Welcome to the Honors College
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Mr. Brendan Scott
RECAP: WHAT IS THE HONORS COLLEGE?

Though the sum is greater than the parts, it’s still important to know those parts...

1. **Our curriculum**: an alternative, enhanced general education program.
2. **Our community**: includes both residential & commuting students
3. **Advising & support**: complements advising in major & support elsewhere on campus
WHAT IS THE HONORS COLLEGE CURRICULUM?

- Alternative approach to General Education (Mason Core)
- HNRS Seminars: Mostly small (25 students or less) seminars
- Enhanced 100- and 200-level STEM-H courses & upper division electives
HONORS COLLEGE TEACHING & LEARNING
[OR, WHY DO IT THIS WAY?]

• Engaging opportunities of a Research University from Day 1
  • Asking (and even answering) unresolved, significant questions
  • Approaching (and even solving) consequential problems

• Engaging multiple perspectives
• Collaborate across disciplines
• Use evidence-based reasoning
According to employers…

“a candidate’s demonstrated capacity to
➢ think critically,
➢ communicate clearly, and
➢ solve complex problems

is more important than his or her undergraduate major.”


We believe the same is true in our civic lives, as well.
The HC BIG 3

1. Inquiry-based learning
2. Evidence-based reasoning
3. Engaging multiple perspectives
## THE HALLMARKS OF OUR CURRICULUM

### The HC 3

1. Inquiry-based learning
2. Evidence-based reasoning
3. Engaging multiple perspectives

### What does this look like TODAY?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid &amp; synchronous learning in HNRS courses</td>
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<td>Small (and smaller courses)</td>
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<td>Retain our focus on collaborative, project-based learning</td>
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<td>Same outstanding faculty</td>
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<td>Additional faculty training – all summer long</td>
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ADVISING & SUPPORT

HONORS COLLEGE ADVISING
• Our focus for the next 2 days
• Complements major advising
• Choices about majors, double majors, minors, etc.
• The HNRS curriculum
• Integrating HNRS & major courses, particularly in 1st year
• Opportunities in HC & beyond
• General decisions; big picture

ADVISING IN THE MAJORS
• Choices about major courses, particularly as you progress toward the degree
• Understanding your degree requirements
• Opportunities in the major, offered by the department
• Policy matters – forms, etc.: your major department & School / College are your official administrative home
ADVISING & SUPPORT

Dedicated student support

• HC STUDENT SUCCESS SUPPORT is available to support students as they develop strategies for academic success.
Dedicated student support

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What does this look like TODAY?

- Individual advising via ZOOM
- Sign up via GMU’s Navigate system
- Increased availability, particularly with regard to time
THE HONORS COLLEGE COMMUNITY

• LLC
• Faculty discussions
• Annual events
• Student initiatives:
  o HC Multicultural Alliance
  o HC Student Advisory Board
  o HC Peer Mentors
  o HC Recruitment Team
  o Honors College Connects
  o HC-EIP College Application Coaches
  o HC Communication Team
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What does this look like TODAY?
• LLC becomes a VLC; 7 VLC mentors
• HNRS 110 Colloquium shifts online
• Vibrant student groups persist
• HC Peer Mentors will be reaching out
HONORS COLLEGE VLC

• 7 VLC mentors
• 3 Welcome Events next week
• Students access through Mason360 accounts
• Parents can follow @honorsmasonvlc on Twitter & Instagram
Meet or Reconnect with your Honors College faculty, staff and classmates at **ONE** of the.....

**Mask Hatter Tea Parties**

RSVP via Mason 360 to attend **ONE** of the Tea Parties:

**Tuesday, August 25th @ 4:30 p.m.**
http://cglink.me/r744848

**Wednesday, August 26th @ 3:00 p.m.**
http://cglink.me/r745010

**Friday, August 28th @ 2:30 p.m.**
http://cglink.me/r745009

Join us via Zoom with your favorite mask/hat and tea or coffee. Login details will be sent via email after sign-up.

#honorstogether
#honorsvlc
HALLMARKS OF SUCCESSFUL HONORS COLLEGE STUDENTS

• Take ownership of their learning
• Take intellectual risks
• Pursue opportunities beyond the classroom
• Regularly meet with advisors
• ASK FOR HELP and USE AVAILABLE RESOURCES
HALLMARKS OF SUCCESSFUL HONORS COLLEGE FAMILIES

• Provide space for students to take ownership of their learning
• Encourage & support when they take on new challenges
• Encourage students to USE THEIR RESOURCES and to ASK FOR HELP
THANK YOU!

Welcome to the Honors College community!