

Honors students



Build Fearless Communication: Do you wanna learn alongside your fellow student?



Active readers: Question everything and everyone? Love to think and read deep?



Thoughtful and Reflective: Making Connections and Why does this Matter?



Critical thinkers: Curious, looking for solutions?



Creative, Risk-taker, or WORK TOWARDS AND Build Confidence?



Committed writers: Ready to continue improving your writing? To challenge yourself



**Members of a learned community: Growing and Becoming part of a group of intellectual scholars
ALL MAJORS WELCOMED and can fulfill ILE REQUIREMENTS for LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS**

STEPS TO REGISTER FOR AN HONORS COURSE.

STEP 1: GO TO YOUR ADVISOR, discuss, AND REVIEW YOUR Degreeworks!

STEP 2: EMAIL the following people:

- a) First, the 1-2 Professor(s) teaching course the Honors course(s) you are interested in.
- b) Second, Honors Program Coordinator (honorsprogram@hcc.edu), Integrative Learning Director (imedina@hcc.edu) and Camille Close (cclose@hcc.edu) with the following information:
Always INCLUDE in your email:
 - a) the number of credits you have taken at HCC
 - b) your overall GPA, Your Major, and you've reviewed your Degreeworks
 - c) the CRN of the course you want to take
 - d) your student ID number
 - e) If you do not have the credits OR GPA, please include in email why you are interested in taking this course.
 - f) ALL Register BEFORE add/drop ends due to possible FIN AID Implications

**FOR HONORS 206 course REGISTRATION: Contact Camille Close: cclose@hcc.edu/DON 283
Pathways Program/Senior Program Coordinator**

HON ENG 101 (A): Are You Still Human?: Writing and Communication in the Age of AI

This honors course looks at artificial intelligence as both a potential tool and a mirror for how we learn, create, and understand one another. Students explore what it means to think and communicate with emerging technologies while holding on to their own autonomy as writers and researchers. We study how AI systems influence traditional systems, including the biases, power structures, and assumptions that shape education, science, culture and public life. Through reading, research, creative work and discussion, students examine questions of identity, access and representation, and consider how human life intersects with technological design. The course invites students to experiment, to think critically, and to listen across perspectives as they develop original work that speaks to the future of learning and human creativity.

Open Access - This Honors section is open to all students. It provides the opportunity to begin honors work and fulfill graduation requirements for the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Prerequisites: *Prerequisite(s): ENG 095 with a grade of C- or higher, or adequate test score on the English Placement Examination*

All Majors Welcomed!

Honors ENG 101 (A): Tues & Thur 9:30-10:45 + Hybrid
(CRN # 30853)

Taught by: PROFESSOR: Ben Hersey

EMAIL: bhersey@hcc.edu



HON HIS 115 (C): History of Social Movements in Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rican Diasporas

How do people mobilize in a colonial context? This course examines the history of social justice movements in Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rican diasporas. Particular attention is given to topics such as colonialism, migration, the public debt, environmental struggles, militarization, housing, among others. Students will have the opportunity to engage in conversations with organizations in Puerto Rico and Holyoke.

All Majors Welcomed!

Prerequisites: Eligibility for ENG 101

CRN# 30855 on Tues & Thurs 9:30-10:45 am

Taught by: Prof. **Jean Paul Lopez-Cepero Virella**/email: jlopezceperovirella@hcc.edu



HON 204: Ideas that Change the World (B): is a discussion-based Honors Seminar where students examine groundbreaking ideas that have shaped our world. Our primary texts are influential works that raise issues of enduring importance, from justice and colonization to equal rights and the environment. The course concludes with a look at the continuing influence of media on these and other issues. Throughout the course we also explore our own potential for innovation, leadership, and transformative creativity. As an interdisciplinary seminar, this course illuminates ideas that cross the boundaries of several disciplines, including the sciences and the humanities. Just as the world is interdisciplinary, so are the solutions to its most disconcerting problems. Some fundamental questions of our inquiry are: Why do some ideas become influential? What social conditions tend to foster creative thinking? Under what circumstances can creativity transform societies? Across disciplines, what do innovators have in common?

Open Access - This Honors section is open to all students. It provides the opportunity to begin honors work and fulfill graduation requirements for the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Prerequisites: completed ENG 102 with B+ or higher (minimum 3.4 GPA/advising)

HON 204: CRN # 30618

Professor: Mary Orisich EMAIL: morisich@hcc.edu

Asynchronous/Fully Online

All Majors Welcomed!



**IDEA
SLAM**

**GOT AN IDEA
TO CHANGE
THE WORLD?**

HON 206: The Power of Silence

What is the power of silence? Is it a weapon, a tool, an agent of change? In what ways does silence, or the lack of it, shape our lives and society? Throughout human history, silence has inspired poets, provided emotional refuge, and fostered self-reflection. Silence has also been used as a weapon to oppress and erase dissenting voices and as a tool to create spaces for those voices to be heard. What is silence and how do we understand it? This honors colloquium explores the theme of silence using multiple perspectives and entry points. Our investigation is broad in scope as we immerse ourselves in history, literature, economics, critical communication and sociology. We will explore the potential benefits and consequences of silence and power at the individual, social and institutional levels. What do YOU think about the power of silence? Come join us and let's find out!

All Majors Welcomed!

Prerequisites: 20 credits, ENG 102 and 3.4 GPA; permission of instructor.

HON 206: CRN # 30498 on Tues & Thur 12:30-3:15 PM

Professors: Mary Orisich -morisich@hcc.edu &
Dawn Lovegrove-dlovegrove@hcc.edu

TO REGISTER FOR HON 206: Contact Camille Close/cclose@hcc.edu/DON 283



HONORS SPA 210 (C) Caribbean Women's Voices: Imagining Histories

This honors course examines the history, culture and literature of Afro-descendant women thinkers in the Caribbean. Students will explore how historical narratives have often silenced or erased Afro-descendant women's voices and contributions. The course traces the racialization of Afro-descendants under British, French, Spanish and American empires, analyzing both the construction of the racial "Other" by European elites and the reclaiming of identity by marginalized communities and Afro-diasporic movements. We will question concepts such as *mestizaje* and connect them to Latin American histories shaped by the trans-Atlantic slave trade and colonial encounters. Our discussions will center on Ana-Maurine Lara's idea of the "archive of imagination," a creative space where memory and imagination allow Afro-descendant women to reclaim their place in history and rewrite dominant narratives. We will consider what it means for Afro-Caribbean women to describe their realities from their own cultural and historical contexts and how this imaginative archive enables new histories to emerge. The course will highlight mixed media and collaborative artistic practices that connect the Afro-Caribbean with its diasporic communities. Materials will include primary documents, secondary sources, poetry, autobiographies, films, and historical fiction in English, with optional readings in Spanish for interested students.

Prerequisites: Eligibility for ENG 101

SPA 210 (C) is taught in English

All Majors Welcomed!

CRN # 30854 on Tues & Thur. 11:00 A.M. – 12:15 P.M., ON CAMPUS

Professor: **Monica Vega Gonzalez**/email: mvegagonzalez@hcc.edu



HON MGT 230: RACING TO SUCCESS: MANAGEMENT LESSONS OF FORMULA ONE

This interdisciplinary Honors course explores how Formula One (F1) racing principles can drive excellence in management and marketing. Students will examine the sport through multiple lenses—including business strategy, innovation, leadership, teamwork, communication, branding, ethics, and sustainability. Through rigorous case studies, simulations, and project-based learning, students will develop critical thinking, analytical writing, persuasive communication, and research skills. No prior motorsport knowledge required; students will leave equipped to apply dynamic, high-performance strategies to real-world management scenarios.

Prerequisites: ENG 102

CRN# 30062 on Tues & Thurs. 12:30-1:45 PM

Taught by: Prof. Christina Divigard

email: cdivigard@hcc.edu



Honors Independent Study 1-3 credits (multi-step process)

ALL REGISTRATION BEFORE ADD/DROP DEADLINE

No matter what form your project takes, it must be well researched. You will work together with a faculty mentor to create a project. Project topics are limited only by your imagination or ability, the faculty mentor guidelines, and a regard for the degree of academic rigor expected by the HCC Honors Program. To be eligible for the Honors Project (HON 201), you must:

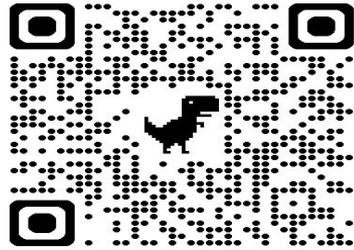
- Have a GPA of 3.5 or the permission of an instructor
- If HON 201 is being attached to a course, you must be earning a “B” or better in it. Honors projects may not be attached to 0-level courses, to independent studies, to the Honors Colloquium, to Honors Learning Communities or to ENG 101. All information on www.hcc.edu/honors/honors projects

Jessica Hill, Honors Coordinator: jhill@hcc.edu

Instructions for the Honors Project Proposal:

1. Discuss Your Interests: with your professor, your advisor, and the Honors Program Coordinator.
2. Select a Mentor: Ask a faculty member to be your mentor. Discuss your project with them and review the submission process to ensure it is timely (before the add/drop deadline due to financial aid requirements).
3. **FACULTY:** Connect with Jessica before submitting anything in Curriculog.
4. Students Review: Before meeting with your mentor to begin work on your Honors Project Proposal, print and thoroughly read the guidelines for completing an Honors Project. You will also need to print the HON 201: 1-3 Credit Honors Project Proposal form, which can be found at (<http://www.hcc.edu/honors>) under the "**Honors Project**" section.
5. Prepare Necessary Forms: Additionally, print copies of the following forms to provide to your faculty mentor: Honors Program Faculty Mentor Form OR review and fill together with the Faculty.
6. Obtain your Mentor's Signature: Ask your mentor to sign the Faculty Mentor Form.
7. Submit Completed Forms: You must submit all completed forms to the Honors Coordinator before the end of the Spring Semester, **by May 7, 2026.** All necessary forms can be found at [www.hcc.edu/honors]. Make sure to follow all steps carefully to ensure a smooth process for your Honors Project.

Honors Welcomes ALL Majors!



www.hcc.edu/honors