

The Lander University Honors College

The Lander University Honors College is a community of academically gifted students who seek challenges beyond the typical classroom experience.

Lander University Honors College members

- Take specially designed Honors classes that explore topics in depth and encourage student interaction;
- Participate in faculty-led and independent research opportunities and present scholarly work at conferences and showcases;
- Enjoy a wealth of opportunities to participate in national and international study;
- Create a culture of academic excellence by taking part in cultural and social activities locally; and
- Upon completion of all Honors College requirements will receive special recognition upon graduation.

Admission and Enrollment

Admission to the Lander University Honors College is competitive.

Incoming first-year Lander freshman who wish to apply for admission to the Honors College should:

- Have a combined Math/Critical Reading SAT score of at least 1170 or a composite ACT score of at least 24; and
- Complete an application form; and
- Provide sufficient evidence of promise of academic excellence based on:
 - An academic writing sample or creative portfolio;
 - Two letters of recommendations from mentors, including one from a person who can address the quality of the student's academic promise; or
 - An interview with the Honors Committee.

Currently enrolled Lander students and transfer students who wish to apply for admission to the Honors College should:

- Have an overall university GPA of 3.5 or above;
- Complete an application form; and
- Provide sufficient evidence of promise of academic excellence based on any one of the following:
 - An academic writing sample or creative portfolio;
 - Two letters of recommendation from university faculty; or
 - An interview with the Honors Committee.

To continue enrollment in the Honors College, a student must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and remain active in Honors coursework or activities.

If space is available, students who are not members of the Honors College may register for individual honors courses with instructor permission and Honors Director.

Honors College Curriculum

To complete all Honors College requirements, students take at least 15 hours of honors-level coursework and complete some additional challenges, as outlined below. The honors curriculum is designed to promote active learning and global awareness. Honors courses emphasize student-driven discussion, depth of inquiry, and independent and small-group learning. Other honors experiences encourage academic travel and professionalization.

Gateway Courses (4 credit hours of required coursework)

HONS 210.HONORS TRAVEL LABORATORY..... 1 credit hour

HONS 211.HONORS TOPICS IN THE HUMANITIES

(*General Education – Humanities and Fine Arts) 3 credit hours

Core Courses (at least 9 hours of coursework, selected from offerings below)

HONS 291.HONORS TOPICS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

(*General Education - Behavioral and Social Perspectives) 3 credit hours

HONS 292.HONORS TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

(*General Education – Humanities and Fine Arts) 3 credit hours

HONS 293.HONORS TOPICS IN LABORATORY SCIENCE (*General Education – Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning)	4 credit hours
HONS 294.HONORS TOPICS IN BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE (*General Education – Behavioral and Social Perspectives)	3 credit hours
HONS 295.HONORS TOPICS IN FINE ARTS (*General Education - Humanities and Fine Arts)	3 credit hours
HONS 296.HONORS TOPICS IN HISTORY (*General Education - Behavioral and Social Perspectives)	3 credit hours
HONS 297.HONORS TOPICS IN LITERATURE (*General Education - Humanities and Fine Arts)	3 credit hours
HONS 298.HONORS TOPICS IN SCIENCE (*General Education – Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning)	3 credit hours
HONS 299.TOPICS IN MATHEMATICS (*General Education – Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning)	3 credit hours
HONS 389.DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY	1-3 credit hours
HONS 390.SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4 credit hours
HONS 393.HONORS TOPICS IN WORLD CULTURES (*General Education - World Cultures).....	3 credit hours

*Some majors require students to take specific courses for certain General Education categories. Consult major advisor and major program requirements.

Students may pursue unique projects through individual or small group tutorials with the approval of the Honors Committee.

Break Away

Students will spend a semester or summer going beyond the traditional classroom experience. Options include study abroad, study away, internships, and directed independent research. Break Away plans are proposed by the student; the proposal form and instructions are available on the Honors College webpage. Break Away Proposals must be approved by the Honors Advisors.

Capstone Experiences (2 hours of required coursework)

HONS 489.HONORS REFLECTION SEMINAR	1 credit
HONS 499.HONORS CAPSTONE SEMINAR	1 credit

Study Abroad Opportunities

Lander encourages its students to experience another culture first hand by living and studying abroad. Students who study abroad can maintain steady progress toward graduation by taking courses abroad that count toward their Lander curriculum requirements. Lander has spent years developing and building relationships with numerous universities and organizations to allow qualified Lander students to spend a fall and/or spring and/or summer abroad for about the cost of attending Lander. Many Lander students study abroad in Europe, South America and Asia; however, Lander has the ability to provide such experiences throughout the world.

In England, Lander University has an agreement with the University of Winchester that allows qualified Lander students to spend a fall or spring semester there for about the cost of attending Lander. This small university is located about 60 miles south of London in a small and very historic city. Students who have a GPA of 3.0 or above and who have completed at least two semesters of college-level study are eligible to apply to study at Winchester.

Lander students who choose to major in Spanish are required to include travel and/or study in a Spanish-speaking culture in their curriculum. Spanish majors should consult their faculty advisors regarding this requirement. Students who minor in Spanish are also encouraged to study in Spain or South America.

In China, Korea, and Thailand, Lander has cooperative agreements with several universities. These agreements encourage Lander students to consider studying in Asia and encourage Asian students to study at Lander. Lander provides opportunities for graduates and current students to teach conversational English language in Korea and Thailand, regardless of major. Only the command of English language is required in any Asian study abroad programs.

Lander's "one-to-one exchange" program allows students to pay Lander tuition but study and live at one of Lander's sister universities in China or Korea. From time to time, Lander has the ability to facilitate *Global Korean Scholarships* that allow a Lander student to study at one of the sister universities while the Korean government pays for their tuition, room, board, round-trip airfare, and a monthly stipend. Both of these programs provide instruction in English so there is no need to have prior knowledge of the language.

Members of the Lander faculty lead spring break and summer study tours focusing upon particular academic topics such as The Culture of Spain, World Wars I and II, European Art and Architecture, British Literature, and World Educational Issues. Students who have a GPA of 2.5 or above and who have completed at least 15 credit hours of college-level study are eligible to participate in these Lander-sponsored study abroad programs.

Additionally Lander also offers a month long "Asia Summer Study Program to Korea and China" which usually falls in the month of May. This allows students the opportunity to experience the history, culture, customs, values, viewpoints and economy of both nations. Students have the option of earning up to six credit hours for additional tuition.

Honors College students are encouraged to consider study abroad. Each Honors College student spends a semester or summer going beyond the traditional classroom experience; options include study abroad, study away, internships, and directed independent research. Honors students are eligible to apply to the Global Scholars Program, a competitive study abroad scholarship for Lander's high-achieving students.

Students who plan to spend a semester abroad should confer with their advisors in order to plan their academic program two or three semesters in advance. The Global Issues and Cultures requirement will be waived for students who spend a regular semester at an approved study abroad site, but each student must still earn the minimum number of hours required for a degree in their major. In addition, each student who participates in a one-semester study abroad program will receive four FALS credits for the first semester.

Students who wish to participate in a study abroad program should contact the Director of Study Abroad Programs through the Office of Academic Affairs or by email to studyabroad@lander.edu. For further information see <https://www.lander.edu/academics/study-abroad>. Students interested in opportunities in Asia should contact the Office of International Programs, 2nd Floor, Jackson Library or by emailing to international@lander.edu or visiting <https://www.lander.edu/admissions/undergraduate/international-students>.

NOTE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS: Lander University assumes that students who wish to study abroad are responsible individuals who can conduct themselves appropriately and manage their own affairs while studying at an institution in another country. Lander will not recommend student travel to countries that are listed by the U.S. Department of State as unsafe for American travelers. Study at institutions that do not provide special services and support for visiting international students will also not be recommended.

Study abroad may involve expenses in addition to the regular expenses associated with attending Lander University. Students will need to provide their own airfare and ground transportation in their host countries. Additional personal travel or touring will incur additional expense. Some special scholarship support for study abroad is available.