Professional Development for further information.

**Service Learning and Leadership**

Service learning is a form of field-based experiential learning that provides students with the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to the creation of activities and the solution of problems within the community. Service learning combines a service project or activity with appropriate reading and written reflection. As a vehicle for giving back to the community, service learning is excellent preparation for citizenship and civic leadership. Students interested in fulfilling the HIEP requirement by means of a service learning project may design their own unique project on their own or in collaboration with other Honors students, for which they are eligible for grants from the Honors College, or they can participate in the College’s Stepping Up Program. Serving a term as an officer on the Executive Committee of Lamar University’s Student Government Association (President, Vice President, or Secretary-Treasurer) will also satisfy this requirement.

**Stepping Up: The Reaud Honors College Civic Leadership Program**

Through the Stepping Up Program, the Reaud Honors College has partnered with local nonprofit organizations to make service learning opportunities available to interested Honors students. Honors students are placed as non-voting members on the Boards of local nonprofit organizations. By participating in the activities of these Boards, students learn about the nonprofit sector, develop networking, leadership, and organizational skills, and are able to contribute to the development of the local community. During the Spring semester, interested students attend a Leadership Workshop, in which they learn about the basic roles and responsibilities of nonprofit Board members, as well as resumes, interviewing, protocol and etiquette, and participate in a Civic Leadership Fair where they interact with representatives of participating nonprofit organizations. Based on feedback from both students and organizations, students are then matched with an appropriate organization.

Over the course of the following year, students attend Board meetings and participate in organization activities. Participating students are required to keep a journal of their meetings, additional activities or projects they help the board with, and the time committed to the board, which is submitted for the College Coordinator’s review quarterly. Students submit a final reflection on their contributions and what they have learned from the experience at the end of the program.

**Honors Student Association**

The Honors Student Association (HSA) engages and empowers students with their own vehicle for organizing events and service activities and getting involved in campus life. The HSA holds three meetings and at least one social event each semester. Each meeting features outside speakers who inform Honors students about various opportunities available on and off campus. HSA also has a social media presence on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

The Executive Committee of the Honors Student Association serves as the official Student Advisory Board of the Reaud Honors College and consists of the elected Officers, Student Government Association Representative and Senator, the Peer Mentoring Coordinators, and all Committee Co-Chairs.

**Officers**

All Officers are elected in the Spring by vote of the membership Honors Student Association after self-nomination for the position.

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary-Treasurer

**Student Government Association**

Reaud Honors College Senator: Appointed by the Dean in consultation with the Honors Student Association membership.

Honors Student Association Representative: Elected by the Honors Student Association membership.
Each HSA Committee has two Co-Chairs and meets prior to the monthly HSA General Meeting. The Committee Co-Chairs are selected from volunteers for the positions in the Spring by the Dean, outgoing HSA President, and Incoming HSA President.

- The Campus Involvement Committee is responsible for Homecoming and Open Houses and arranges for groups of Honors students to attend various intellectual and cultural events on campus.
- The Community Service Committee organizes service activities for Honors students.
- The Intramural Committee organizes Honors student participation in intramural sports.
- The Social Activities Committee sets up social events for Honors students.

New students accepted into the Reaud Honors College are contacted by an Honors Peer Mentor – usually in their major – who can assist them in preparing for and successfully negotiating the transition from high school (or another College) to Lamar University. Experienced Honors students are encouraged to apply for the position of Peer Mentor. Honors peer mentoring counts for Leadership points.

The following Honor Code was developed and approved by the students in the Honors Student Association.

As a member of the Reaud Honors College community of Lamar University, I pledge myself to uphold the high standards of academic and personal integrity expected of this collection of scholars including, but not limited to, the following:

- I will not engage in academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, lying, cheating, or stealing.
- I will neither encourage nor condone any act of academic dishonesty.
- I will avoid conduct that would bring dishonor to myself, to the Reaud Honors College, or to Lamar University.

By agreeing to this document, I submit myself to the discretion of the Reaud Honors College Dean and Honors Council regarding any decisions pertaining to my continuation in the College should I fail to uphold the above commitment.

This list is only representative of incidents of academic dishonesty and should not be considered exhaustive.

Reaud Honors College students are often invited to join a number of Honors societies. There are two major interdisciplinary Honors societies that are active at Lamar University: Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Delta. In addition to the honor of being recognized for one’s academic achievements, these societies provide valuable opportunities for networking, career development, and involvement in the intellectual and cultural life of the campus, as well as offering competitive grants and scholarships. The Reaud Honors College website features links to the Lamar University Chapters for both of these Honors Societies.

Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, The Honors Society of Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest and largest collegiate honors society with chapters on over 300 campuses. With membership drawn from all university disciplines, its mission is “to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.” To advance these goals, Phi Kappa Phi makes a variety of awards supporting graduate study, study abroad, career development, and literacy programs. Lamar honors students have been recipients of these awards in the past. The Lamar University Chapter, #95, was founded in 1965. Admission is exclusively by invitation, with only the top 10 percent of seniors and the top 7.5 percent of juniors eligible for membership in this prestigious organization.

Phi Beta Delta is the International Honors Society for International Scholars. As the first honor society dedicated to recognizing scholarly achievement in international education, Phi Beta Delta seeks to recognize the efforts of international students and scholars, to advance international programming in higher education, and to establish a network of faculty, students, and staff working on international projects.

Since the Society’s founding at California State University in 1986, Phi Beta Delta has grown to over 180 chapters. Lamar University’s Beta Xi Chapter was chartered in 1991. Admission is exclusively by invitation.

Academic Departments and Colleges often have honors societies for undergraduates majoring in their specific disciplines. Such honors societies offer many of the same benefits as the interdisciplinary honors societies above, but in addition they provide students an opportunity to become more involved in their chosen field of study and the activities of their academic department or program. For detailed information about the Lamar University chapter of these societies, contact the corresponding Department.
External Scholarships and Fellowships

Advanced Reaud Honors College students should consider applying for high-profile external and international scholarships and fellowships. These are all very prestigious and highly competitive awards, and students are advised to consult the program websites and to contact appropriate Lamar University representatives as well as the Dean of Reaud Honors College for more detailed information and guidance. Links to the various programs and local contact information are available on the Reaud Honors College website at www.lamar.edu/honors-college/scholarships/external-scholarships. Interested students are encouraged to start preparing early by participating in the Scholars and Professional Development Program.

**FREEMAN-ASIA**
- graduate or second B.A.; citizens from any country
- students who hope to improve the life circumstances of citizens in their respective countries (must gain acceptance to Cambridge)
- deadline November 1
- graduating seniors

**FULBRIGHT**
- graduate, worldwide - usually one year
- all programs of study
- deadline late October
- graduating seniors can apply

**GATES-CAMBRIDGE**
- students who hope to improve the life circumstances of citizens in their respective countries (must gain acceptance to Cambridge)
- deadline November 1
- graduating seniors

**GILMAN**
- study abroad, up to one year
- any program accepted by Lamar
- March 15 and October 15
- undergraduate receiving Pell grant

**GOLDWATER**
- science, mathematics and engineering
- deadline February 1
- nominate sophomores or juniors (up to four)

**JAVITS**
- graduate stipend
- arts, humanities, social science at U.S. university
- deadline November 30
- enrolled for doctoral or MFA

**MADISON**
- American history and political science (Constitutional study)
- deadline March 1
- graduating seniors
MARSHALL -
- postgraduate study in United Kingdom
- deadline early October
- graduating seniors

NATIONAL SECURITY EXCHANGE PROGRAM (NSEP)/BOREN AWARD -
- study abroad in non-English speaking country outside W. Europe (language study is part of the program)
- work with federal government or higher education on return
- deadline mid-February

NATIONAL DEFENSE Science & Engineering Graduate Fellowships -
- 3-year annual stipend for doctoral study in science and engineering
- deadline mid-January
- graduating seniors

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION -
- graduate work in science, math or engineering (some social science)
- deadline early November
- graduating seniors

PHI KAPPA PHI -
- first year of graduate study
- all fields of study are eligible
- chapter deadline April 1
- graduating seniors nominated by Lamar Chapter

RHODES -
- postgraduate study at Oxford, minimum 2 years
- deadline mid-October
- graduating seniors

ROTARY -
- postgraduate study
- any major, language skills are a plus
- deadline September

TEXAS SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM -
- undergraduate and graduate
- deadline April

TRUMAN -
- undergraduate
- preparing for careers in government, non-profit sector or public service
- deadline late January
- nominate juniors

UDALL -
- undergraduate scholarship
- environment and related fields of study
- deadline mid-February
- sophomores and juniors

Acceptance into the program is through competitive application and interview, which takes place in the Spring semester; the deadline is usually at the beginning of March.

To apply for membership in this select student group:

- Students must be an officially registered full-time Lamar University student who has completed at least one full semester at Lamar and will be classified as a sophomore or junior in the fall.
- Students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 and maintain that GPA to retain membership in the organization.

Application packets are available starting the first day of the Spring semester in the Office of Alumni Affairs in Suite 102 of the Williams Building of the John Gray Center.

All applicants must submit a completed application, including a letter of interest, résumé, faculty recommendation and approval from their academic college dean.
Academic Support Services

THE WRITING CENTER
The University Writing Center has two locations - one on the first floor of the Mary and John Gray Library and the other on the first floor of Morris Hall - and provides free writing consulting to students and faculty. Graduate and undergraduate students serve as consultants and assist students with their writing for any course by guiding students through the entire writing process. The Writing Center provides consulting in the following areas: understanding the assignment, brainstorming, organizing ideas, revising, editing and interpreting the graded paper. Each personalized writing conference aspires to more than just the short-term goal of improving a particular paper. Rather, writing conferences actively engage students in identifying and addressing their writing needs so that students improve their composition practices and skills and learn to apply them to various writing tasks and purposes. Students may seek assistance with non-academic writing as well, such as graduate school applications and scholarship letters. Our consulting service is beneficial to students of all writing abilities, as strong writers can also benefit from the collaborative activity of a peer writing conference. To schedule an appointment, students can visit the Writing Center Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lamaruniversitywc or the main website at www.lamar.edu/writingcenter.

STUDENT TUTORING AND RETENTION SERVICES (STARS)

REDtalks: REDtalks address issues relevant to helping students succeed in college. Workshops are free, 1 hour in length, open to Lamar University students, and presented by Lamar faculty or staff from various departments across the University. Workshop topics are geared for undergraduate students and focus on themes ranging from academic success, to health, to personal growth.

Supplemental Instruction (SI): Supplemental Instruction (SI) is an academic support program utilizing peer-assisted study sessions to enhance student performance and retention. SI offers regularly scheduled study sessions that are facilitated by trained LU peers who assist students with learning course content and study skills.

Tutoring: The LU Tutoring Center offers free individual and small group tutoring for Lamar University undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students. They make every effort to find a tutor in any subject requested. Tutoring is available by weekly appointment or during their walk-in hours.

MARY AND JOHN GRAY LIBRARY

Reference Services at the Mary and John Gray Library provide reference and research assistance to students, faculty, and staff of Lamar University. The highly-trained librarians and information specialists are excellent resources for determining the best places to find information, what strategies to use to yield the most useful results, and how to determine if you have good or bad information.

LIBRARIAN/INFORMATION SPECIALISTS CAN BE CONTACTED BY:

- visiting the Reference Desk, located on the first floor of the Mary & John Gray Library and staffed during most of the hours that the Library.
- calling 409-880-7264 or 1-866-575-5565.
- texting 409-209-9411.
- chatting with us through Ask A Librarian for immediate virtual assistance.
- e-mailing by using LibAnswers reference service to send a question and get an answer within 24 hours.

If you need in-depth help with your research paper or other class assignment that requires using the library and its resources, students can make an appointment by calling the reference desk at 880-7264 to schedule an appointment. Students should bring their assignments to the appointment.

Reasons for Removal of a Student from the Reaud Honors College

A student may be removed from the Reaud Honors College for any of the following reasons:

**FAILURE TO MAINTAIN GPA**

- Reaud Honors College students are expected to maintain a GPA of 3.4 to retain active status in the College. Each Reaud Honors College student’s grades will be reviewed at the end of each long semester.
- Any student whose GPA falls below 2.5 will be automatically removed from the Reaud Honors College.
- Students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.4 for the first time will be placed on Honors probation, except incoming freshman who must earn at least 3.0 after their first semester at the University. A letter or e-mail will be sent informing the student of this status.

In assessing eligibility for continuing Reaud Honors College participation, Reaud Honors College scholarships and Reaud Honors College graduate status, grades earned through co-enrollment by the student before high school graduation may be excluded from the GPA.

While on Honors probation, the student may enroll for no more than one Honors class per semester. Students on Honors probation may not enroll for either Honors Independent Study or Honors Thesis classes, nor may they enter into an Honors Contract. Students on Honors probation are not eligible to apply for research or study grants from the McMaster fund.

Students whose grades still fall below 3.4 (but no lower than 3.0) after one semester on Honors probation may remain on Honors probation for a second semester. If the student’s GPA falls below 3.0 after one semester on Honors probation, he/she will be dropped from the Reaud Honors College. In either event, a letter or e-mail will be sent informing the student of her/his status.

**REASONS FOR REMOVAL OF A STUDENT**

- Students whose grades still fall below 3.4 (but no lower than 3.0) after one semester on Honors probation may remain on Honors probation for a second semester. If the student’s GPA falls below 3.0 after one semester on Honors probation, he/she will be dropped from the Reaud Honors College. In either event, a letter or e-mail will be sent informing the student of her/his status.
No student may remain on Honors probation for more than two long semesters in succession or three semesters in total. If the student has not recovered a 3.4 GPA at the end of these two terms (and including summer terms where appropriate), or at the end of a third semester on Honors probation regardless of sequence, he/she will be dropped from the Reaud Honors College.

Non-Participation in Honors Classes
All Reaud Honors College students are expected to enroll in at least one Honors class each long semester. A student who is sufficiently advanced toward Reaud Honors College Graduate status or who already has accumulated enough hours to be a Reaud Honors College Graduate need not enroll in an Honors class. Failure to enroll in Honors classes for two consecutive long semesters without approval of the Honors Dean may result in removal from the Reaud Honors College. Students in this category will be sent a letter or e-mail informing them of their status.

Violation of the Student Honor Code
Any action that violates a provision of the Honor Code will be grounds for dismissal from the Reaud Honors College, subsequent to a hearing by the University Honors Council.

Upon notification of an infraction of the Student Honors Code, a student will be suspended from the Honors College. The student may appeal the decision in writing to the University Honors Council within 30 days of formal notification of suspension. If the student appeals the suspension, the University Honors Council will hold a hearing to decide the matter. The President or designated representative of the Honors Student Association will participate as a member of the hearing body in the review of the suspension. The decision of the Honors Council is final. Failure to appeal the suspension will be treated as an acceptance of the charge and will result in removal from the College.

Etiquette
As a Reaud Honors College student we hope you will take pride in developing professional and personal skills while at Lamar University, even outside of the classroom. There are a number of common etiquette practices that are adaptable to different scenarios, cultures, and people. Here are a few common tips for presenting your best self in communication and at events:

- **Check your Lamar email** – All official emails from the Reaud Honors College will be sent to your Lamar email address. These emails provide crucial information about funding opportunities, events, deadlines, and on-campus jobs. If you do not want to miss out, get into the habit of checking your Lamar email regularly and frequently.

- **RSVP** – No reply is not a reply! If you receive an email that requests an “RSVP” or asks you to respond with information, please respond as soon as possible. Even if you cannot attend an event, the host will appreciate the notice so they can take you off of their list. If you do plan to attend the event, respond in case seating is limited and make sure to put it on your calendar. Again, no reply is not a reply!

- **Respond promptly** – whether you receive an email request, a hard copy invitation, or other mailed information, respond as quickly as possible. Adhere to any deadlines as stated in the information because the host usually has a reason for setting a deadline. One business day response is a common rule of thumb in responding to email.

- **Be on time** – if you are attending a workshop or lecture, there are often guest speakers who have made special preparations for such an event. Make every effort to attend the event in its entirety and arrive a few minutes before it is scheduled to start. This is especially important for events that may include a presentation where lights are dimmed and it is hard to see and enter a room after the program has started.

- **Keep a calendar** – whether online, as a note in your phone, or in a written planner, make sure you are writing down your commitments for events to attend and projects due. Find one place to put the information so you do not have to check multiple sources.

- **Pay attention to dress code** – always check the event invitation for dress code information. Generally, campus events such as workshops and lectures are casual. However, there are special events and activities you will be invited to as a Reaud Honors College student which require specific dress. This could be anything from casual to business formal attire. If you do not know what the difference is between dress codes, there are a lot of helpful guides online if you search for a specific dress code.

Of course, this is not a complete list of etiquette guides. If you are interested in more information, pay attention to workshop topics that are offered across campus from various departments. If you have a question, please ask. Additionally, always use common sense and courtesy in any situation.
## I. UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM

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### Available Hours

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### II. LOWER DIVISION COLLEGE/DISCIPLINARY REQUIREMENTS & PETITIONS (1000 - 2000 LEVEL)

**Running Total:**

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### III. 3000-4000 LEVEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Honors Sections</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Petition for Honors Credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Honors Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Honors Courses</td>
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### III. Total Available Honors Credits:

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### I. Total Available Honors Credits:

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</table>
### IV. Honors Thesis

| Yes - No (6 credits) |   |   |

### V. Non-Course Credit Needed

| Yes - No (6 possible credits) |   |   |

### IV. Total Available Honors Credits: |   |

### Running Total:   |

### V. Total Available Honors Credits: |   |

Sum of Total Available Honors Credits:   |